

ERSA 2017 Special Session
“National and International Locational Preferences of Firms”

Organizers:

Dr. Dario Musolino, Università della Valle d’Aosta, Italy; and CERTeT - Bocconi University, Italy (d.musolino@univda.it).

Dr. Ilaria Mariotti, Department of Architecture and Urban Studies, Polytechnic of Milan, Italy (ilaria.mariotti@polimi.it).

Content and objectives

Several strands of literature in economic geography coped with the locational preferences of entrepreneurs (location and relocation), within the same country and between different countries (i.e. offshoring and in shoring or back shoring). The determinants of firms’ locational preferences have been widely studied not only within the neoclassical framework (Lloyd and Dicken, 1992; Hayter, 1997; Krugman, 1995; Fujita et al., 1999), but also in the context of the behavioural (Simon, 1955; Cyert and March, 1963; Pred, 1967; Pellenbarg and Meester, 1984; Meester, 2004), institutional (Granovetter, 1985; Martin, 1999; Pellenbarg et al., 2002), and evolutionary approach (Maskell and Malmberg, 1997; Storper, 1992; Boschma and Frenken, 2004). On the contrary, studies on the determinants of MNEs location (Caves, 1996; Dunning, 1979, 1980 2009), as well as of offshoring and reshoring (Stentoft et al., 2016), have so far been largely neglected (Iammarino and McCann, 2013).

The special session aims at presenting and discussing works that are at the forefront of the international scientific debate on the determinants of firms’ locational preferences, within the same country and between different countries (i.e. offshoring and in shoring or back shoring), trying to be open to a wide variety of theoretical and methodological approaches. The objective of the session is therefore to make the point of the scientific debate on this issue, hosting contributions which deal with different conceptualisations (for example, stated or revealed locational preferences), different methodologies, different geographical scales, different theoretical and analytical perspectives from which the firms’ locational preferences have been recently explored, studied and explained.

Related topics

Firm location

MNEs location

Firm migration and relocation

Offshoring, in shoring, back shoring

Firms’ stated locational preferences

Mental maps of entrepreneurs

Locational advantages and disadvantages

Paper Submission

Initial submission is on the basis of an extended abstract (1500 words including contribution, theoretical framework, empirical approach and / or first results) or a draft paper (between 5000 and 10,000 words). The deadline is February 10th, 2017.

All presenters upload a full (draft) paper (deadline June 9th 2017).