

# **Robotization, Working Hours and Life Satisfaction: Evidence from South Korea's Robotization Policy**

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## Abstract :

As of 2009, the *Intelligent Robots Development and Distribution Promotion Act* has been put in place in South Korea and successfully managed to enhance productivity through increasing robotization and technological progress. In this paper, we aim to study the impact of South Korea's rapid pace robotization in 2009 on worker's life satisfaction using a rich individual level panel dataset on labor and their happiness scores. Individual level robot exposure scores are used to disentangle the effect of robotization on working hours as a first step then on life satisfaction. Preliminary results show that workers in occupations highly vulnerable to being replaced by robots tend to decrease their working hours which in turn positively impacts their life satisfaction.