ERSA Monthly news & updates

July Issue - 07/2026

In this issue you will find:

- ERSA2026 News
- Journals news
- Upcoming events
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- Publications

We wish you a good reading

#ERSA2026



ERSA2026 Programme is out!

3-day session in **Sofia, Bulgaria**

25-28 August 2026

Access the programme here!

Keynote Speakers



Commissioner Ekaterina Zaharieva

European Commissioner for Startups, Research and Innovation (2024–2029)



Prof. Peter Nijkamp, Emeritus

Professor at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, recipient of the RSAI Founder's Medal and former ERSA President.



Prof. André Torre

Distinguished researcher at INRAE, Paris-Saclay & AgroParisTech, and former ERSA President.

Technical and Cultural Excursions

Registration is now open for excursions organized during the ERSA 65th Congress in Sofia:
(You can download the brochure clicking in each excursion).

1. **Rila Monastery Day Tour**
Saturday, 29 August 2026 — €75

2. **Trakia Economic Zone – Plovdiv**
Monday, 24 August 2026 — €50

3. **Flight Control & Airport Systems – Sofia Airport**
Tuesday, 25 August 2026 — Free of charge

4. **Welcome to Sofia - City Walk Tour**
Tuesday, 25 August 2026 — Free of charge
This tour is sponsored by Destination partner Visit Sofia|Sofia Tourism Administration

Maximum day for reservation August 16th

Save your spot here!

Note for social events

Now that the programme is available online and you have probably organised your travel arrangements, we kindly ask you to confirm your attendance at the social events and catering by updating your registration.

This simple step will only take a few minutes, but it will help us to reduce waste and the environmental impact of the event while also enabling us to provide you with a more attentive and efficient service.

Access your registration form here!

Journals News



Global Challenges and Regional Science (GCRS)

Volume 7

Check out the latest paper:
Assessing regional production potential to strengthen the security of supply in strategic products

Authors: Matthias Firgo, Fabian Gabelberger, Andreas Reinstaller, Yvonne Wolfmayr.

more information about the latest issue



Regional Science Policy & Practice (RSPP)

Volume 18, Issue 10

Check out the latest paper:
The making of regional inequality: Market stages in an Integrated or Fragmented world

Author: Andrea Caragliu, Roberto Dellisanti

more information about this issue



Papers in Regional Science (PiRS)

Volume 105, Issue 4

Latest Article:
Spatial distribution of income in cities. Polycentric structure of employment, amenities and spatial effects

Author: Rafa Madariaga, Raymond Lagonigro, Ferran Oró-Aran, Joan Carles Martori

more information about this issue



New Article in REGION Vol. 13 No. 2 (2026)

Latest Article: Ecological provision across the regions of India as a function of local cultural capital

Authors: Yashi Jain

Explore the issue

News from Scienze Regionali

Indice del numero speciale/2026, supplemento: “Cities and Regions in the Digital Era: The Challenge of the Circular Economy Transition”

Article: Cities and Regions in the Digital Era: The Challenge of the Circular Economy Transition

Authors: Camilla Lenzi, Francesco Quatraro

Explore the issue

Review of Regional Research (RRR)

Latest Article: Is It Still All About Access? Digital Entrepreneurship and Digital Divide in Core and Peripheral Regions of Germany.
by **Valeria Maruseva** & **Henning Kroll**

Access to all publications here

Investigaciones Regionales - Journal of Regional Research

Investigaciones Regionales - Journal of Regional Research has published the 65rd Issue, the second volume corresponding to 2026.

Below you will find the summaries of the papers published in this volume, which can be accessed at https://investigacionesregionales.org/en/revista/spatial-econometrics-and-regional-science-in-memoriam-of-jesus-mur-and-ana-angulo/

We invite authors to submit papers at https://investigacionesregionales.org/en/envio-de-articulos/submission-of-papers-and-others-contributions/

Romanian Journal of Regional Science – 20th Anniversary!

At the end of June the Romanian Journal of Regional Science has launched Vol. 20, Issue 1, Summer 2026, celebrating 20 years of continuous, uninterrupted activity!

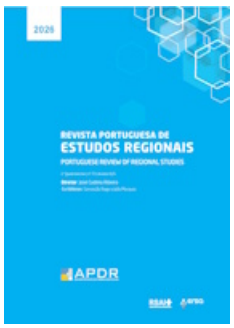
The latest issue can be accessed here: (https://www.rjrs.ase.ro/index.php/current-issue/)



Journal of Regional & Urban Economics (JRUE/RERU)

Check out the journal's latest issue
This special issue brings together original contributions on creativity and innovation as drivers of territorial transitions and resilience, seventy years of recovery policy in the Nord-Pas-de-Calais coal basin and the lessons of an endless reconversion, pathways toward autonomy and agroecological transition in food systems, and the determinants of regional innovation in France following the territorial reform.

more



Portuguese Review of Regional Studies (RPER): Nº 74 (2026) is already available!

Editor-in.Chef: José Cadima Ribeiro
Co-Editors: Conceição Rego e João Marques
Published: 27-04-2026

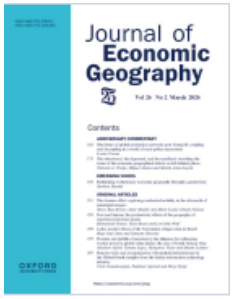
https://www.review-rper.com/index.php/rper/issue/view/74



Spatial Economic Analysis

Spatial Economic Analysis celebrates its first 20 years with a special issue comprising of papers that explore fundamental themes and techniques in spatial economic analysis reflecting both present and future trends.

The special celebratory issue is available now and includes contributions from, among others, Roberta Capello, Geoffrey Hewings, Andres Rodriguez-Posé, Sergio Rey, Rachel Franklin, Bernard Fingleton, Philip McCann, and Raquel Ortega-Argilés. **It can be freely accessed for free until the July 31st here** Spatial Economic Analysis: Vol 21, No 1.



Journal of Economic Geography

We are pleased to invite submissions to a Special Issue for the *Journal of Economic Geography* on: “Advancing Economic Geography with AI: Opportunities, Challenges and Innovations.”
Official CFP link: https://academic.oup.com/joeg/pages/advancing-economic-geo-ai

Artificial intelligence (AI) is rapidly transforming how we study spatial-economic processes—from text analysis and network-based methods to spatial modeling and GeoAI. While these developments have gained traction in related fields, their integration into economic geography remains uneven. This Special Issue aims to bring together theoretically grounded, methodologically

rigorous, and critically reflective research at the intersection of AI and economic geography.
We welcome contributions that explore, for example:

- How can AI reveal new spatial-economic patterns?
- How can unstructured or high-dimensional data (patents, firm reports, mobility traces) inform spatial economic analysis?
- How can AI help rethink concepts like relatedness, agglomeration, spatial inequality, regional development, and global production networks?
- What are the theoretical and ethical implications of using AI in economic geography?
- How can AI insights translate into actionable, place-based policy recommendations?

Paper Development Workshop: Selected contributors will be invited to a **one-day online Paper Development Workshop in October 2026**. This workshop offers a unique opportunity to receive detailed, one-on-one feedback from the guest editors and invited discussants to refine manuscripts prior to formal submission.

Key Deadlines

- Extended abstracts (1,000 words): June 30, 2026
- Workshop invitations: July 31, 2026
- Draft papers: September 20, 2026
- Full paper submission: January 31, 2027

Submission of abstracts:
Please email: yiou.zhang@tcu.edu, mabb@business.aau.dk and fvdw@hku.hk

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Journal of the Knowledge Economy

We are pleased to share an opportunity to publish your research in a Special Issue of the **Journal of the Knowledge Economy** (Springer Nature), title ***Research and Solidarity: Global, Regional and Local Perspectives***.

This issue focuses on research guided by knowledge co-creation, inclusivity, and social responsibility — and on how solidarity reshapes knowledge economies across multiple scales.

Both **theoretical/conceptual papers** and **empirical case studies** are welcome.

More information you will find here:
https://link.springer.com/collections/deaaaaccch

If you are interested in submitting the paper please contact: morawska@amu.edu.pl

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Upcoming events

German Speaking Section

16th GfR Summer Conference in Regional Science at WIFO in Vienna

This year's GfR Summer Conference in Regional Science will take place on **17-18 September 2026** at the Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO) together with the 17th Geoffrey J.D. Hewings Regional Economics Workshop. We are happy to have Hans Koster (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam) as keynote speaker.
Extended abstracts from all areas of regional science can be submitted until **15 May 2026**.
Find the call for papers with further information & submit here: https://gfr.ersa.org/2026/02/10/16-gfr-sommerkonferenz-am-wifo-16th-gfr-summer-conference/

Submission Deadline approaching: see https://ersa.org/events/german-speaking-section-16th-gfr-summer-conference/

Spanish Section

Invitation to ERSA Members – Join the 50th International Conference on Regional Science

Dear ERSA Members,
The Spanish Association of Regional Science (AECR), together with the Catalan Association of Regional Science (ACCR), are delighted to invite you to participate in the 50th International Conference on Regional Science, to be held in Barcelona from **21–23 October 2026** at the **Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC)**.

This special edition marks 50 years of scientific exchange, collaboration, and community-building in Regional Science. Celebrating this milestone in Barcelona—the city where AECR was founded—offers a unique opportunity to connect our shared history with the challenges and opportunities shaping the future of regions and territories.

Under the theme *"AI-Driven Territories for a Sustainable Future: 50 Years Building Knowledge for Regional Development"*, the conference will explore how artificial intelligence, digital transformation, and sustainability are reshaping regional development, cities, and rural areas across the world.

We warmly encourage all ERSA members to join us for this landmark anniversary edition, contribute to the scientific debate, strengthen international networks, and

celebrate together five decades of progress in Regional Science.

We look forward to welcoming you to Barcelona in 2026.

Organizing Committee
50th International Conference on Regional Science



Spanish Section

VII SEMINAR FOR NEW ACADEMIC RESEARCHERS - 24th – 25th September 2026 - Faculty of Economics, Business and Tourism of the **University of Alcalá**

The Faculty of Economics, Business and Tourism of the University of Alcalá, in Madrid, is pleased to host the **VII Seminar for New Academic Researchers (SNAR) 2026.**

Following the aims and scope of the previous successful editions, the SNAR seeks to gather a group of researchers, academics, and students (PhD candidates or graduates) to share previous, current, and potential future works among all participants rather than presenting a specific research paper, with the main purpose of guiding new researchers in developing their long-term careers.

Thus, we especially invite you to present a **line of research** (past, present, or future), or **a project** in which you are involved (or that you are interested in)

rather than just a specific article. This year, the seminar will be completed with some training courses for early career researchers.

We encourage contributions on topics related (but not limited) to the diverse fields involved in regional science and input-output analysis: economics, econometrics, urban planning, geography, tourism, inequality, health and welfare, impact evaluation, structural analysis, environmental economics, labour market, etc.

The format of the Seminar will be **hybrid**: all sessions (i.e., practical courses, panel sessions and lectures) will be available in a virtual platform. Therefore, registration and attendance to the SNAR may be onsite or online, indistinctly.

All the valuable comments and suggestions shared during the meeting will also contribute to building a network of researchers interested in regional economic development and Economic geography.

Please, confirm your willingness to participate in this Seminar by sending your abstract to **snar@uah.es**, including your name(s), affiliation(s), type of assistance (online or onsite), main topic and 3-5 keywords.

The Seminar will be held on **September 24th-25th, 2026**, in Alcalá de Henares, Madrid (Spain), at the Faculty of Economics, Business and Tourism of the University of Alcalá. Come to check it out and spread the word! Looking forward to meeting you all in Madrid.

Deadlines:
Submission of abstracts: June 20th, 2026.
Notification of acceptance: July 5th, 2026

More information about the event will be sent soon.

More information in attach:
https://sites.google.com/view/snar2026/home

Abstract Modele:
Modelo_abstract_snar7_english

HRVATSKA SEKCIJA EUROPSKOG UDRUŽENJA REGIONALNIH ISTRAŽIVANJA

Croatian Section

Conference titled ***"EU Regional Development Dialogues: From Policy to Research"*** will take place on **28–29 September 2026 in Split, Croatia (Technology Park Split)** and is organised in cooperation with the Faculty of Economics, Business and Tourism, University of Split, the Institute for

Development and International Relations (IRMO), and the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission, together with several institutional partners.

I would like to particularly highlight the second day of the conference, which will be dedicated to a **Regional Science Research Incubator Workshop** aimed at **early-career researchers and PhD students**. This workshop is designed as a mentoring and discussion platform where young researchers can present their research ideas or work in progress and receive detailed feedback from senior scholars and leading researchers in regional science. We believe this is a very valuable opportunity for young ERSA members to discuss their research at an early stage, improve their papers, and connect with senior researchers in the field.

More detailed information about the programme and the Research Incubator Workshop can be found here.

Hungarian Section

Hungarian Regional Science Association 24th Annual Meeting

"The role of universities in regional and urban development"

Debrecen, 21-22 October 2026
University of Debrecen

https://www.mrtt.hu/en/annual_meeting_2026.html

Polish Section

ERSA - Polish section invites to the:
42nd International Scientific Conference "Contemporary Processes of Transformation in Industry and Services" which will take place at the **University of the National Education Commission, Krakow** on **December 6–8, 2026.**

Keynote Speakers: **Roberta Capello, Robert Hassink, Paweł Churski, Danuta Piróg.**

The event is organized in partnership with the ERSA - Polish Section.

Website and more information:
https://przemysl.uken.krakow.pl/en/home/

Registration: open until September 30, 2026.

Israeli Section

Israeli section's annual conference is scheduled to take place on **February 23, 2027, at Sapir Academic College, Israel.**

More information soon

See all upcoming events

Sections News

Portuguese Section

Update in the presidency of the Portuguese section

We are pleased to announce that **Prof. João Carlos Correia Leitão** has been re-elected as President of the Portuguese Section of ERSA for another three-year term (2026–2028). The new Board of Directors includes **Ana Lúcia Marto Sargento, Hugo Emanuel dos Reis Sales da Cruz Pinto, Patrícia Coelho de Melo**, and **Tomás Lopes Cavalheiro Ponce Dentinho**.

The General Assembly Council will be chaired by **Rui Nuno Baleiras**, with **Paulo Alexandre Martinho Neto** and **Rui Alexandre Castanho** as members. The Fiscal Council will be chaired by **Lívia Madureira**, with J**orge Miguel dos Reis Silva** and **Celso Manuel dos Reis Lopes** as members.

We wish the new leadership every success in promoting the development and visibility of the Portuguese regional science community, strengthening collaboration within ERSA, and fostering new opportunities for research exchange and international engagement.

Other News

2026 Giorgio Rota Award for Young Researchers – Call for Papers

This year's Award is dedicated to the theme: *Economic Impact of Disasters: Risk Assessment, Vulnerability and Policy Responses*

Further information, including the Call for Papers, the Application Form, and the Editorial Guidelines for manuscript preparation, is available on the Centro Einaudi website:

https://www.centroeinaudi.it/notizie-in-evidenza/7450-economic-impact-of-disasters-risk-assessment,-vulnerability-and-policy-responses-call-for-papers.html

Submission deadline: 30 September 2026.

Two papers will be selected for awards of €3,000 each (gross). **Awardees will present their work at the Giorgio Rota Award Ceremony, which will take place in Turin, between the end of November and the first ten days of December 2026.** The event will feature an invited lecturer followed by presentations of the winning papers and a discussion.

The Department of Planning and Regional Development of the University of Thessaly and the Department of Economics of the University of Athens offer jointly an **English-speaking and distance-learning M.Sc. Program in "European Regional Development Management" (ERDM)**, certified by the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education (Decision QA_2668/17.02.2026).

ERDM provides in-depth academic expertise in the interdisciplinary field of regional policy and strategic management. The obtained knowledge and competencies are related to the planning and management of development policies at the regional and national level, with an emphasis on understanding the economic, institutional, and administrative factors that influence the effectiveness of policy instruments.

ERDM is supported by an International Advisory Board of leading academics from world-class Universities or Institutions, such as the London School of Economics, the University of Manchester, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the University of Strathclyde, the Politecnico di Milano and the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

For more information, please see: https://erdm.uth.gr/

Publications

Share Your 2026 Book Publication with the RSAI-ERSA Community

Are you a member of the RSAI-ERSA Community and have recently published a book (preferably written in English)? Don't miss this opportunity to share your work with our network send the details to office@ersa.org.

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