

Twin Transition Inequalities: A Cross-Country Comparative Assessment of Türkiye's Position

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The twin transition, referring to the simultaneous green and digital transformation, has become a central policy priority shaping contemporary urban and regional development pathways. While these transitions are widely promoted as drivers of sustainability, innovation, and competitiveness, they also risk generating new forms of socio-economic and spatial inequality across and within countries. Addressing these tensions is crucial in a transition era characterized by global uncertainty and uneven regional development.

This study investigates the relationship between twin transition dynamics and inequalities through a cross-country comparative framework, with particular attention to Türkiye's relative position. The research is guided by three core questions: (i) To what extent do green and digital transitions influence cross-country inequalities? (ii) How do pre-existing structural inequalities shape national performance in the twin transition? and (iii) How does Türkiye perform compared to other countries in terms of twin transition-related inequality patterns?

To address these questions, the study develops an original composite Twin Transition Inequality Index, integrating indicators that capture both digital and green transition outcomes and the distributional inequalities embedded within these processes. The index is constructed using internationally comparable indicators drawn from OECD, World Bank, EU, UN, and related datasets, and is analyzed through quantitative methods supported by SPSS.

Methodologically, the research adopts a dual-direction analytical framework. It examines both the impact of twin transition dynamics on inequality and the constraining effects of inequality on countries' twin transition capacities. This approach contributes to regional science debates by linking global transformation processes with persistent territorial disparities.

By situating Türkiye within a comparative international perspective, the study highlights the uneven geographies of twin transitions and identifies critical structural challenges shaping national and regional development trajectories. The findings provide policy-relevant insights for designing more inclusive, balanced, and territorially sensitive green and digital transition strategies. In doing so, the paper contributes to discussions on how countries respond to global twin transition processes.

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