

**LOCAL COOPERATION FOR INNOVATION IN THE SPANISH ICT  
SECTOR. DOMESTIC GROUPS WITH R&D COLLABORATIONS ABROAD  
AND FOREIGN SUBSIDIARIES**

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**Abstract**

On analysing a sample of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) firms, we ask whether domestic business groups that are engaged in international R&D collaborations are likely to cooperate for innovation in the home market. We compare these companies with other types of ICT firms. The idea behind our inquiry is that domestic groups involved in international R&D collaboration are exposed to international information, while they are also well embedded in the home economy. In theory, this circumstance can turn these companies into potential channels of the diffusion of international technology. We find that these companies as well as foreign subsidiaries are more prone than other ICT companies to cooperating for innovation with local partners, even when other characteristics of firms are controlled for. However, domestic groups with international R&D collaboration show a systematically higher propensity than foreign subsidiaries in this respect.

**Key words:** internationalization of R&D, cooperation for innovation, foreign MNEs, domestic business groups, ICT.

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