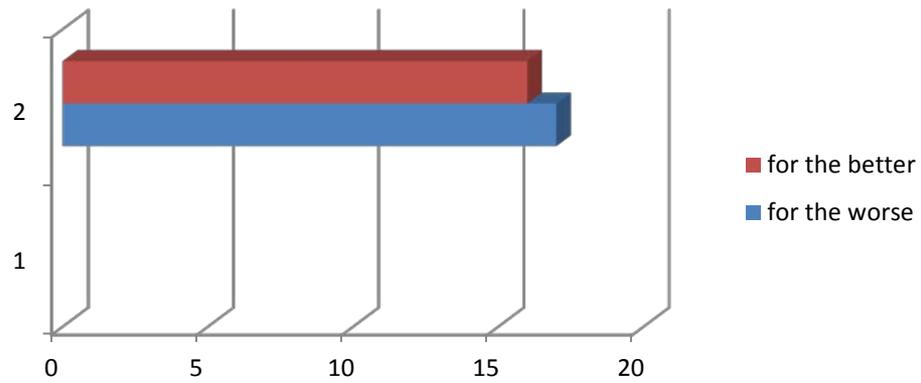


Brief remarks on «Faith, Skepticism about trade and foreign investment»

Duncan Campbell
Director, Global Mega-Trends Team
Research Department
International Labour Office

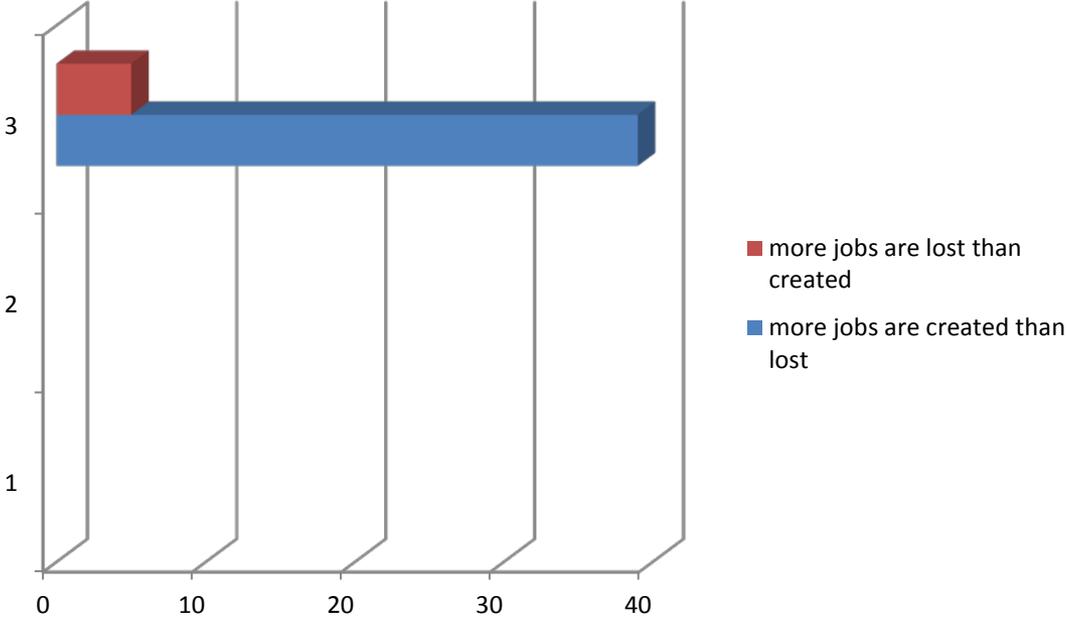
what do we think about the benefits of trade over time?



Over time, a quite slight majority think the benefits of trade on has declined.

But the survey results are pretty much neck-in-neck, i.e. no real change in opinion

does trade create more jobs than are lost?



And who are the job – trade pessimists?

- USA
- France
- Italy
- Japan
- Colombia

Why?

- With the exception of Colombia, these are wealthy countries accepting cheaper imports, a possible threat to domestic industry
- These 2014 data perhaps reflect a climate of trade recession in which wealthy countries are not exporting as they used to... Note that Germany is not on this list.

The Pew Survey wage results parallel the employment creation results

- A minority of US and advanced countries think that trade raises wages – i.e. most people think the contrary
- A majority of developing countries think that trade increases wages
- Both responses invite an empirical review
- WTO and ILO joint research finds – on average – a «J curve» effect

If the benefits of trade are more in question in public opinion, a likely response has been the growth of «labor clauses» in trade agreements

Labour Provisions in bilateral Trade Agreements: Incidence and Effects



Rafael Peels

ILO Research Department, Geneva

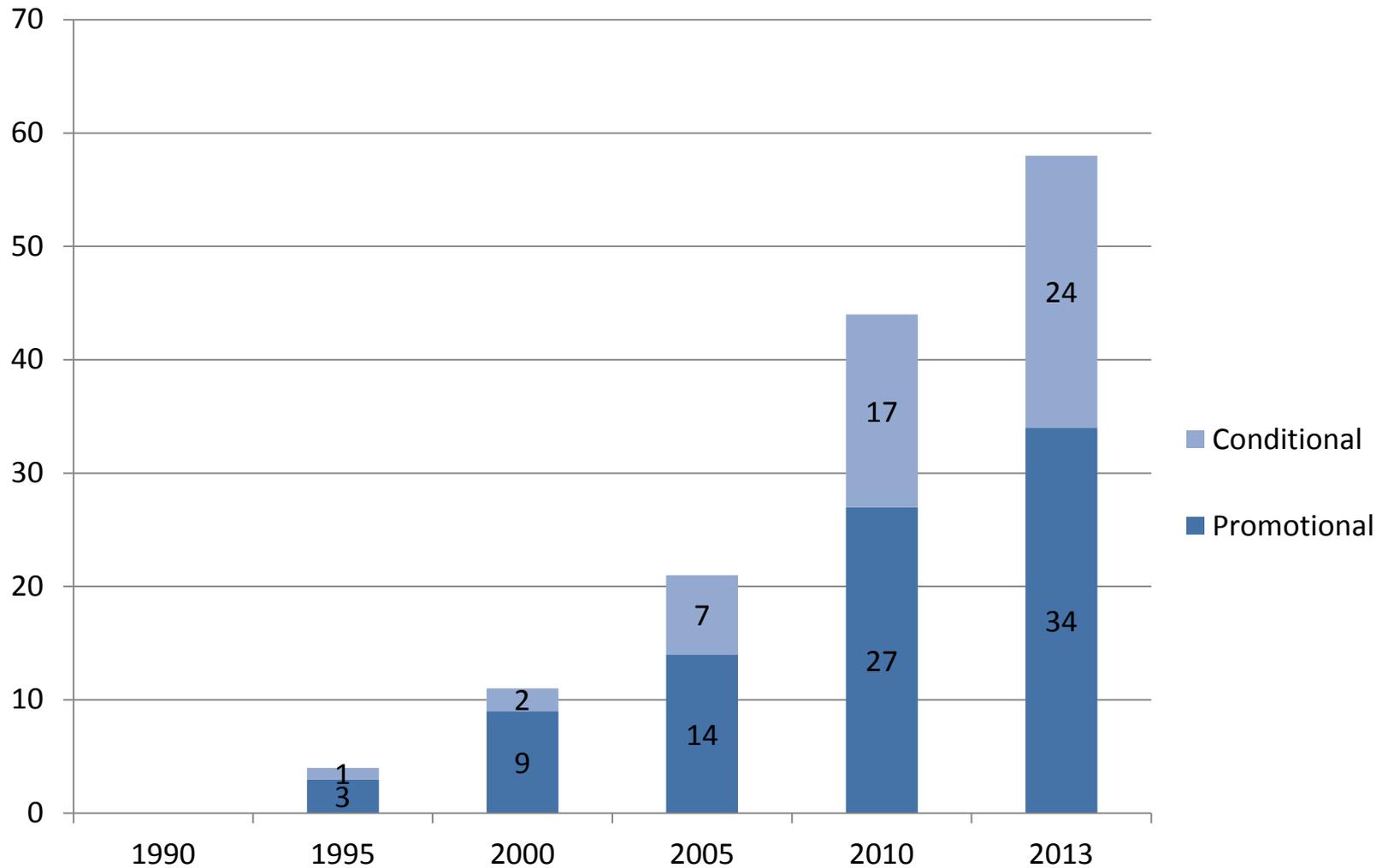
Franz Christian Ebert

Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public and International Law, Heidelberg

There has been fast proliferation of labour provisions in trade agreements



A fast-expanding reality



Number of Trade Agreements with labour provisions



At the end of the day, the impacts
of trade on jobs and wages is a
matter of policy response to
openness

such impacts are thus mediated by
policy