

ERSA Summer Conference 2019

Call for papers

Proximity in a Changing World: a Relational Perspective on Spatial Development

Description

The concept of proximity – relational, geographical, institutional, organisational, cognitive and social – links two basic theoretical approaches: agglomeration and network economies. In recent years we observe a fruitful match between these theoretical concepts aiming to describe and explain regional development. This discussion diversified across various disciplines such as geography, economics, sociology or spatial development. Therewith, we observe a multitude of applications of the concept of proximity making it a very versatile approach. However, longitudinal analyses of proximity are rather rare.

So far, we can conclude that any form of proximity serves as a resource that can be exploited to create knowledge and innovations. Thus, regions, firms and people aim to establish relations with others in order to create proximity. The ongoing transformation of the global economy and the occurrence of fundamental exogenous shocks may alternate the relations between regions, firms and people. We assume that proximity remains a key driver for creating knowledge but spatial patterns of relations change bringing new actors and new centres to the fore. This conference aims to understand and discuss the concept of proximity within the changing global economy. We therefore invite papers that deal with dynamic approaches and longitudinal analyses of proximity and revolve around the following topics:

- the interplay between geographical proximity and new technologies of information and telecommunication
- the importance of temporary proximity for business operations
- the interrelationship between physical forms of exchange such as goods or people and non-physical forms such as telecommunication
- the effects of exogenous shocks such as the financial crisis from 2008 or changing maps of trade barriers
- proximity and multi-scalar approaches
- methodological approaches to combine different forms of proximity
- new approaches of data collection, in particular relational data

Keynote speakers

- Dr. Zachary Neal, Associate Professor Michigan State University (<https://www.zacharyneal.com/>)
- Dr. Anna Growe, Professor at University of Heielberg (<https://www.geog.uni-heidelberg.de/regov/growe.html>)

Participants

This conference aims to bring together scholars from the fields of regional science, relational geography, network analysis, spatial development and spatial planning. **Please note: The number of participants is limited to 80 people!**

Format

Two-day conference with paper presentations, workshops, public discussion.

Date and Place

September 12-13 / TU München, Germany

Sponsor

Gesellschaft für Regionalforschung – German Speaking section of the European Regional Science Association

Organisation

Prof. Dr. Alain Thierstein¹, Dr. Stefan Lüthi²

¹ Technical University of Munich, Chair of Urban Development

² Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts

For correspondence

Dr. Stefan Lüthi
Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts
+41 41 228 41 82
stefan.luethi@hslu.ch

Paper submission

Abstracts of **max. 500 words** should be submitted **by 15th of July 2019** at <http://gfr.ersa.org/2019/02/13/sommerkonferenz-2019-in-muenchen/>

Registration fee

The registration fee is **EUR 70.-**. Please pay the conference fee before September 11th, 2019 to the following bank account:

- Bank: Die POST AG
- IBAN: CH21 0900 0000 6078 9770 1
- BIC: POFICHBEXXX
- Account in the name of: Schweizerische Studiengesellschaft für Raumordnungs- und Regionalpolitik, 8909 Zwillikon
- Purpose of payment: ERSÄ Summer Conference 2019

See you in Munich!