Appendix 1
A description of the semantic exercise

We conduct a semantic analysis on the speeches of the President and the Vice President both of the ECB and the Fed, over the period 1999-2016. In particular, we count words in the press conferences and the speeches, starting with Duisenberg, moving to Trichet and then Draghi, and their Vice President[1], and in a parallel way we count words in the speeches of Greenspan, Bernanke and then Yellen, and their Vice President[2].

The markers used for identifying the small country approach are exchange rate, pass through, imported inflation and import price, global slack, and oil and food price. The large country approach has been identified through the terms: Phillips curve, domestic and economic slack, unemployment, wage and unit labour cost, labour market.

Briefly, to identify the large and the small country approach we choose two different sets of words that individually identify the main drivers of domestic and external inflation, respectively. Indeed, a small economy is an economy where the international price is given and is thus not able to affect the external environment, just importing inflation and prices. Related to inflation, conversely to the small economy, the spillover effect to the rest of the world is high if a large economy changes its price.

The following table shows the use of terms over years for the two central banks.

Table A.1. Words counting of the Fed representatives

	Small	Large	Ratio of Small on Large
1999	31	61	0.51
2000	37	94	0.39
2001	26	22	1.18
2002	6	50	0.12
2003	22	41	0.54
2004	92	143	0.64
2005	109	51	2.14
2006	67	80	0.84
2007	32	152	0.21
2008	64	121	0.53
2009	8	62	0.13
2010	10	202	0.05
2011	61	144	0.42
2012	11	359	0.03
2013	18	173	0.10
2014	14	218	0.06
2015	132	236	0.56
2016	58	204	0.28

Source: Authors' elaboration

Table A.2. Words counting of ECB Representative

	Small	Large	Ratio of Small on Large

[1] The link https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/key/date/2017/html/index.en.html and https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/pressconf/2017/html/index.en.html have been used to perform the analysis.

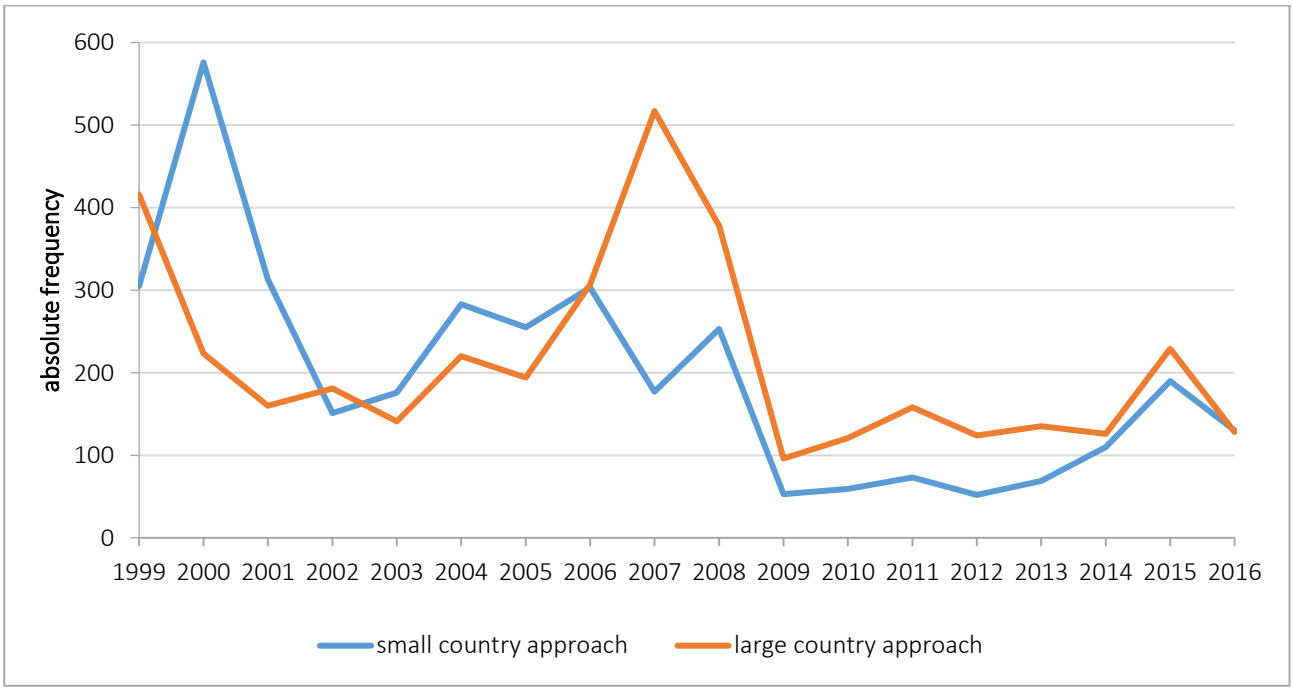
[2] Speeches used for this analysis are retrieved from the following link https://www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/speeches.htm.

1999	305	416	0.73
2000	576	223	2.58
2001	313	160	1.96
2002	151	181	0.83
2003	176	141	1.25
2004	283	220	1.29
2005	255	194	1.31
2006	303	307	0.99
2007	177	517	0.34
2008	253	378	0.67
2009	53	96	0.55
2010	59	121	0.49
2011	73	158	0.46
2012	52	124	0.42
2013	69	135	0.51
2014	110	126	0.87
2015	190	229	0.83
2016	130	128	1.02

Source: Authors' elaboration.

Figure A.1 shows the evolution of the use of the terms over the period of interest.

Figure A.1. Comparison for the ECB of frequency of terms consistent with the small and the large country approaches respectively (1999-2016).



Source: Authors' elaboration.

In the figure we see a trend, if irregular, decrease of the frequency of the terms consistent with the small country approach. The evidence of a trend is, instead, much less visible for the frequency of the terms consistent with the large country approach.