



Call for papers - Special Session on [The cohesion policy of the European Union and the factors influencing its impacts on growth, jobs and investment](#)

We are pleased to invite you to contribute papers for a Special Session on **The cohesion policy of the European Union and the factors influencing its impacts on growth, jobs and investment**, which we will organize at the 11th RSAI World Congress on April 25-28, 2016. The RSAI World Congress will take place in Istanbul (Turkey) and will be a major international event.

The aim and scope of the special session

In view of the increasingly strategic role of the Cohesion Policy of the European Union (EU), its impacts and effects have become the subject of intense scholarly and policy debates. There is no agreement on the capability of the policy to promote economic growth and employment in the European regions, to reduce the gap between advantaged and disadvantaged areas, “to promote the overall harmonious development” of the EU (Art. 158 Treaty on European Union), reduce disparities between the development levels of the various regions, and strengthen their economic, social and territorial cohesion. Depending on the conceptual framework and on some key methodological choices, different studies have reached contradictory conclusions: the contribution of the EU Cohesion Policy to economic growth, innovation, local employment and investment remains highly debated.

This special session will discuss the features of the EU Cohesion Policy, its impacts on local and regional outcomes as well as the socio-economic and institutional factors conditioning these processes. Special attention will be devoted to the discussion of papers that adopt appropriate methods for counterfactual analysis and/or capture the factors conditioning success and failure of the Policy. Empirical analyses based on innovative databases are also strongly encouraged. The discussion of the papers will contribute to the development of an agenda for future research in this field and inform an evidence-based debate on the future of this policy and its effectiveness.

Keywords: Regional Policy, Regional Growth, Europe

Session Organizers:

Riccardo Crescenzi, London School of Economics, UK

Ugo Fratesi, Politecnico di Milano, Italy

Vassilis Monastiriotis, London School of Economics, UK

Submitting an abstract

Please submit an abstract (400-500 words) indicating title; authors(s), affiliations and emails (indicate the corresponding author); three keywords; and two potential topics to the session Organizers, by sending an e-mail to r.crescenzi@lse.ac.uk, ugo.fratesi@polimi.it and V.Monastiriotis@lse.ac.uk.

Abstract submission deadline: December 15, 2015

Details about the Conference: <http://2016worldcongress.regionalscience.org/>