

VisitINPS Project 2017: Vouching for Vouchers?

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Abstract: Italy is one of the OECD countries with the largest amount of undeclared, irregular work. To lure undeclared work, out of the shadows in recent years the legislator has considerably liberalized some labor relationships. Until recently vouchers could be purchased online and from mom and pops stores to pay for all sorts of occasional work, with little to no additional paper work. Between 2008 and 2016 the use of vouchers has gone up from 500,000 (less than 1 per 100 inhabitants) to 277,193,002 vouchers (500 per 100 inhabitants!). The massive use of vouchers has not been interpreted as a positive signal, and the legislator has recently abolished them. The aim of this project is to analyze whether vouchers may have encouraged rather than discouraged the use of undeclared work.