

Urban and Regional Restructuring

Round table: finding growth through services in
barren times: proposals and findings

Synthesis and discussion

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Urban and Regional Restructuring (E)

(21 presentations)

1. Regional development
 2. Services and green development
 3. Cultural and recreation activities
 4. Clusters and local development
 5. Urban services
 6. Urban local development
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Urban and Regional Restructuring

2 main streams:

- Spatial / geographic approaches
- Regional / local / urban development issues

Urban / Regional perspective:

- as scale of analysis (case studies, comparative,...)
 - as territoriality (embedness, clustering effects,...)
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Urban and Regional Restructuring

Represent the diversity of RESER in terms of:

1. **Disciplinary fields** (geo, econ, pol.sc., mgmt., mkt...)
 2. **Academic / practitioners / policy advisors**
 3. **Scope/scale of analysis**
 4. **Conceptual / empirical / policy-advising oriented**
 5. **Methodological approaches**
 6. **Geographies of “hot” themes**
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Trends – continuity...

...in consolidated research issues:

1. Hybridity of value creation in services (tangibility,...)
 2. Geographic organization / spatial patterns
 3. Clustering effects
 4. KIS (business, consumer,...)
 5. Innovation processes (types, models,...)
 6. Stakeholders interaction (private, public, etc)
 7. Urban / regional / local development policies and planning
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Trends – but diversity...

...of research objects and approaches:

1. Eco / green services
 2. Cultural / recreational services
 3. Transport / distribution
 4. Urban / social functions (care, proximity,...)
 5. ...
- Different kinds of knowledge (but generally knowledge intensive)
 - Importance of intermediation functions (facilitating, reputation building, gatekeeping,...)
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Challenges for services studies

1. Issue of scale of analysis (e.g, on clustering processes: EU vs N America vs Asia)

2. Issue of transversality (non-sectoral approach) (awareness of new dimensions of knowledge based services with fluid / diffuse / transversal concepts: e.g. green, cultural-creative; tourism-recreation; distribution)

3. Issue of informality (non-market mechanisms, untraded interdependencies,...)(e.g, care, cultural, urban mgmt,...)

4. Issue of plurality of rationalities (market but also non-market; public action; cooperative/shared actions; hedonic or lifestyles oriented action;...) (e.g use conflicts management, artistic, care,...)

Challenges for services studies

5. Issue of different kinds of knowledge building / dissemination mechanisms

6. Issue of intermediation and gatekeeping
processes (importance of legitimization, reputation building process)

7. Issue of conflict / cooperation (importance of conflict; driven by conflict; articulation of interests, in public and private actions...)

8. Issue of sensibility to funding agendas (e.g. EU vs regional/local agendas)

Challenges for growth and urban / regional restructuring

- **Endogenous / exogenous** (spatial context and territorial anchorage vs global functioning)
 - **Urb. / Reg. restructuring -> Multidimensional development** (urban vitality and competitiveness, inclusion, sustainability, participation, ...)
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Challenges for growth and urban / regional restructuring

- Links to policy / articulation with governance mechanisms

Policies and their actors:

- Scale and articulation (regional / local / national /supra-national...)
- Explicit/implicit regional/local development (territorial / innov / cult /...)
- stakeholders articulation / governance (public/private/other)

- And the crisis? (Finding growth in barren times?)

(public authorities / private sector / non-profit) ??? -> innovation???
