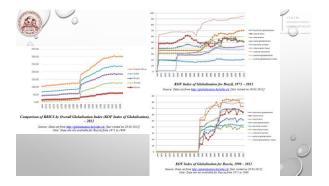
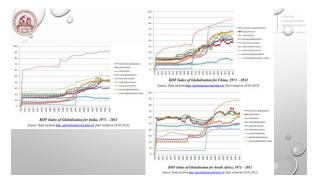




Dependent variable	Independent variable	Type of relationship	Coefficients	Significance
Financial efficiency	Labour expenditures/ wages	Linear R ² = 0.993	a = 0.266 b = 0.416	0.000
HR skills	Relevant experience	Linear R ² = 0.923	a = 0.747 b = 0.403	0.000
Business environment	Country risk	Linear R ² = 0.931	a = 0.139 b = 0.462	0.000
Business environment	Infrastructure	Linear R ² = 0.751	a = 0.016 b = 1.269 (0.911)	0.000
Business environment	Security of intellectual property	Logarithmic R ² = 0.692	a = 2.585 b = 1.137	0.000
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RESULTS FROM THE ANALYSIS (1) There are obvious differences in the structure of the globalisation process between BRICS, especially for the elements "personal contact" and "cultural proximity". Two "jumps" in cultural proximity (1989 and 1997) are evident for China. Personal contact still remains at a low level with values quite similar to those of India. Russia is an interesting and challenging market. There is a serious "jump" in cultural proximity in 1998. During the last two years few negative trends are observed. There is a slight decline in information flows, actual flows and restrictions. There is a group of scholars and researchers (Distler, 2005; Laudicina, 2012) who suggest that the locus of global economic, political and demographic power has been shifting with growing intensity from Global North (developed countries) to Global South (developing countries) as well. Both trends affect global supply chains decisions, especially their sourcing locations as well as expansion strategies of the companies. Brazil could serve as a good example with few fluctuations during the years.



