



## **CALL FOR PAPERS - *SPECIAL SESSION***

# **The EU Cohesion Policy after the economic crisis and Brexit**

**Session Organisers:** Riccardo Crescenzi (London School of Economics – [r.crescenzi@lse.ac.uk](mailto:r.crescenzi@lse.ac.uk)), Ugo Fratesi (Politecnico di Milano - [ugo.fratesi@polimi.it](mailto:ugo.fratesi@polimi.it)), Vassilis Monastiriotis (London School of Economics - [v.monastiriotis@lse.ac.uk](mailto:v.monastiriotis@lse.ac.uk)).

The decision of the United Kingdom to leave the European Union (EU) is expected to foster a 360-degree scholarly and policy debate on the Union and its future. Two fundamental points deserve special attention in this context. First, the net benefits (if any) generated by the process of European Integration and EU policies need to be carefully identified and measured. Second, the value added of a supra-national EU-wide approach to the design and implementation of public policies deserves a re-assessment. This Special Session aims to contribute to this broader debate by looking at the EU Cohesion Policy. In view of the increasingly strategic role of the EU Cohesion Policy, its impacts and effects have become the subject of intense scholarly and policy debates. However, there is no agreement on the capability of the policy to promote economic growth and employment in the European regions and to reduce the gap between advantaged and disadvantaged areas. Depending on the conceptual framework and on some key methodological choices, different studies have reached contradictory conclusions. This Special Session invites papers that explore the features of the EU Cohesion Policy, its impacts on local and regional outcomes as well as the socio-economic, political and institutional factors conditioning these processes. In this context, special attention is devoted to the (re)emerging role of national-level conditions and policies both as factors conditioning the impacts of the policy and heterogeneous models of policy implementation. In order to address these fundamental issues this special session includes papers that adopt appropriate methods for counterfactual analysis and/or capture the factors conditioning success and failure of Cohesion policy. The discussion of this selection of papers will make it possible to single out a set of high-level policy implications and contribute to the design of an agenda for future research in this field, informing an evidence-based debate on the future of this policy following Brexit for both the remaining 27 EU member states and for the UK.

### **Submission deadlines**

Please, take note of the requirements for special sessions at ERSA2017:

- 1) Initial submission for special sessions 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 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
- 2) All presenters upload a full (draft) paper (deadline June 9<sup>th</sup> 2017)

### **Conference website**

<https://ersa.eventsair.com/QuickEventWebsitePortal/2017-ersa-congress/official-website>