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Belgium



Professor Andrés Rodríguez-Pose (London School of Economics) is awarded the ERSA Prize in Regional Science 2018

July 2018, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium – The ERSA European Prize in Regional Science 2018 has been awarded to Andrés Rodríguez-Pose, Professor of Economic Geography in the Department of Geography and Environment, London School of Economics, UK.

This year's prize recognizes Professor Andrés Rodríguez-Pose for his outstanding contribution to pushing the boundaries of regional science. Andrés' research has, first and foremost, helped revamp some of the more traditional fields of regional science. He has contributed to improve our understanding of regional growth and disparities, fiscal and political decentralization, regional innovation, and development policies and strategies. But, as importantly, he has pioneered research in new areas, including institutions, the very long-term impact of migration, or how territorial inequality affects political outcomes. By doing so, his research often is concerned with the big issues of recent years. In all these fields he has been a prolific author, having published nine books and more than 170 articles in peer-reviewed journals.

His research is widely cited in academic circles and frequently attracts the attention of policy-makers and the wider public. One example of this is his recently published article "The revenge of the places that don't matter (and what to do about it)" (Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society, 2018), where he puts forward the idea that the main culprits behind the rise of anti-system votes and populist parties in the western world are long-term economic and industrial decline and rurality (see, for example, http://www.centreforcities.org/blog/five-reflections-revenge-places-dont-matter/). Other important works include Local and regional development (co-authored with A Pike and J Tomaney – 2006 1st Edition, 2016 2nd Edition Routledge) where he and his co-authors lay bare the purposes, principles and values, frameworks of understanding, approaches and interventions to local and regional development; or "Do Institutions Matter for Regional Development?" (Regional Studies, 2013), exposing from a theoretical perspective the multiple channels through which institutions shape regional economic performance. He is also – together with Fabrizio Barca and Philip McCann – responsible for setting the foundations of place-based and place-sensitive regional development strategies (The case of regional development intervention: Place-based versus place-neutral approaches, Journal of Regional Science, 2012)

The Jury of the ERSA-prize Committee also praised his long-standing service to the regional science community: his career shows a perfect match between scientific contribution, contribution to society/policy, and contribution to the regional science community. As such he is a very good example of a 'social' Regional Science Leader. He is the immediate Past President of the *Regional Science Association International* (2015-2017). He served as Vice-President of the RSAI in 2014 and has also been Vice-President (2012-2013) and Secretary (2001-2005) of the *European Regional Science Association*. Moreover, he is an editor of *Economic Geography* and acted for close to twenty years as editor of *Environment and Planning C*.

The award ceremony will take place on Friday 31st August during the Closing Ceremony of this year's ERSA congress "Places for People: Innovative, Inclusive and Liveable Regions" which will be held from 28th to 31st August 2018 in Cork (Ireland).

For more information About the ERSA European Prize in Regional Science, visit our website at http://ersa.org/awards-prizes/ersa-prize

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About ERSA:

The European Regional Science Association (ERSA) is the supranational grouping of national regional science associations across Europe. Visit our website at http://ersa.org/