

RSAI NEWSLETTER

THE REGIONAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL

new series 21 - November 2022

CONTENTS

From the Editors	1
Welcome	2
RSAI membership information	2
Young Scholar Interview: Zsófia Vida	3
ERSA conference 2022: two reflections	3
South East Asian Frontiers (SEAF) Workshop Series #1: Highlands	4
Global Regional Development Conference	4
NARSC Summer School	6
Centre of Excellence: Kiel	7
Hirota Kohno Award 2022	8
RSAI Journals	9
Introducing the Diversity & Inclusion Committee	10

FROM THE EDITORS

The newsletter of the Regional Science Association International (RSAI) appears two times a year and contains information about upcoming conferences and meetings, recent events and publications, and short contributions on current themes.

Mina Akhavan (TU Delft) and Martijn Smit (Utrecht University) form the editorial team. Text contributions for the newsletter are always welcome, and can be submitted directly to Martijn (m.j.smit@uu.nl) or to Mina (m.a.akhavan@tudelft.nl). The deadline for the next issue is 15 April. In particular, short contributions on your current research are most welcome; these can be extracts from articles or reports, or opinion pieces. We also welcome proposals for a piece in the *Center of Excellence* series.

Martijn Smit
Utrecht University, the Netherlands

Mina Akhavan
TU Delft, the Netherlands



RSAI NEWSLETTER

THE REGIONAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL

new series 21 - November 2022

WELCOME

Dear Members of the RSAI Community,

Greetings from Brazil! I have just returned from Canada, where I attended the NARSC annual conference. As the pandemic loses its strength, face-to-face meetings are resuming in different parts of the globe. This year I have also attended Regional Science in-presence events in Morocco, Costa Rica, Ghana, the USA, Hungary, Italy, Colombia, and Brazil. It is part of our activities related to the promotion of Regional Science across the world, not only where the field is well-established but also in areas where RSAI does not have a formal section yet.



identity has profoundly shaped my professional career so far in a way that strongly motivated me to serve RSAI at another level. Acting as its president benefited largely from the good governance of RSAI, which was inextricably linked to an active and harmonious teamwork involving the Council, the Officers, and the Long Range Planning Committee. The role played by the Executive Director in managing the day-to-day operations of RSAI was essential to push forward our broader strategic actions. This period of close cooperation with Andrea Caragliu was fundamental to fostering RSAI activities. Finally, I wish Hans Westlund, the incoming president, all the best of luck in leading RSAI in the next two years!

Eduardo Haddad

RSAI President

As part of the strategy to expand our Association, with a particular focus on embracing the Global South, other events are confirmed for 2023, with RSAI support coming from resources dedicated to the “Nurturing New Talent” and “Building Bridges” programs and from the 2021 World Congress revenues. They include initiatives in Tunisia, Zimbabwe, Kyrgyzstan, Cambodia, Paraguay, and Ukraine, where we plan to create the basis for RSAI’s presence by mobilizing and nurturing existing talents under the leadership of local scholars already engaged in the association. RSAI also confirmed its support for events in the Netherlands, Spain, France, Romania, and Indonesia. The collaboration of our supranationals is acknowledged and deeply appreciated. I look forward to seeing you all at the different Regional Science events already scheduled for 2023, including the annual meetings promoted by our supranational associations. Alicante (ERSA) and San Diego (NARSC) are already confirmed!

I want to close these welcoming words by sharing my most profound gratitude to all of you for walking together in the last two years under my presidency of RSAI. I still vividly remember the first RSAI congress I attended, the 42nd NARSC Meetings of the RSAI, held in Cincinnati in 1995 as a graduate student at the UIUC. My adviser, lifetime mentor, and friend, Geoffrey J. D. Hewings, introduced me to the Association, which was a life-changing experience. Since then, I have dedicated part of my time to serving RSAI involved in its institutional building and scientific development. My involvement with the Association in various realms has created a deep sense of gratitude and belongingness. This

RSAI MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

All RSAI members have online access to Papers in Regional Science (PiRS) and Regional Science Policy and Practice (RSPP), the journals of the Regional Science Association International. Some recent articles from both journals are highlighted in this newsletter.

Members can log in and access full text articles online. In addition to the RSAI publications, members are offered an opportunity to purchase other regional science journals at reduced rates and participate in the national and international conferences at reduced rates.

To become a member and for details on your membership, contact the Executive Director, Andrea Caragliu at andrea.caragliu@polimi.it, or visit www.regionalscience.org.



YOUNG SCHOLAR INTERVIEW: ZSÓFIA VIDA

Zsófia Vida is at the Department of Science Policy and Scientometrics, Library and Information Centre of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (MTA) in Budapest, Hungary. She was among the participants at the ERSA conference in Pécs, in her home country, where Martijn Smit interviewed her for this newsletter.



Zsófia Vida

How is it for you to be back in person at a conference?

I'M REALLY GLAD for the opportunity to visit conferences like ERSA, as it is so big; lots of people come here from all over the world, and the topics are quite diverse. There are many separate parallel sessions – which also makes it hard to find a good place. But the topics are sometimes VERY wide, and it is often difficult to find a session that fits my interests. Still, it is a great place for networking and meeting other scientists – especially now, after the pandemic, of course. I don't really like online conferences; to be honest, you lose the networking effect. People do their presentation, but then there is no real reaction. And, importantly, no coffee breaks!

I always thought that for young scientists, your presentation and getting feedback are very important and that networking becomes crucial only later in one's career.

No, nowadays that is important for everyone! Young scientists who are not in a group of people with a similar research interest and who perhaps work just with their supervisor particularly need this connection to a broader network. Networking is much easier for those who already come as a group to a conference; people from one group connect to someone from another group, and then the others tag along.

Are you in such a group yourself?

Unfortunately, no. I got my PhD in 2019, and every year in conferences, I work hard to expand my network. My original background is an MA in geography, and I went into a PhD without any real-world experience in between. I discovered network analysis during my PhD research and dove into that new field. To be honest, I'm interested in many things, and it is always challenging to select a topic!

Isn't that broadness of topics a key feature in Regional Science?

Yes, and I really like it! Lots of economists and geographers from different backgrounds. The hunt for spatial patterns is what unites us. Myself, I went from network analysis to scientometrics, where there was a lot of data available for analysis of collaboration networks, and later I went to topical networks. I'm now at the Library and Information Centre of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, which has a small group on Science Policy and Scientometrics. We all have different backgrounds there, and working together is a challenge I really enjoy. My own interest is in quantitative analysis, and most of my colleagues do interviews. But that is okay; we combine our different contributions to a project together.

To be honest, I'm a bit disconnected from my workplace at the moment – although I'm at the conference now, I'm actually still partly on maternity leave, and that has been the case for some years; my first child was born in 2018 when I had just finished writing my thesis, and after his birth, I only had to defend it. I got back to work in the spring of 2020, and the pandemic forced us all to work from home. That was not a nice way of getting back to work! My second

child was born last year, so I'm at home again. But there are some projects that I still contribute to, and I was glad I was offered the opportunity to restart part-time in June. I will go back to full-time in the spring. Work-life balance is a big challenge these days; I'm glad part-time is becoming more common. And to be honest, I was also glad about online conferences, because last year I could now join them easily from home! Continuing to work was definitely much easier with my second child, as I can now join work meetings online. That is something we should continue after the pandemic, I think!

ERSA CONFERENCE 2022: TWO REFLECTIONS

THIS AUGUST AFTER an unprecedented break of two years without face-to-face ERSA congresses, the 61st ERSA Congress was organized in Pécs in hybrid fashion. It attracted about 400 participants onsite from 37 countries and an additional 310 online participants during the 5 day long event.

The thematic focus of the conference on territorial disparities amplified by digitalisation and the coronavirus epidemic reflects the main contemporary challenges in our field in the EU and it is also inspired by the host city region. There were very topical keynote lectures from the most eminent representatives of Regional Science (Maria Abreu, Simona Iammarino, Diego Puga, Olav Sorenson, Michael Storper, Michaela Trippel). In addition, 3 plenary roundtable discussions were organised on the sub-themes of the conference: on Regional Development, Networking and Entrepreneurial Ecosystems. This congress demonstrated that without active personal networking, as well as technical excursions, get-together parties, and the gala dinner, no conference can be considered as business as usual.

The congress, jointly organised by the Hungarian Regional Science Association, the Faculty of Business & Economics of the University of Pécs and the Centre for Economic and Regional Research, was a very successful event according to the feedback of the participants.

Zoltán Gál, University of Pécs

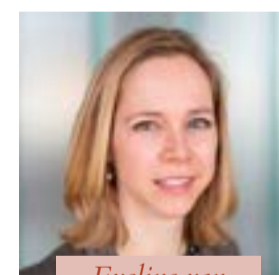
What a wonderful experience it was to have an in-person ERSA meeting again. Of course not after an online start with great key-notes and presentations. With colleagues from Wageningen and Groningen we took the train from Amsterdam to Pécs and enjoyed Europe right away. For some of us it was the first conference in person, so expectations were high.

These expectation were met right away when we arrived. A great venue for a welcome meeting brought the first new interactions and connections. Connections that were strengthened in the following days during coffee breaks, lunches and dinners. The great location obviously helped, in the evening you saw Regional Scientists at many terraces catching up. These exchanges were nice, but not the only ones. Discussions during presentations that were followed up while walking to the next session; introducing PhD students to each other and to senior researchers, final STATA programming and brainstorming with someone who at the spot offered to think along. These couple of days reminded me how valuable it is to meet each other to really progress in research, networks and friendships. Many thanks to all organisers! And I look forward to the next occasion to get inspired.

Eveline van Leeuwen, Wageningen University



Zoltán Gál



Eveline van Leeuwen

SOUTH EAST ASIAN FRONTIERS (SEAF) WORKSHOP SERIES #1: HIGHLANDS

THE SOUTH EAST Asian Frontiers (SEAF) Workshop Series #1: Highlands took place as a hybrid event on 18-20 August 2022. In addition to the Nurturing Young Talent Grant from the RSAI, the workshop also received the Global Engagement Grant and Forum Amir Effendi Siregar Grant from Universitas Islam Indonesia. As such, we were able to hold the on-site event at the Department of Communication, Universitas Islam Indonesia (UII) in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

The workshop had three high-profile keynote speakers: Tania Li (University of Toronto), Michael Eilenberg (Aarhus University), and Timo Maran (Tartu University). From 56 abstracts that we received, we accepted 30 participants which come from eleven different countries (Indonesia, Netherland, United States of America, United Kingdom, Philippines, France, China, Sweden, Germany, Finland, Malaysia). In workshop admission, we prioritised PhD students and early career scholars and researchers. We divided these participants into nine panels with eight topics: representation, political economic change, development, government, scientific practices, religious change, disaster, conservation and environmentalism, and natural hazards and social resilience. We provided each panel with relevant discussants.

Muzayin Nazaruddin



GLOBAL REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

“Regions of Hope and Glory?”

organized by Peter Nijkamp (Open University, The Netherlands), Paul Romer, Yongda Yu (Tsinghua University, China), Karima Kourtit (Open University), Ying Xue (Tsinghua University) and Ye Fan (Tsinghua University)

THE FIRST GLOBAL Regional Development conference in the history of regional science took place in Shenzhen (China) on December 3-5, 2021. It was a hybrid venue organised by the Talent Institute (Shenzhen), the School of Public Policy and Management of Tsinghua University (Beijing), and The Regional Science Academy. Several regional scientists from all over the world were invited as speakers at this important gathering, with Paul Romer, Nobel laureate, as keynote speaker. Despite corona restrictions, the conference was an overwhelming success, with hundreds of (online or personally present) participants. The conference aimed to bring together regional development experts from all over the world to discuss emerging challenges and to propose shared policy strategies for mitigating spatial welfare disparities.

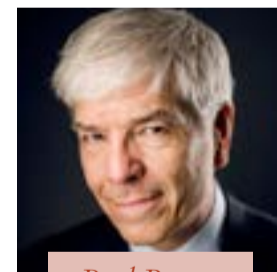
The present note provides a selection of ‘take-home’ messages and lessons from this great conference.

THREE KEY QUESTIONS

At the outset of the conference three key questions were formulated as a shared frame of reference for all participants. These are:

- The regions in our world do not exhibit a stable pattern. Do regions have sufficient resilience capacities to cope with these challenges? And can these be strengthened?
- Regions all over the world have a portfolio of indigenous resources. Which are the critical success factors from a regional perspective that determine effective competitiveness, social inclusion and sustainable development?
- Governance of regional development in uncertain times calls for new forms of leadership based on intelligent policy responses and supported by actor-based development initiatives. Are traditional government support systems (e.g., financial and incentive systems, regulatory systems) sufficient to pave the road towards stable sustainable and inclusive development in the years to come?

Paul Romer took the lead in answering these questions by addressing the size and the role of a focussed and effective government in emerging smart cities. He paid particular attention to the coordination of different elements of collective benefits, against the background of global challenges (economic recovery, pandemics, digital advances). He stressed in particular the importance and urgency of unlocking the full potential of public governance capacity in promoting sustainable development at urban and regional scale. He mentioned Shenzhen as one of the pioneering miracles in shaping a new urban world. The conference demonstrated Shenzhen’s ability and commitment to mobilise high-end talent and knowledge for building a leading global demonstration zone for advanced sustainable growth. Some lessons gathered during this fascinating meeting will be presented below.



Paul Romer

THE WEALTH OF REGIONS

Several speakers (e.g., Yongda Yu, Peter Batey, Louafi Bouzouina, Lin Zhang, Sameh Wahba, Vicente Royela) zoomed in on the drivers and conditions of sustainable region development), Regional development is considered to be the

outcome of dedicated, often self-organising territorial forces that are geared towards an improvement of the relative socioeconomic profile of a region. A successful performance of a region in terms of wealth, progress and shared development is largely determined by the effective use of its territorial resources, sometimes also called territorial capital. The constituents of territorial capital are:

- productive capital (material and financial)
- human capital (skills, education, motivation)
- technological capital
- environmental capital (quality of life, 'green capital')
- institutional capital (good government, transparent regulatory systems)
- X-factor capital (creative leadership, charismatic management)

The latter type of capital is perhaps the most intangible and most under-investigated resource in any regional development equation, but accounts to a large extent for the 'unexplained rest factor' in any regional economic growth analysis. An X-factor is not an unambiguously defined and measurable growth engine, as its economic added value depends on personal characteristics (e.g., open mindedness, innovativeness, adaptive ability) of leading personalities (or bodies) that have to be appreciated and accepted by all people and stakeholders involved. Education and selection of qualified people for leading positions in both private and public domains is one of the greatest challenges in any society nowadays.

Another problematic element from the above list of productivity-enhancing and development-conditioning territorial resources is institutional capital. Institutions refer to the governmental and decision-making constellations in an economy, ranging from free market mechanisms via concerted economies to (semi-)dictatorial systems. Clearly, any smart policy in a society needs 'rules of the game', but with almost 200 countries on our planet we have a great variety of different decision-making mechanisms in nations and regions. From a regional (and national) economic development perspective, the main question will always be: which framework of institutional bodies and decision-making agencies favours sustainable and inclusive economic growth and productivity so as to achieve 'well-being4all'? A 'Quadruple Helix' constellation may be a desired institutional model. According to various speakers (e.g., Sumona Banerjee, Denise Pumain, Paul Snow, Abdul Shaban, and John Osth) geography is important. The great variety of economic outcomes of countries or regions all over the world suggests that both X-factor capital and institutional capital matter and deserve more prominent attention in growth research and policy practice.

THE UNEQUAL PLAYING FIELD OF PROSPERITY

It was also explicitly recognized by various participants (e.g., Yunbo Yu, Karima Kourtit, Gabriela Pascariu, Yoshiro Higano, Eduardo Haddad, Tomaz

Dentinho) that the world is not flat (even not in the digital age) and by no means equal. Regions – defined in terms of either physical-geographic conditions or socioeconomic profiles or administrative/planning criteria – show an enormous diversity in economic achievements, even within the same country (witness the Mezzogiorno in Italy or the Appalachian Mountains in the US). A significant body of the regional development literature has been devoted to either the identification of bottleneck factors that hamper an improvement of a region's competitive position or the exploration of smart or productivity-enhancing strategies and actions that would stimulate a region on a desired trajectory towards more interregional convergence. Clearly, an unequal access to and use of the above mentioned types of territorial capital are – apart from climatological and geographical-locational determinants – responsible for unequal socioeconomic outcomes. The main problem however, is that these types of production factors are not linearly related to regional performance results, while they are not mutually independent. Regional leadership may compensate for weak infrastructure, as is witnessed by many historical examples (e.g. Lille, Pittsburgh).

There is indeed scope for extensive evidence-based research on the success conditions for regions that have a low position on the welfare ladder. In general, it seems likely that regions which invest in a balanced way in all relevant territorial capital factors have the highest chance to grow relatively faster. Notwithstanding this strategic lesson, the deplorable fact is that fast growing regions expand the welfare gap with less privileged regions, so that at the end the problem of 'left behind' regions becomes more pressing. A broad package of welfare-enhancing measures seems to be needed then. Failure to do so may lead to hysteresis responses and unpredictable outcomes in periods of elections.

It goes without saying that a balanced regional development – based on an efficiency-enhancing competition strategy, a citizen-oriented inclusiveness social economy, and a sustainable climate-neutral orientation – has the greatest chance to be realised, if all territorial resources are explicitly exploited to improve the region's future. Clearly, digital technology will play an important role, as was emphasized by Laurie Schintler, Nicos Komninos, Ye Fan, Daniel Czamanski, David King, Roberta Capello, Janet Kohlhase and Jaewon Lim.

WAYS FORWARD

The first Global Regional Development conference has generated a wealth of original ideas and new visions on balanced and sustainable regional growth. Despite the complexity of the modern space-economy and despite the vulnerability of regions and cities in the wake of major (inter)national disruptions (natural calamities, pandemics, recessions, trade wars, political conflicts, climate disasters), a balanced regional and urban development is not only necessary, but also feasible, if all available means (ranging from a wise use of resources to good will) are implemented. A sine qua non would be sharing of international capabilities and stimulating joint capacity building for achieving an effective, sustainable and inclusive development of regions on our planet.

Regional development in the years to come will be shaped under uncertain conditions. And regional policy will call for adaptive behaviour of all stakeholders. To discuss the implications of unknown futures for regional and urban planning, a second Global Conference in Regional Development is planned on October 14-15, 2022, at the Talent Institute (Shenzhen).

Peter Batey, Guo Renzhong, Rao Zihao, Lin Zhang



清华大学
公共管理学院
School of Public Policy & Management
Tsinghua University



School of Public Policy & Management



The Regional Science Academy



NARSC SUMMER SCHOOL

THE INAUGURAL NERSA/NARSC summer school was held on the Cornell Tech campus on Roosevelt Island during the week of June 26th – July 1st. The event was organized principally by John Carruthers, Kieran Donaghy, and Shriya Rangarajan of the Department of City and Regional Planning at Cornell University.

The focus of the summer school was on developing an integrated assessment of the Financial District and Seaport Climate Resilience Master Plan (FiDi-Seaport Plan), which addresses multiple threats of sea-level rise to lower Manhattan and the wider New York City (NYC) metropolitan area (<https://fidiseaporclimate.nyc/>).

The FiDi-Seaport Plan articulates a prospective intervention in a regional ‘system-of-systems’ that is intended to “transform the NYC waterfront to better serve all New Yorkers for generations to come.” The implementation of this plan would affect many different systems in the New York Metropolitan Region—geophysical systems (the natural and built environments), transportation and communication systems, systems of land use and settlement, economic and financial systems, and systems of planning and governance—as well as the relationships between them.

A principal objective of the inaugural NARSC/NERSA summer school was to bring together a diverse group of early career scholars for a ‘radical collaboration’—to speculate about the impacts the implementation of the FiDi-Seaport Climate Resilience Master Plan would have and to sketch out an integrated assessment of these impacts with an eye toward being able to resolve conflicts between stakeholders that may arise. Participants included 14 early-career scholars from 10 institutions in 10 countries. Participants were chosen from a pool of 18 applicants by a selection committee representing four regional sections of NARSC to balance gender, nationality, and disciplinary field.

The program of the summer school comprised a) presentations on different aspects of the FiDi-Seaport Plan and different systems its implementation will affect, b) tutorials on, or reviews of, different analytical approaches that the organizers thought participants would find useful in conducting an integrated assessment of the effects of the plan’s implementation, and c) break-out sessions for small-group work and plenary sessions to share progress.

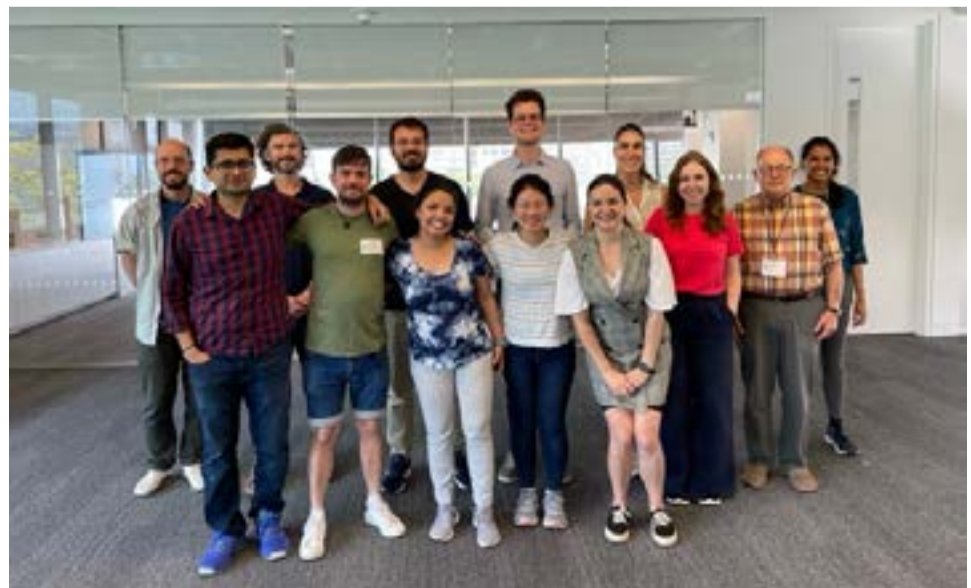
The summer school was organized with the idea that involvement by participants would begin before the summer school convened and continue after the event. In keeping with this idea, materials were disseminated prior to the event and made available via a Box folder. The organizers proposed that participants, with summer school staff, develop a system-of-systems modeling framework to characterize the stylized facts of the plan’s implementation and its various impacts over space and time (but not necessarily within the temporal confines of the summer school).¹ They also proposed that participants collaborate on an integrated assessment of plan implementation and produce several more narrowly focused papers to be presented at the North American meetings of the RSAI in Montreal in November. If these papers are of publishable quality, they could constitute part of a special issue of a journal focusing on the implementation of climate change adaptation plans.

According to the organizers’ thinking, the teams of participants and the papers they might produce could focus on

1. Geophysical systems—producing, e.g., visualizations and data analyses of proposed changes at neighborhood scales and environmental impacts under various scenarios.
2. Economic, financial, and social systems—conducting, e.g., economic and fiscal impacts of plan implementation on NYC boroughs and impacts on community equity.
3. Transportation, housing, and land use systems—considering, e.g., impacts of adaptive response plans on transportation circulation patterns, land use, and housing markets.
4. Plan implementation and regulatory systems—examining, e.g., the staging of construction and coordination with regulatory approval processes, infrastructure financing, trade-offs and externalities.

The organizers assigned participants with complementary disciplinary backgrounds to work together in small groups organized around these foci. (Participants were given the opportunity to join a group other than the one to which they were initially assigned, however.) Each group had the freedom to identify for itself what small set of critical questions it wanted to address, perhaps ultimately in a conference paper or journal article, whose ‘answers’ would provide critical information for other groups’ investigations.

Kieran P. Donaghy, Professor Emeritus, Cornell University



RSAI NEWSLETTER

THE REGIONAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL

new series 21 - November 2022

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE: KIEL

Kiel is a city of about 250,000 inhabitants in the far north of Germany, a good hour from Hamburg. It is Germany's most important harbour on the Baltic Sea; ferries to Sweden and Norway, cruise ships, the navy, and an important institute for marine research all have their place there. Yet it is also a major center for regional science, hosting not only several institutes with regional science at their core but also several closely related others.



Christian Albrecht

Since 1665, the city has been the home of the Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel (CAU). The CAU is organized into large faculties, and the geographers are included in the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences. The Working Group Economic Geography was founded by Javier Revilla Diez, who was professor in Kiel

The Institute of Geography at CAU



from 2002 to 2006; he then moved to Hanover University and later to Cologne University. The chair was taken over by prof. Robert Hassink in 2007. Under his leadership, the group currently consists of eight PhD students and one post-doctoral researcher, Camilla Chlebna. Students can take economic geography courses in the very broad geography bachelor, which covers both human and physical geography; at the MA level, there is a German-speaking programme on Urban and Regional Development (Stadt- und Regionalentwicklung) as well as an international and interdisciplinary Master Sustainability, Society and the Environment.

The main [research project](#) at the moment explores the impact of COVID-19 on regional resilience and disparities in Germany and China, with financing from the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft and in cooperation with Mercator Fellows in Beijing and Berne. The project is led by Robert Hassink and by prof. Annekatrien Niebuhr, who holds a chair in Empirical Labour Economics & Spatial Econometrics at the Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences, where she is one of the three leaders of the Institute for Environmental, Resource and Spatial Economics. Among others, she teaches methods of empirical regional research and spatial econometrics to Bachelor students. Her institute was led from 2000 to 2015 by prof. Johannes Bröcker (1950-2021), when the chair was called International and Regional Economics, and before that by prof. Karin Peschel (1935-2020), when it was called the Institute for Regional Research.



Left to right: Robert Hassink, Johannes Bröcker (+), Dirk Dohse, Annekatrien Niebuhr

Thirdly, Kiel is the home base of the Kiel Institute for the World Economy (IfW), which was founded in 1914 and in the following decade quickly became a leading research institute on conjuncture. After a darker period it regained that status from 1948 onwards. It currently has a Research Center on Innovation and International Competition, headed by prof. Dirk Dohse. Jointly with CAU and the Bundesland Schleswig-Holstein, a Kiel Centre for Globalization was also recently established, specializing in global supply chains.

But those four institutes are not all. Kiel is also the home of EconStor, one of the largest digital repositories of economic literatures. It is hosted by the ZBW – Leibniz Information Centre for Economics, with over 250 employees, falling under the CAU but located on the site of the IfW. Apart from its physical and digital libraries, this Centre is also heavily involved in the German National Research Data Infrastructure.

Robert Hassink & Martijn Smit



Top: IfW on the waterside. Bottom: ZBW in close-up.



HIROTADA KOHNO AWARD 2022

CONGRATULATIONS TO JOUKE van Dijk, who is the winner of the 2022 Kohno Prize! In similar fashion to Professor Kohno, Van Dijk started his involvement with the Dutch section of RSAI during which time he served as co-organizer and member of the LOC of the ERSA meetings in Groningen in 1982, 1994 and 2017. For the decade of the 1990s, he served as Executive Secretary of the Dutch section with the responsibility for organizing two meetings each year. When Professor Juan Cuadrado Roura became President of ERSA in 1995, he proposed that van Dijk be appointed as Executive Secretary of ERSA and the European Organizing Committee (EOC) and he served in this position from 1996–2001. He remained a member of the EOC for all but three years between 1993 and 2019. From 2007–2019 he served as either ERSA or Papers in Regional Science representative on the RSAI Council. During this period, he also served as President of the European Regional Science Association (ERSA) from 2014–2018.



In addition to his section/ERSA/RSAI duties, he also served in an editorial capacity. He was Editor-in-Chief of the Papers in Regional Science, 2007–2012; prior to this, he was the European Editor of Papers in Regional Science, 2005–2007. In 2012, he was appointed as one of the editors of the Springer Regional Science Series Advances in Spatial Science. In these positions, he has helped advance scholarship, especially of younger scholars, to print.

In all of these positions, he worked tirelessly to enhance the quality and participation of sections in ERSA and he managed to enhance the stature of PiRS through his work in soliciting the best papers from conferences and generating a sense among authors that this was a journal of increasing prestige. He has also enhanced RSAI/ERSA's visibility in the EU DG REGIO division by organizing a lecture series and University workshops at the annual European Week of Regions and Cities. He was also an initiator in promoting the participation of ERSA in the Masterclass for young scholars and University workshops at the annual European Week of Regions and Cities (EWRC, former Open Days) co-organized with EU DG REGIO in Brussels; each year, over 6.000 participants attended from regions all over Europe. In addition, Co-founder and co-organizer of the series of annual International Workshops on 'Regional, Urban, and Spatial Economics' (RUSE) in China. He has promoted regional sections within Europe as a member of the Editorial Board Review of Regional

Research (Jahrbuch für Regionalwissenschaft) since 2013 and as a member of the International Scientific Board of Investigaciones Regionales, the review of the Spanish Association, since 2014. Further, he has served on juries for prizes, organized congresses, round tables, and well as being an active participant at congresses and meetings, in numerous European sections (French Speaking, German Speaking, Greek, Italian, Spanish, Hungarian, and in the Nordic countries). These are contributions that are often overlooked but turn out to be critical in creating a sense of community among regional scientists.

Over three decades, Professor van Dijk has demonstrated a continuing, sustained commitment to enhancing the organization of regional science in his various leadership capacities. ERSA is now one of the strongest of the multinational organizations within RSAI; prior to COND, attendance of 800–1,000 at the annual meeting was not unusual. Through his leadership and dedication, Professor van Dijk has made a difference that has promoted and enhanced Regional Science and the Jury feels that he would be a most deserving recipient of the Hirotada Kohno Award for Outstanding Service to Regional Science.

The jury was composed of Eduardo Haddad (chair), Lily Kiminami, Yoshiro Higano, and Geoffrey Hewings. The text above also appeared on the [RSAI website](#).

*Prof. Jouke van Dijk at the ERSA
Winter School in Trento, 2019*



RSAI NEWSLETTER

THE REGIONAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL

new series 21 - November 2022

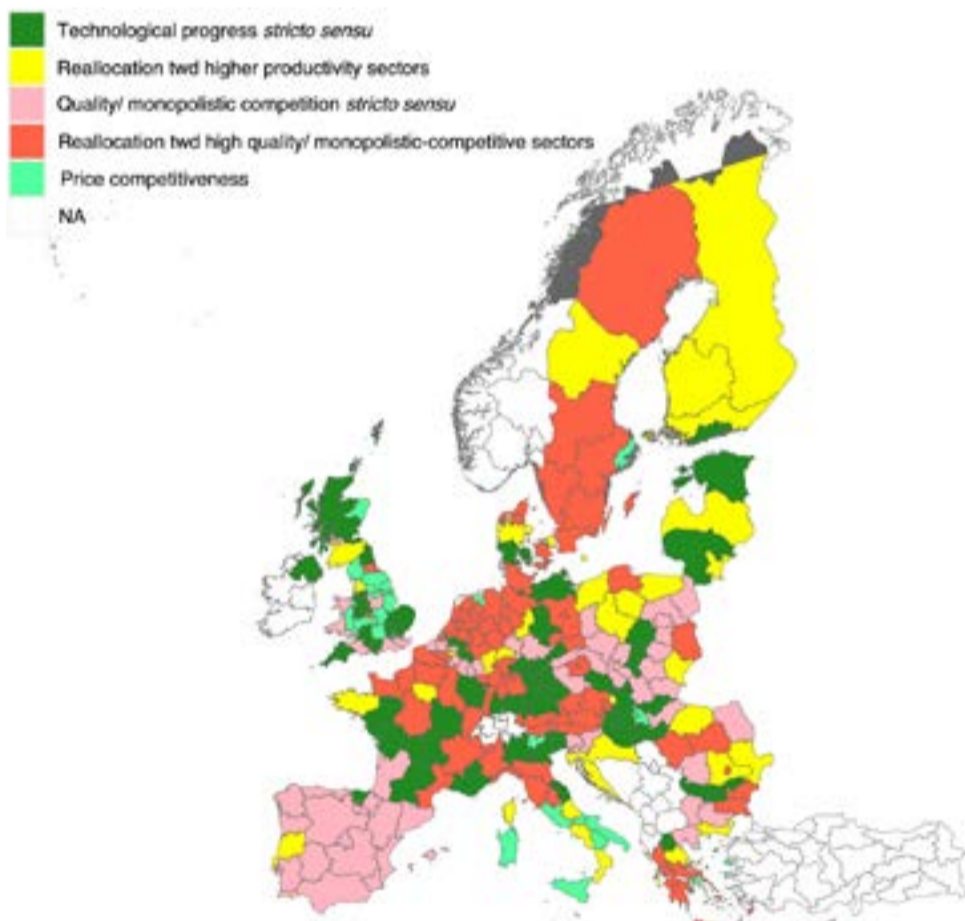
RSAI JOURNALS



Editor-in-chief Rosella Nicolini is happy to report the impact factor of *Papers in Regional Science* is now at 2.186. She has no fewer than three suggestions for interesting articles to read from this year's output. You find a brief highlight with a link to the complete articles below. As the rest of PiRS, these are freely accessible to RSAI members.

R. Camagni, R. Capello and G. Perruca (2022), [Beyond productivity slowdown: Quality, pricing and resource reallocation in regional competitiveness](#)

This contribution proposes a methodology to disentangle the different effects influencing changes in labor productivity and to apply it to recent development of European regions.



Regional competitiveness patterns (2013–2017)

A. Cerca, G. Pellegrini, O. Tarola (2022), [Can regional policy shape migration?](#)

This analysis shows the positive impact of the European regional policy on job market opportunities as well as the improvement of public goods supply in attracting migrants from less-developed countries.

R. Belderbos, F. Benoit, B. Derudder (2022), *World City Innovation and Service Networks and Economic Growth*

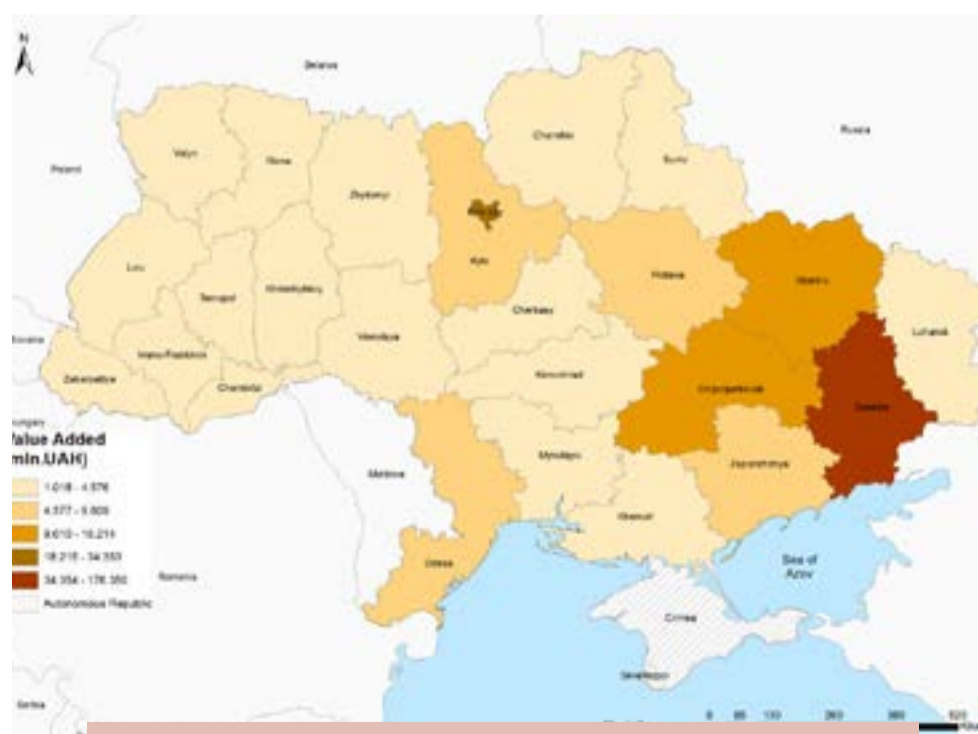
World cities are also global innovation hubs with their connectivity in knowledge networks crucial for the innovation clusters they harbour. This study contributes with new evidence for 129 world cities during the period 2000–2012.



When asked to highlight an article from the psat year, Editor-in-chief Tomaz Ponce Dentinho recommends a recent article by current RSAI president Eduardo Haddad and coauthors. You find its summary below; the article and in fact the whole journal are free to read for RSAI members.

E.A. Haddad, I.F. Araújo, A. Rocha, and K.S. Sass (2022), *Input–output analysis of the Ukraine war: A tool for assessing the internal territorial impacts of the conflict*

THE RUSSIAN INVASION of Ukraine on February 24, 2022, scaled up the ongoing conflict in Donbas beyond its regional borders, hindering and halting different aspects of economic life. Considering the internal geography of Ukraine's economic structure, the damages to physical infrastructure and supply chain disruptions are likely to propagate to other parts of the country through an intricate plot of production and income linkages. From a disaggregated analysis of multiregional and multisectoral linkages, this paper offers a systematic, integrated account of the structural linkages that allows modeling spillovers from one Ukrainian region to another. This approach breaks new ground by highlighting the internal economic effects of the conflict in Ukraine. The authors developed an interregional input–output system for Ukraine, providing the numerical basis for developing analytical frameworks to support knowledge building in the recovery process of distressed territories during the post-war period. The RSPP publication offers this database to the international scientific community to support modeling projects focusing on structural features of the Ukrainian economy. As shown in the illustrative exercise below, for measuring the systemic economic importance for Ukraine of one of the regions under risk, Donetsk, examining in detail the structure of intersectoral and interregional linkages is critical to understanding better the propagation of exogenous shocks in the economy.



Regional Impacts of Donetsk "Hypothetical Extradition" from Ukraine

INTRODUCING THE DIVERSITY & INCLUSION COMMITTEE

The RSAI has a Diversity & Inclusion committee. Two members, Sutee Anantsuksomsri and Milena Sorzano, introduce themselves in this issue. The other two members are John Carruthers of Cornell University and Cristina Pantelica of Constantin Brancoveanu University.



Sutee Anantsuksomsri is an assistant professor at the Department of Urban Regional Planning, Faculty of Architecture, Chulalongkorn University. His academic works focus on the issues related to urban economics, regional and urban development, complex systems, and geoinformatics. His current research explores how sharing economy contributes to urban sustainability in Thailand. In addition, he has conducted extensive research on the impacts of urban development on land values and land-use changes. His research has been supported by grants from Thailand Science Research and Innovation, the Sumitomo Foundation, SERNR,

NASA, and USAID. He is also the head of the Center of Excellence in Regional, Urban, & Built Environmental Analytics at Chulalongkorn University.

Additional to his research and teaching, Anantsuksomsri has been the editor-in-chief of *Nakhara: Journal of Environmental Design and Planning* and a member of the editorial boards of several academic journals. He has served as an expert on the National Smart City Committee and worked as a consultant for national and international organizations such as the Eastern Economic Corridor Office of Thailand and the Asian Development Bank.

Prior to joining Chulalongkorn, he was a visiting lecturer at Cornell University and an assistant professor at Waseda Institute for Advanced Study. He received his Ph.D. and Master of Arts in regional science from Cornell University, a Master of Science in construction management from Northeastern University, and a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture from Chulalongkorn University.

Since 2008, Anantsuksomsri has participated in several Regional Science Association International activities. He was a local organizing committee of the 14th Pacific Regional Science Conference Organization Summer Institute, Bangkok, Thailand. He is the president of the Thailand Section of RSAI. Currently, he is serving as a council member of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee for the RSAI. He plans to grow and nurture the awareness of diversity and inclusion in the RSAI academic community by proactively engaging diverse groups of scholars from all gender, race, age, and cultural backgrounds. Specifically, graduate students and young regional scientists from underrepresented countries are encouraged to participate in the activities of RSAI.



Milena Sorzano holds a PhD in global development studies from the Autonomous University of Baja California, and hold a master's degree in social sciences with a specialty in regional studies. She has taught post and undergraduate courses such as economics, macroeconomics, strategic administration, international economics, and quality, amongst others. As a field work specialist, her focus is on qualitative research methodology - analysis of content and grounded theory, as well as categorical data analysis techniques associated to subject of study

description, understanding and abstraction. She develops duties such as project formulation and assessment, social diagnosis and articulation of knowledge in administration and engineering issues for business consulting. Her skills go from technological surveillance, to database management such as Scopus, management of econometric tools such as Stata, Eviews, statistical software such as SPSS and advanced Excel skills. She has received training in national and international research stays by specialists and consultants, and participated in academic events at universities in Mexico, Colombia and Spain. Likewise, she has participated in a variety of research projects from their early stages to completion.