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Luc Soete (Brussels, 1950) is Director of UNU-MERIT. He is also Professor of International Economic Relations (on leave) at the University Maastricht. Before coming to Maastricht in 1986, he worked at the Department of Economics of the University of Antwerp, the Institute of Development Studies and the Science Policy Research Unit both at the University of Sussex, and the Department of Economics at Stanford University. Professor Soete completed his first degrees in economics and development economics at the University of Ghent, Belgium, before obtaining his DPhil in economics at the University of Sussex. His research interests cover the broad range of theoretical and empirical studies of the impact of technological change, in particular new information and communication technologies on employment, economic growth, and international trade and investment, as well as the related policy and measurement issues. He is a member of the Dutch scientific advisory body Adviesraad voor Wetenschap en Technologie (AWT).