## QUANTIFYING A YOUTH TRANSFER'S IMPACT ON TALENT DEVELOPMENT

Laurenz Van Looveren, Matteo Balliauw, Sunčica Vujić







#### **OVERVIEW**

- Introduction;
- Literature review;
- Methodology and Data;
- Results and Discussion;
- Conclusion and Future research.







Universiteit Antwerpen

## **CIES: 38 Belgian minors left in** 2016

#### **But:** Is it beneficial for the players?

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#### **Y. TIELEMANS**



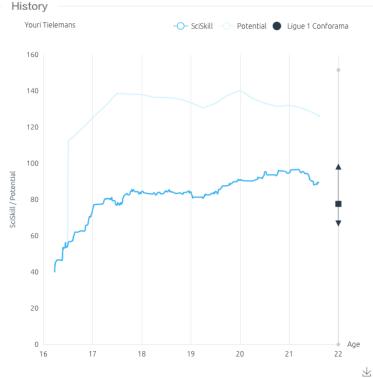
Youri Tielemans AS Monaco, Ligue 1 Conforama (France) Centre Midfield 1, 21 years old

VS



#### C. MUSONDA JR.





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#### INTRODUCTION

#### **Research question:**

Impact of a foreign youth transfer on:

- Sporting performance;
- Player financials;

Special focus: English Premier League.

















#### LITERATURE REVIEW

### **Reasons for exodus of young talent:**

- Success of Belgian National Team;
- Cost of acquiring youngsters is low.







#### LITERATURE REVIEW

## **Potential drawbacks:**

- Intense competition:
  - Limited first team opportunities in EPL;
  - Essential for youth development;
- <u>Ties fall away</u>:
  - Language barriers;
  - Family and friends far away.



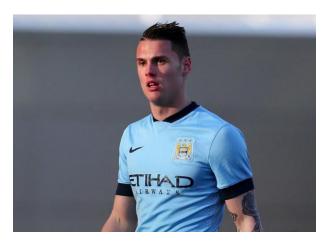


## LITERATURE REVIEW

## **Attraction for players?**

Short-term financial perks:

- Sign-on bonus;
- Job for parents.











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#### METHODOLOGY AND DATA

#### **Panel data: regression techniques**

- Compare players:
  - Who stayed and left during youth;
  - Before and after move;
- Control for other unobservable effects.





#### METHODOLOGY AND DATA

## **Dependent variables:**

- <u>Sporting performance</u>: SciSkill index;
- <u>Financial</u>: Market value (correlated with wage);

#### **Independent variables:**

- Playing minutes, team strength, age, loan, caps;
- Country of last academy.





#### METHODOLOGY AND DATA 83 players (age 15-23) from 2005 to 2018

Toby Alderweireld, Francesco Antonucci, Ismaïl Azzaoui, Zakaria Bakkali, Zohran Bassong, Samuel Bastien, Michy Batshuayi, Christian Benteke, Adrien Bongiovanni, Theo Bongonda, Indy Boonen, Mathias Bossaerts, Dedryck Boyata, Timothy Castagne, Nacer Chadli, Ibrahima Cissé, Milan Corryn, Thibaut Courtois, Florent Cuvelier, Lennerd Daneels, Jonathan De Bie, Kevin De Bruyne, Julien De Sart, Steven Defour, Moussa Dembélé, Jason Denayer, Leander Dendoncker, Cyriel Dessers, Landry Dimata, Xian Emmers, Björn Engels, Jason Eyanga-Lokilo, Wout Faes, Marouane Fellaini, Yannick Fereira-Carrasco, Thomas Foket, Zihno Gano, Eden Hazard, Thorgan Hazard, David Henen, Bryan Heynen, Siebe Horemans, Adnan Januzaj, Andy Kawaya, Maxime Lestienne, Anthony Limbombe, Jordan Lukaku, Romelu Lukaku, Dodi Lukebakio, Isaac Mbenza, Brandon Mechele, Dries Mertens, Thomas Meunier, Senna Miangue, Kevin Mirallas, Ilias Moutha-Sebtaoui, Paul-José Mpoku, Charly Musonda Jr., Radja Nainggolan, Julien Ngoy, Loïs Openda, Divock Origi, Obbi Oulare, Andreas Pereira, Dennis Praet, Dante Rigo, Mats Rits, Davy Roef, Siebe Schrijvers, Matz Sels, Mile Svilar, Youri Tielemans, Leandro Trossard, Flor Van Den Evnden, Zinho Vanheusden, Dante Vanzeir, Thibaud Verlinden, Marnick Vermijl, Matthias Verreth, Louis Verstraete, Jan Vertonghen, Marco Weymans and Axel Witsel.









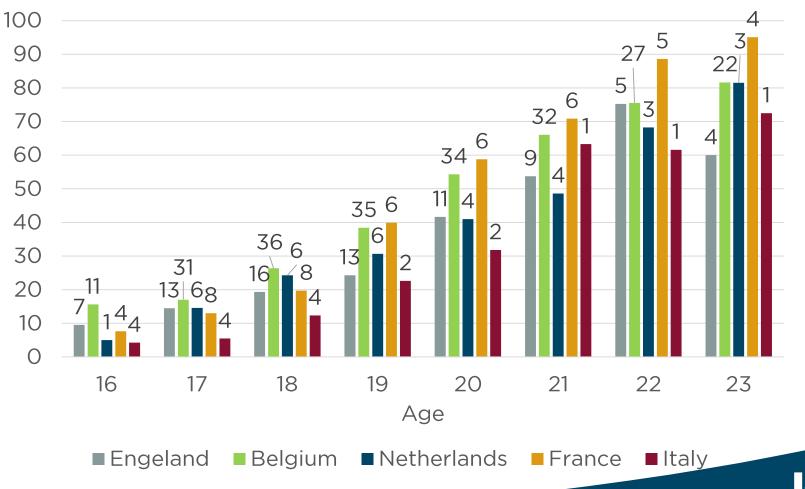
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## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION **SCISPSRTS**

Performance (SciSkill)



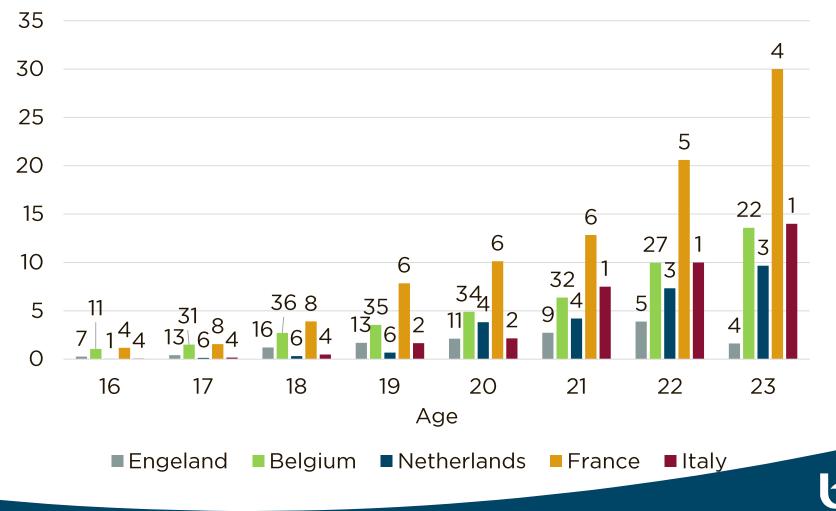




## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**



Market Value (M euro)







#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

## **Different models tested:**

- <u>Negative impact</u> of moving to England;
- Minors moving to <u>England</u>:
  - Perform worse in the start of their career;
  - Earn lower wages.
- Effect not significant for other countries.





#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

## **Different models tested:**

- <u>Positive impact</u> on player development of:
  - First team minutes;
  - Gaining experience in a strong team;
- <u>National team</u> exposure increases a player's market value.











## **CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE RESEARCH**

#### **Conclusion:**

Youth players who stay in Belgium have higher chances for a better career, compared to:

- Youth players in England who risk ending up significantly worse;
- But: no significant difference for other countries.





## **CONCLUSION AND FUTURE RESEARCH**

#### **Future research:**

- Test effect of other variables (e.g. injuries);
- Test more model specifications (e.g. dynamic models);
- Check robustness of results for players from other countries.



# Thank you for your attention. Questions?

#### Contact:

Laurenz Van Looveren Matteo Balliauw Sunčica Vujić

laurenz@stirrassociates.com matteo.balliauw@uantwerpen.be suncica.vujic@uantwerpen.be

