



CALL FOR PAPERS

ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2010

Monday 24th – Wednesday 26th May 2010

REGIONAL RESPONSES AND GLOBAL SHIFTS: ACTORS, INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANISATIONS

An increasingly complex array of actors are involved in today's regional development agendas. They range from private firms and labour organisations to government and non-government institutions. Despite the growing awareness in the public and academic domains of the multi-actor nature of regional development, we still often struggle to fully comprehend the mutually interactive strategies and practices which cut across regions and countries. In light of recent upheavals in the global economic and financial system, such an understanding will be critical to future studies of regional development.

Indeed this interest in actors, institutions and organisations in regional development needs to be properly grounded in the wider contexts of global change in economic imperatives, transnational working and cooperation and environmental concerns. To some regions, these contexts provide favourable and timely frameworks for action and initiatives. Other regions may find these contexts increasingly challenging and threatening. Taken together, understanding better these broader contexts can provide important insights into regional development potential, planning and practices and establish the agenda for research and policy.

We welcome papers from all – academics, students and those working in policy and practice. The event is inclusive and offers major networking opportunities for scholars in our field. As well as the conference abstract volume, opportunities for publication are strong with anthologies, special editions of journals and other publications often following from these sessions. Formal networking and collaboration meetings to promote journals, the development of applications for transnational programmes and other partnerships are being encouraged in Pécs. All abstracts are usually accepted provided that they address the conference themes and meet quality thresholds. We reserve the right to enter into discussion with the authors about possible revisions to the focus and approach of any paper in order to improve its fit within the session or its overall quality.

Regional Studies Association

THE INTERNATIONAL FORUM
FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
POLICY AND RESEARCH

*The Association welcomes as
members all individuals and
organisations who are interested
in the study and understanding
of regions and regionalism*

HOW YOU CAN BE ACTIVELY INVOLVED



The Association seeks an active engagement with the research, policy and practice communities through this conference and invites everyone to play a role in the event. In addition to submitting a paper and presenting at this event you would be welcome to:

- Offer a workshop session/s on a theme of your choice (perhaps to showcase recent research programme results) where you would invite colleagues to register for the conference and present their work
- Offer to act as a theme gatekeeper thereby gaining access to forthcoming research results and helping to shape the conference
- Offer an innovative session – do you want to host a session on the research findings of your recent project or programme or hear a debate on a topical issue? Could you run a practical workshop to solve problems on key issues; or would you like to hear from a recognised authority in the field? Talk to the conference team about your ambitions and we will try to help you realise them – email: lisa.bibby-larsen@rsa-ls.ac.uk

Sessions that are specially constructed will be actively promoted on the programme via a colour flagging system. The Association will consider all proposals and they should be based on 1.5 hour session time slots.

BEST PAPER COMPETITION The Association introduced an award in Leuven 2009 for the 'Best International Conference Paper' at the conference. We are repeating this in 2010. All full papers submitted by Sunday 4th April 2010 (except commissioned papers) will automatically be entered and the winner will be announced during the second plenary on Tuesday 25th May 2010.

TERRITORIAL REGISTRATION AND MEMBERSHIP FEES All participants will need to register and pay for the conference when submitting their abstract via our secure online conference portal at: www.regional-studies-assoc.ac.uk – Abstracts should be between 200 and 400 words and will form the submission to the conference abstract volume which carries an ISBN.

www.regional-studies-assoc.ac.uk

CONFERENCE TIMETABLE

- Abstract submission and speaker registration deadline – Sunday, 14th February 2010
- Full paper submission for entry to the Best International Conference Paper Award expires Sunday 4th April 2010
- Non-speaker, Early Registration Fee deadline – Sunday 7th March 2010
- Late registration fees applicable to all as of Monday 8th March 2010

Papers which are collaborative, international or multi-disciplinary are especially welcome. Papers may be submitted to ALL sessions – NO SESSIONS ARE CLOSED although some have convenors listed separately to the main gatekeepers. Specifically, this conference calls for papers in the following interrelated themes:

1. INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES & PRACTICES OF FIRMS IN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Gatekeepers: Abdel-Hilal Hamdouch, University of Lille, France, abdel.hamdouch@univ-lille1.fr; Lisa de Propis, University of Birmingham, England, l.de-propis@bham.ac.uk; Pawel Capik, Sheffield Hallam University, England, p.capik@shu.ac.uk; Helena Lenihan, University of Limerick, Ireland, Helena.Lenihan@ul.ie

- Firms, embeddedness, and regions
- Knowledge transfer, spill-overs and networks of firms in regional clusters and industrial districts
- SMEs, entrepreneurship, new firm formation and regional development
- Technology, innovation and regional trajectories including the role of higher education and public policy
- Regional economic resilience and competitiveness
- Restructuring in mature 'traditional' industries
- Labour markets, Human Resource Management and labour practices of firms
- Globalisation, Foreign Direct Investment and regional economic development including the South and East European dimension

Coordinated sessions – open for submission of papers

- Foresighting impacts and outcomes of globalisation on traditional industries in regional economies – session to be coordinated by Nigel Berkeley and David Jarvis, University of Coventry, England, n.berkeley@coventry.ac.uk and d.jarvis@coventry.ac.uk
- Impact of higher education institutions on regional economies – session to be coordinated by Peter McGregor, Strathclyde University, Scotland, p.mcgregor@strath.ac.uk. Projects funded by ESRC and all the funding councils of the UK
- Financing entrepreneurship and innovation – session to be coordinated by Helen Lawton-Smith, Birkbeck College, England, h.lawton-smith@bbk.ac.uk
- Creativity, culture and regional growth – session to be coordinated by Caroline Chapain, University of Birmingham, England, c.a.chapain@bham.ac.uk
- EURDITE – session to be coordinated by Stewart MacNeill, University of Birmingham, England, s.macneill@bham.ac.uk
- Regional innovation and business development in an international knowledge economy – session to be coordinated by Ove Langeland, Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research, Norway, ove.langeland@nibr.no

2. LABOUR ORGANISATIONS AND THEIR CONTINUED RELEVANCE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Gatekeepers: Karoly Fazekas, Hungarian Academy of Science, Hungary fazekas@econ.core.hu; Ron McQuaid, Napier University, Scotland, r.mcquaid@napier.ac.uk; Anne Green, University of Warwick, England, a.a.green@warwick.ac.uk

- The dynamics of local and regional labour markets
- The future of labour unions in regional development
- Work, employment, and labour management practices in regions
- Upgrading, skills development and utilisation and regional futures
- The role and future of labour organisations in local and regional politics
- Jobs and joblessness: brain drain, outsourcing, training and education policies
- Migration and commuting across borders
- Regional labour market behaviour during rising unemployment
- Job search

3. NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS (NGO) AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS (CSO): FACILITATORS OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT?

Gatekeepers: Oto Potluka, IREAS, Czech Republic, Potluka@ireas.cz; Mike Danson, University of the West of Scotland, Scotland, Michael.danson@uws.ac.uk

- Equity, ethics, and welfare in regional development
- Social responsibility and regional development
- NGOs and CSOs: regional identities and formations
- Local and non-local dynamics of NGOs and CSOs, social enterprises, cooperatives and communities
- Civil society and governance in cities and regions

4. REGIONAL POLICIES: GOVERNMENT AND QUASI-GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

Gatekeepers: Tassilo Herschel, University of Westminster, England, t.a.herschel@westminster.ac.uk; Iwona Sagan, University of Gdansk, Poland, geois@univ.gda.pl

- Regional planning and its relevance in the global economy
- Strategic regional policies and changing scales of governance
- Multi-level governance, territorial politics and city regions
- Devolution in political systems
- Comparative analyses of political systems
- Competition and cooperation in inter regional governments initiatives
- Policies and practices: what works in different regions?
- Poverty, exclusion and social policy
- Market transition and the relevance of regional policies
- Public management vs. democratic governance: direct or representative democracy in regions?

5. REASSESSING EU REGIONAL POLICY

Gatekeepers: John Bachtler, University of Strathclyde, Scotland, john.bachtler@strath.ac.uk; Jiri Blazek, Charles University, Czech Republic, blazek@natur.cuni.cz; Karol Olinjczak, Warsaw University, Poland, k.olinjczak@uw.edu.pl; Kai Böhme, Spatial Foresight GmbH, Luxembourg, kai.boehme@spatialforesight.eu

- Evaluation of EU cohesion policy
- Reshaping the EU budget
- The role of Structural Funds in responding to the economic crisis
- Post-2013 reform of Cohesion Policy
- EU support for rural development
- Whither territorial cohesion?
- EU programmes for cross-border, transnational and inter-regional cooperation
- Regional dimensions of EU policies for research and innovation
- Regional problems of Southern and Eastern Europe from the aspect of European cohesion
- Regional challenges for Central, South and East Europe

6. PEOPLE IN REGIONS: LEADERSHIP, COLLECTIVE ACTION AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Gatekeepers: Joyce Little, Nottingham Trent University, joyce.little@ntu.ac.uk; John Diamond, Edge Hill University, England, diamondj@edgehill.ac.uk; Markku Sotariuta, University of Tampere, Finland, markku.sotariuta@uta.fi

- Citizenship and social participation in regional and urban development
- Public-private partnerships and local/regional leadership
- Social capital, civic space, and regional identities
- Democracy, collective action, and changing governance in regional development
- Impacts of social structures on regional economic development and innovation
- Heritage, local identities and regional development: experience economies, place branding and public policy
- Exclusion, health and wellbeing: sustainable development and health
- Demographic pressures, migration, ageing and mobility

7. FINANCING REGIONS: GLOBAL FINANCIAL CRISIS AND BEYOND?

Gatekeepers: Dariusz Wójcik, Oxford University, England, dariusz.wojcik@ouce.ox.ac.uk; Ewald Engelen, Amsterdam University, The Netherlands, e.engelen@uva.nl and Zoltán Gál, Centre for Regional Studies, Hungary, gat@rkk.hu

- The regional nature and the origins and impacts of the global financial crisis
- Global financial systems and regional trajectories
- Alternative finance: how do actors and institutions in regions cope?
- Regional cooperation in times of financial crisis
- Local and regional public finance in conditions of financial crisis
- The impact of recession and credit crunch on Central, South and Eastern Europe

8. COOPERATION ACROSS BORDERS

Gatekeepers: Gianluca Spinaci, Committee of the Regions, Belgium, gianluca.spinaci@cor.europa.eu; Nico Groenendijk, University of Twente, The Netherlands, n.groenendijk@utwente.nl; Ulrich Hilpert, Friedrich-Schiller-Universität, Germany, ulrich.hilpert@uni-jena.de; Nicola Bellini, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Italy, nbellini@sssup.it

- Regional and transnational cooperation in development: a role for mega-regions?
- Borderland regions and economic cooperation
- Peripheral spaces, marginal communities and future trajectories
- Institutions and organisations for regional cooperation
- Sustainability of cooperation in regional development
- Urban and city networks
- Territorial cooperation as a core objective of EU Cohesion Policy
- Cross-border cooperation and the Lisbon Agenda
- Case studies: Success stories and failures in cross-border cooperation
- European Framework Conditions for cross-border cooperation

Coordinated sessions – open for submission of papers

- Transnational learning on regional and local development – session to be coordinated by Seija Virkkala, University of Vaasa, Finland, seija.virkkala@uwasa.fi; Age Mariussen, Bodo University, Norway, Age.mariussen@Nifustep.no
- City regions, marginalisations and 'in-between spaces' RSA Research Network on Bridging old and new divisions in regional governance between 'core' and 'periphery' in Europe's East and West – session to be coordinated by Tassilo Herschel, University of Westminster, England, t.a.herschel@westminster.ac.uk; Iwona Sagan, University of Gdansk, Poland, geois@univ.gda.pl
- Peripherality, marginality and border region issues in Northern Europe – session organised by the RSA Research Network of the same name – Mike Danson, University of West of Scotland, Scotland, Michael.danson@uws.ac.uk
- Mediterranean and Balkan regional development – session organised by the RSA Research Network of the same name – Vasilis Avdikos, Independent Research Professional, Greece, v.avdikos@gmail.com

9. GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE AND THE FUTURE OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Gatekeepers: Gerd Lintz, Leibniz Institute of Ecological and Regional Development, Germany, g.lintz@oer.de; Peter Wirth, Leibniz Institute of Ecological and Regional Development, Germany, p.wirth@oer.de; Abid Mehmood, University of Newcastle, England, abid.mehmood@ncl.ac.uk

- Theorising regional development in an era of global environmental change
- Environmental sustainability of local and regional development
- Impact of global environmental change on trajectories of regions
- Environmental initiatives: actors, institutions and organisations
- Implementation beyond Copenhagen: local and regional initiatives
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation: regional challenges, responses and discourses

Coordinated sessions – open for submission of papers

- Housing and the regions: Sustainable Communities and Liveability – session coordinated by the RSA Research Network of the same name – Nick Gallent, University College London, England, n.gallent@ucl.ac.uk

REGIONAL POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTHERN, CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

Reflecting our choice of venue the Association welcomes proposals for papers and sessions reflecting upon the particular cases of Southern, Central and Eastern Europe. When submitting papers on these themes authors should place them in the most relevant gateway listed above. Themes likely to be of interest may include, but are not limited to:

- The implementation of cohesion policy in pre-accession and member states
- The role and relationships of urban networks and regions
- Decentralisation of power and the dissemination of innovative regional driving forces
- Institutionalisation of cross-border co-operation
- Infrastructure and spatial planning
- Culture and the experience economy as a regional development force
- Regional Studies and Regional Science as Higher Education

THE CONFERENCE VENUE – PÉCS, SOUTHERN HUNGARY

The conference will be hosted in the European Capital of Culture 2010 Pécs in Southern Hungary. Pécs is characterised as a multicultural city without borders which acts as the meeting point for western and eastern parts of Europe.

Pécs has 160,000 inhabitants living in what is called the Mediterranean City of the East which dates back to ancient times. It is close to the Croatian and Serbian borders and is the regional seat of the Southern Transdanubia region. Its cultural layers are many with early Roman and Christian roots leading to the establishment of the university in medieval times. In the 17th Century it was Turkish and German and Latin at the end of the 18th Century becoming Hungarian in the 20th Century. The city boasts its own UNESCO site of World Heritage – the early Christian Necropolis.

THE INTELLECTUAL CASE FOR PÉCS

Pécs is the intellectual birthplace of regionalism in Hungary. The leading institution for regional research, the Centre for Regional Studies of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the Hungarian Regional Studies Association are both headquartered in Pécs. The first training courses and doctoral school in regional development and policy of Hungary were established at the Faculty of Economics of the University of Pécs.



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Regional Studies Association Annual International Conference: Pécs, Hungary
23rd – 25th May 2010
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