

## Comments on Egert, Lahreche-Revil, and Lommatzsch

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## **Conclusions**



Balassa-Samuelson effect is present in transition economies

Balassa-Samuelson effect is NOT present in OECD?

Correlation between NFA and real appreciation is questioned

In- and -out-of sample?

## **Problems**



- Short time horizon
  - non-linear effect of structural change on real exchange rate development in transition economies

- Definition of equilibrium exchange rate
  - CA development *vs.* real exchange rate development
  - CPI-to-PPI ration as a proxy for productivity gains
- Asset models of the real exchange rate in early days of transition?



 Would not be better to take into account only EUR to domestic currency exchange rate?

- NFA could encompass more than just CA deficit / surpluses expressed in terms of GDP.
  - transfers
  - remittances

## **Positive Coefficient on NFA**



But transition economies are less indebted than OECD?

 What about structural adjustment and fiscal problems in transition economies?

Could it be currency flight?



...it is always nice to be in Dubrovnik and it is always nice to read Egert et. al papers.