



## Regional inequality in an Evolving Socio-economic Context

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### Abstract

Regional inequality has been a focal point of academic and political discourse. Recent trends highlight growing disparities in income and well-being within and across regions globally, raising concerns about their impact on social cohesion, economic development, and political stability. These disparities are closely tied to an evolving socio-economic landscape characterized by globalization, technological advancements, economic crises, and shifting policy paradigms. Globalization has marginalized certain regions within more developed countries, European integration has often intensified regional disparities, and recent economic crises and social and political changes have been linked to rising inequality. The ramifications of these dynamics are anything but spatially uniform, triggering intense debate over their localized impacts.

This special session investigates the patterns, drivers, and consequences of spatial inequality in this rapidly changing socio-economic environment. By incorporating a multidisciplinary perspective—drawing from economics, geography, political science, and sociology—the session seeks to advance understanding of the complex mechanisms related to regional inequality. We invite empirical and theoretical contributions illuminating regional inequality in diverse socio-economic and geographic contexts, fostering a dialogue that bridges disciplines and informs policy interventions.