



Special Session Proposal

Culture at Work: How Creative Industries Shape Regional Development

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Abstract

In recent years, the Cultural and Creative Industries (CCIs) have gained increasing recognition worldwide as important catalysts for regional development. Public policy has begun to focus more strongly on the economic and social contributions of CCIs, generating a growing body of applied and interdisciplinary research. A defining characteristic of CCIs is their ability to combine economic activity with artistic practice and cultural expression. Through concrete initiatives and localized practices, CCIs contribute to job creation, stimulate regional markets and support urban and rural regeneration.

This panel aims to foreground case study-based research that empirically demonstrates how CCIs operate as drivers of regional development in specific contexts. By examining successful projects, institutional models, and policy interventions, as well as barriers and limitations, the discussion will provide practical insights into how CCIs can be leveraged to support regional growth. Emphasis will be placed on grounded examples that illustrate the interaction between cultural resources, innovation processes, and sustainable development strategies in different geographical settings.

We invite contributions that present in-depth case studies of CCIs in both urban and rural regions. Submissions may focus on any CCI domain, including the performing arts, publishing, museums, heritage initiatives, or the retail of cultural goods, and may adopt qualitative, quantitative, or mixed methods approaches. PhD candidates and early-career researchers are especially encouraged to contribute.