



Special Session Proposal

Digitalisation, Skills, and Regional Transformation

- José Manuel Amoedo, Universidade de Santiago de Compostela jm.amoedo@usc.es
- Bruno Blanco-Varela, Universidade de Santiago de Compostela, b.blanco.varela@usc.es
- Giorgia Casalone, Università degli Studi del Piemonte Orientale, giorgia.casalone@uniupo.it
- Alessandra Michelangeli, Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca, corresponding convener for ERSA Congress Secretariat alessandra.michelangeli@unimib.it

Abstract

Digitalisation is reshaping economies, labour markets, and social dynamics across European regions, with uneven impacts that call for renewed attention from regional scientists and policy makers. This Special Session aims to explore how digital transformation influences regional development paths, territorial disparities, and resilience capacities.

Although digital skills and student digitalisation remain key components of long-term regional competitiveness, the scope of the session expands to encompass broader processes of digital adoption and diffusion. These include regional differences in digital infrastructures, the integration of digital technologies into firms and public administration, the role of universities and training systems as regional innovation hubs, and the social and spatial inequalities that may arise from uneven digital preparedness.

We welcome contributions that examine how digitalisation supports or challenges regional cohesion, productivity, migration dynamics, labour market transitions, and human capital formation.

Possible topics include (but are not limited to):

- Regional disparities in digital skills, literacy, and access
- Digitalisation of education systems and its territorial implications
- The role of universities and training institutions in regional digital ecosystems
- Digital transformation of firms, public services, and local labour markets
- Smart regions, digital governance, and innovation-driven development
- Social, generational, and spatial inequalities linked to digital uptake
- Digitalisation as a driver of resilience and regional adaptation