

NEW METROPOLITAN PERSPECTIVES 2020

THEMATIC SESSIONS - TS

TS-04-T1

CAN KNOWLEDGE COMPLEXITY GENERATE INEQUALITIES? NEW TRENDS FOR PERIPHERAL AREAS

Keywords: Knowledge Complexity; Peripheral Areas; Transition Management; Resilience; Quality of Governance.

The session focuses on the controversial effects that concentration of innovation produced by knowledge complexity may generate in peripheral areas. The rise of the current age of discontent shows how policymakers struggle with continuous mutating scenarios characterized by complex dynamics. The pillar on which the policy action seems to rest is represented by the potentials lying about knowledge complexity and innovation in reversing negative trends. However, recent studies point on how such complexity is giving rise to inequalities in both core and lagging regions, making peripheral areas a common issue to tackle. The session addresses different aspects of inequalities connected to new technological regimes by unveiling crucial dimensions such as health, environment, education, social exclusion, towards a more inclusive approach. The session aims at stimulating the debate on the urge for a change of direction in policy design and implementation, including transition management approach, resilience, quality of governance able to expose the potentials of peripheral areas for re-shaping the trajectories of more equitable development.

CHAIRS

Carmelina Bevilacqua – Mediterranea University of Reggio Calabria

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR of Urban Planning. Her research concerns the effects of development policies, at national and European level, on the transformations of cities and regions. Grounded in a multidisciplinary approach in combining urban-regional science with research-innovation dynamics, her recent areas of interest range in tackling how innovation policy and urban planning act in a complementary way for supporting knowledge dynamics towards the regeneration of the local economy.

Pierre Alexandre Balland – Utrecht University

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR of Economic Geography and research fellow at the Center for Complex Systems Studies. He previously held positions at MIT, UCLA, and Lund University. He is an economist by training, and he tries to understand why some parts of the world are rich, other poor, and what it can be done about it. On a more applied side, he works with policymakers and companies to solve real-world problems using network analysis and complex systems thinking.

Christina Kakderi – Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR of Spatial Development and RTDI Policies in the EU. She is also actively engaged in research for the past thirteen years, as a member of Urban and Regional Innovation Research Unit - URENIO and, previously, of Spatial Development Research Unit. She has been involved in EU and national funded projects related to spatial development and innovation ecosystems. Her research interests focus on systems of innovation and smart innovation environments (national and regional innovation systems, technology policy, innovation networks, intelligent cities/districts).

Vincenzo Provenzano – University of Palermo

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR Professor of Applied Economics, he teaches Regional Economics and Nonprofit Economics at the University of Palermo. He conducts analysis and research activities in the field of real and financial aspects of regional development).

