

Disparities in a Digitalising (Post-Covid) world

Networks, Entrepreneurship
and Regional Development

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Special Session Proposal

Supply Chains, Production Networks and Regions

Erik Braun, University of Pécs, Faculty of Business and Economics,
EconNet Research Group (braun.erik@pte.hu)
Sándor Juhász, Corvinus University of Budapest, NETI Lab,
(sandor.juhasz@uni-corvinus.hu)

Abstract

To improve production efficiency, economies have become more specialized over the past decades. This process resulted in longer supply chains that often cross borders and more intermediate products that require the cooperation of many production locations. The high level of interconnectedness between regional economies goes hand in hand with rapid spread of shocks in which the structural properties of interregional linkages play an important role. The COVID-19 crisis also shed light on the vulnerability of production processes and increased academic interest to understand economic production from a complex networks point of view.

Mapping production networks in space, understanding the reorganization of supply chains and the network mechanisms that support resilient and successful regional economies can greatly contribute to our understanding on the interconnected economies of our times.

This special session calls for theoretical as well as empirical contributions related to the regional perspective of supply chains and production networks. We expect a vivid discussion on how the structure and geography of supply chains and production networks affect the development of cities, regions and countries, while outlining policy recommendations.