Secondly, the study analyses the evolution of the labor productivity in carmakers and equipment suppliers over the time period between 1995 and 2018, revealing that average labor productivity has been always higher among suppliers rather than in OEMs, even though their trends tend to converge from 2010 onwards, as Figure 3 shows.

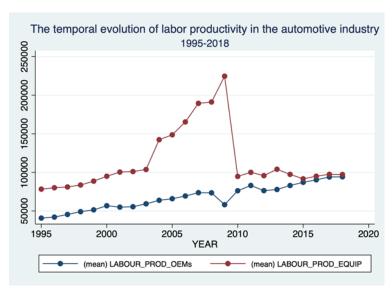


Figure 3. The evolution of the average level of labor productivity among car manufacturers (OEM) and auto equipment/parts suppliers in Europe between 1995 and 2018. Source: author's elaboration.

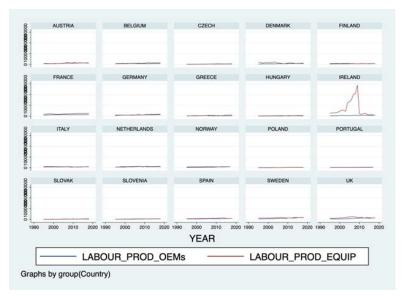


Figure 4. The evolution of the average level of labor productivity among car manufacturers (OEM) and auto equipment/parts suppliers across 20 European countries between 1995 and 2018. Source: author's elaboration.

To conclude, the study analyses the evolution of the European production of automotive-related eco-innovations, namely vehicles propelled with green endothermic engines (green ICEV), hybrid solutions (HEV), electric engines (BEV), as well as climate change mitigation technologies for transport system, over the time period between 1995 and 2018.

Figure 5 depicts their average trends, revealing that patents related to the green ICEV are the most numerous and show a steady increase rate until 2015, when their production started to