



## Abstract



**World Futures Studies Federation**  
**19th World Conference**  
"Futures Generation for Future Generations"  
21-24 August 2005  
Futures Studies Department  
Corvinus University of Budapest

## **The effect of information & communication technologies on the mobility of knowledge**

*Zoltán Bartha*

As business knowledge, extremely the tacit part of it, is relatively immobile, firms often find it difficult to get access to certain kinds of knowledge. The immobility is partly caused by the highly centralised structure of education, but also by the so called systems of innovation, where opinions, information, and ideas are shared at an increased pace. The sharing of information is facilitated by the high level of trust among employees working in such systems. People hesitate to leave these systems, because they might lose the trust of their old contacts, and so when someone moves to another region, he may also lose the help of former colleagues. The loss of communication and help on the other hand, can result in a drop of performance.

Information and communication technologies (ICT), however, give us the opportunity to create and keep alive contacts with others from long distances. The paper investigates the possibilities of using ICT in building relationships, and sharing mutual trust among people situated at different parts of the world.