



## **Regional Impacts of Global Value Chains reorganization Special Sessions based on Research Project TWIN SEEDS ([www.twinseeds.eu](http://www.twinseeds.eu))**

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### **Abstract**

Global Value Chains (GVCs) restructuring is at the core of the policy debate in the European Union. This debate originated in the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis, where the first weaknesses of a globally fragmented organization of production clearly emerged, especially in terms of job and economic stagnation in developed countries. The COVID-19 pandemic and the recent geopolitical instability raised further and serious concerns, related to the need of overcoming potential supply bottlenecks and preserving the EU autonomy in strategic sectors.

The way in which trade patterns reorganized because of these events is still largely unknown, so as the role of EU regions within these trade networks. Even less is known on the effects that GVCs restructuring has on the economic prospects of EU regions, in terms of both employment and economic growth dynamics, but also in terms of inequalities. Importantly, the regional dimension of trade-related phenomena has been - despite its relevance - largely overlooked by previous literature, due also to the lack of data at sub-national level.

The study and understanding of these phenomena convey extremely important implications for the design of policies in several domains, from trade to industrial, to cohesion EU policies.

Our special session aims at contributing to the discussion on these topics. More precisely, contributions focused on the following issues are welcome:

- How did regions reposition themselves within GVCs, as a consequence of global crises?
- How did alternative regional repositioning paths within GVCs affect regional economic and employment dynamics?
- How did alternative regional repositioning paths within GVCs affect regional inequalities?
- How did trade policies affect regional communities?

The multidisciplinary nature of the topic makes the ERSA conference an ideal forum in which to debate these issues. Economists, geographers, sociologists and political scientists are therefore invited to contribute to the special session.