



<b>Topic</b>
“The spatial and territorial dimensions of Circular Economy relations”
<b>Goals</b>
Explain and present the notion of Circular Economy, but above all show that it has an unavoidable spatial dimension and that it must be understood at the level of the territories.
<b>Competencies</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand what is Circular Economy and its various declinations</li><li>• Understand why the territorial dimensions is essential in the building of sustainable ecosystems or symbioses</li><li>• Identify good practices and good policies for non-linear economies and sustainable goals</li></ul>
<b>Contents</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presentation of the notion of Circular Economy, its importance at the European level and its analytical foundations</li><li>• Highlighting the notion of Territorial Circular Ecosystem and its different dimensions</li><li>• Applications to different case studies in France and Canada</li></ul>
<b>Applications</b>
Entrepreneurial ecosystem approaches can be directly applied by policymakers, ecosystem builders, and ecosystem actors to address locally and regionally embedded entrepreneurial challenges. Policymakers can use ecosystem frameworks to design, implement, and evaluate place-based and circular entrepreneurship policies; ecosystem builders can strategically configure, coordinate, and adapt ecosystem resources and governance mechanisms; and entrepreneurial ecosystem actors (entrepreneurs, ESOs, universities, investors) can align their strategies, collaborations, and investments to enhance sustainable, resilient, and inclusive regional development.
<b>References</b>
Bourdin S., Torre A., 2025, Economic geography’s contribution to understanding the circular economy, <i>Journal of Economic Geography</i> , 25, 2, 293–308. Doi/10.1093/jeg/lbae040 Torre, A., 2025, Territorial development: towards a dynamic and innovative understanding. <i>Regional Studies</i> , 1–5. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1080/00343404.2025.2465657">https://doi.org/10.1080/00343404.2025.2465657</a> Torre, A., Bourdin, S., Dermine-Brullot, S., Jambou, M., 2025, Implementing industrial and territorial ecology: The role of proximity and intermediaries in three French case studies, <i>Journal of Industrial Ecology</i> , <a href="https://doi.org/10.1111/jiec.13598">https://doi.org/10.1111/jiec.13598</a>

Chembessi, C., Bourdin, S., Torre, A. 2024, Towards a territorialisation of the circular economy: the proximity of stakeholders and resources matters, Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society, 17, 3, 605–622 <https://doi.org/10.1093/cjres/rsae007>

Bourdin, S., Torre, A., van Leuween, E. (eds.) (2024). Regions, Cities and the Circular Economy: Theory and Practice. Edward Elgar Publishing, 324 pp. ISBN: 978 1 03531 640 3

## Instructor



### Andre TORRE

Distinguished Professor of Economics at University Paris-Saclay, INRAE, AgroParistech.

Holder of the Sporck chair in Geography, University of Liege

Website: <https://www.andre-torre.com/>

Google Scholar:

<https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=fr&user=SVn3plwAAAI>

Orcid: 0000-0001-5644-7520

## Biographical note (max. 200 words)

The research of André Torre was for a long time at the cross roads of spatial and industrial economics. It has now become more multi-disciplinary and increasingly focused on questions related to territorial development processes, proximity relations and circular economy. He has published several articles and 25 books, mostly on issues related to spatial coordination between people or groups of people. His research currently focuses on the analysis of proximity relations and on their importance in coordination processes between people. It focuses on three main areas: local dimensions of circular economy and sustainable development; various forms of development dimensions at the territorial level, local interactions between innovative firms and, more particularly, the role played by proximity in the transfer of knowledge.

He is the managing editor of the Journal of Regional and Urban Economics (Revue d'Economie Régionale et Urbaine), and also past President of ERSA (European Regional Science Association), and ASRDLF (French Speaking Regional Science Association).

