

Call for Papers

17th Geoffrey J.D. Hewings Regional Economics Workshop

and

16th GfR Summer Conference in Regional Science

Keynote: **Prof. Dr. Hans Koster (VU Amsterdam)**
„The Persistence of Urban Decline”

Vienna, September 17 - 18, 2026

The Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO) is very pleased to announce the **17th Regional Economics Workshop** in honour of **Geoffrey J.D. Hewings**, Emeritus Professor of Economics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and member of WIFO's Scientific Board.

This year's workshop, which aims at bringing together researchers from various fields of regional science to discuss ideas and exchange knowledge, will be jointly organized with the **16th GfR Summer Conference in Regional Science**. The GfR is the German speaking section of the European Regional Science Association (ERSA).

We are proud to announce that Prof. Dr. Hans Koster accepted our invitation to give a keynote speech:

Hans Koster is Professor of Urban Economics and Real Estate at the Department of Spatial Economics, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. He is also Research Fellow with the Tinbergen Institute and affiliated to the CEPR. Hans' research concerns the economic analysis of cities, regions and the environment. In his keynote, he will present recent research on the persistence of urban decline.

You are invited to submit any theoretical or empirical contribution within the field of regional science. The topics of interest include questions related to:

- regional specialization, structural change, and knowledge diffusion,
 - geographical impact of economic policy measures,
 - regional labour markets,
 - regional tourism,
 - regional location analyses, spatial location choice and location concepts,
 - regional planning,
- or any other topic in regional science.

