

Special Session Proposal

Economic transformation and the geography of firms, human capital, and growth

Organizers: NORDIC ERSA

Martin Andersson, martin.andersson@bth.se, Blekinge Institute of Technology
Mikaela Backman, mikaela.backman@ju.se, Centre for Entrepreneurship and Spatial
Economics (CEnSE), Jönköping International Business School
Magnus Andersson, magnus.e.andersson@mau.se, Malmö University
Tom Brökel, tom.brokel@uis.no, University of Stavanger Business School
Nino Javakhishvili-Larsen, ninojl@build.aau.dk, Department of Building
Environments, Aalborg University in Copenhagen
Grétar Þór Eyþórsson, gretar@unak.is, University of Akureyri
Jonas Westin, jonas.westin@umu.se, Centre for Regional Science, Umeå University

Abstract

Regions continuously transform due to technological change, industrial restructuring, migration, policy initiatives and/or by exogenous shocks such as war, natural disasters, and pandemics. Local governments also implement policies to support restructuring and transformation, for example in response to societal challenges like climate change. The economic history is full of examples of how these types of transformations can induce long-term changes in the geography of jobs, people, and economic growth. This special session focus on how various types of economic and societal transformations influence the geography of firms, human capital, and economic growth, and thus the preconditions for development of different types of regions. The special session is organized by NORDIC ERSA and welcomes contributions from all ERSA members.