



POPULATION IMBALANCE IN EUROPE

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
27-29 APRIL

Book of Abstracts

LICENCIA DE USO

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BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

Settle International Conference – Population Imbalances in Europe¹

2022

¹ This conference and the corresponding publication as a Book of Abstracts are part of an ERASMUS+ entitled: “Population imbalances in Europe: challenges of urban concentration versus rural depopulation” (SETTLE). Project Number 620414-EPP-1-2020-1-ES-EPPJMO-PROJECT, granted on competitive call by the European Commission.

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Scientific Committee and Network**

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Prof. M. Teresa Fernández Fernández (Rey Juan Carlos University, Academic Coordinator)

Prof. Maria Teresa Gallo Rivera (University of Alcalá)

Prof. Juan L. Santos Bartolomé (CEU San Pablo University; Management).

SETTLE Scientific Committee and Network

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Prof. Cristina García (Complutense University, Spain)

Prof. Margarita Trejo (Camilo José Cela University, Spain)

Conference Secretary:

Instituto Universitario de Análisis Económico y Social - IAES (University of Alcalá)

<https://iaes.uah.es/es/transferencia-de-conocimiento/otras-actividades-de-transferencia/>

Programme “Settle International Conference- Population Imbalances in Europe”



POPULATION IMBALANCE IN EUROPE

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
27-29 APRIL

Programme

SETTLE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
 “Population imbalances in Europe”

Time	Wednesday 27	Thursday 28	Friday 29					
09.00	Accreditation	Accreditation	Accreditation					
09.30		PARALLEL SESSION IV	PARALLEL SESSION VI					
10.00	OPENING CEREMONY <i>Room: Paraninfo Universitario</i>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td> Services for rural and urban areas <i>Room: Salón de Actos</i> </td> <td> The future of work <i>Room: Sala de Conferencias</i> </td> </tr> </table>	Services for rural and urban areas <i>Room: Salón de Actos</i>	The future of work <i>Room: Sala de Conferencias</i>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td> Specialization and competitiveness in rural and depopulated areas (I) <i>Room: Salón de Actos</i> </td> <td> Population and environment (i): Energy/climate change <i>Room: Sala de Conferencias</i> </td> <td> Depopulation and opportunities(I) <i>Room: Sala 3M</i> </td> </tr> </table>	Specialization and competitiveness in rural and depopulated areas (I) <i>Room: Salón de Actos</i>	Population and environment (i): Energy/climate change <i>Room: Sala de Conferencias</i>	Depopulation and opportunities(I) <i>Room: Sala 3M</i>
Services for rural and urban areas <i>Room: Salón de Actos</i>	The future of work <i>Room: Sala de Conferencias</i>							
Specialization and competitiveness in rural and depopulated areas (I) <i>Room: Salón de Actos</i>	Population and environment (i): Energy/climate change <i>Room: Sala de Conferencias</i>	Depopulation and opportunities(I) <i>Room: Sala 3M</i>						
10.30	Coffee break							
11.00	OPENING CONFERENCE	Coffee break	Coffee break					
11.30	<i>Room: Salón de Actos</i>	PLENARY SESSION <i>Room: Salón de Actos</i>	PARALLEL SESSION VII					
11.45	<table border="1"> <tr> <td> PARALLEL SESSION I Urban-rural population mobility and settlement <i>Room: Salón de Actos</i> </td> <td> Public policies and social aspects of urban/rural population <i>Room: Sala de Conferencias</i> </td> </tr> </table>		PARALLEL SESSION I Urban-rural population mobility and settlement <i>Room: Salón de Actos</i>	Public policies and social aspects of urban/rural population <i>Room: Sala de Conferencias</i>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td> Specialization and competitiveness in rural and depopulated areas (II) <i>Room: Salón de Actos</i> </td> <td> Population and environment (II): Smart cities <i>Room: Sala de Conferencias</i> </td> <td> Depopulation and opportunities (II) <i>Room: Sala 3M</i> </td> </tr> </table>	Specialization and competitiveness in rural and depopulated areas (II) <i>Room: Salón de Actos</i>	Population and environment (II): Smart cities <i>Room: Sala de Conferencias</i>	Depopulation and opportunities (II) <i>Room: Sala 3M</i>
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Specialization and competitiveness in rural and depopulated areas (II) <i>Room: Salón de Actos</i>	Population and environment (II): Smart cities <i>Room: Sala de Conferencias</i>	Depopulation and opportunities (II) <i>Room: Sala 3M</i>						
13.00	Lunch	Lunch	PLENARY SESSION <i>Room: Salón de Actos</i>					
13.30			CLOSING CEREMONY <i>Room: Paraninfo Universitario</i>					
14.45	<table border="1"> <tr> <td> PARALLEL SESSION II Specialization and competitiveness in urban areas <i>Room: Salón de Actos</i> </td> <td> Population statistical advances and techniques <i>Room: Sala de Conferencias</i> </td> </tr> </table>	PARALLEL SESSION II Specialization and competitiveness in urban areas <i>Room: Salón de Actos</i>	Population statistical advances and techniques <i>Room: Sala de Conferencias</i>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td> PARALLEL SESSION V Population policies <i>Room: Salón de Actos</i> </td> <td> Urban territorial extensions and opportunities <i>Room: Sala de Conferencias</i> </td> </tr> </table>	PARALLEL SESSION V Population policies <i>Room: Salón de Actos</i>	Urban territorial extensions and opportunities <i>Room: Sala de Conferencias</i>	POSTER EXHIBITION (27, 28 and 29 April) <i>Place: Patio de Santo Tomás</i>	
PARALLEL SESSION II Specialization and competitiveness in urban areas <i>Room: Salón de Actos</i>	Population statistical advances and techniques <i>Room: Sala de Conferencias</i>							
PARALLEL SESSION V Population policies <i>Room: Salón de Actos</i>	Urban territorial extensions and opportunities <i>Room: Sala de Conferencias</i>							
16.15	Coffee break	Coffee break						
16.45	<table border="1"> <tr> <td> PARALLEL SESSION III Population and Covid-19 <i>Room: Salón de Actos</i> </td> <td> Population and migration <i>Room: Sala de Conferencias</i> </td> </tr> </table>	PARALLEL SESSION III Population and Covid-19 <i>Room: Salón de Actos</i>	Population and migration <i>Room: Sala de Conferencias</i>	ROUND TABLE <i>Room: Salón de Actos</i>				
PARALLEL SESSION III Population and Covid-19 <i>Room: Salón de Actos</i>	Population and migration <i>Room: Sala de Conferencias</i>							
18.30	GUIDED TOUR OF THE UNIVERSIDAD DE ALCALÁ (English / Spanish)							
19.00		GUIDED TOUR OF THE UNIVERSIDAD DE ALCALÁ (English / Spanish)						



SETTLE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

“Population imbalances in Europe”

PROGRAMME

Wednesday 27 April

09.00 ACCREDITATION

10.00 OPENING CEREMONY

Room: Paraninfo Universitario

Excmo. y Magfco. Dr. D. José Vicente Saz Pérez- Rector de la Universidad de Alcalá

Excma. Sra. Dña. Nadia Calviño – Vicepresidenta primera del Gobierno y ministra de Asuntos Económicos y Transformación Digital

Excma. Sra. Dña. María Ángeles Benítez Salas- Directora de la Representación en España de la CE

Prof. Dr. D. Rubén Garrido Yserte – Director del Instituto Universitario de Análisis Económico y Social, Universidad de Alcalá

10.30 COFFEE BREAK

11.00 OPENING CONFERENCE

Room: Salón de Actos

“A post-pandemic, post-global and post-urban world – What the heck is happening?”

Dr. Hans Westlund

Vice President of the Regional Science Association International (RSAI). Professor of Urban and Regional Studies, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden. Professor of Entrepreneurship, Jönköping International Business School, Sweden. Affiliated Professor, Institute of Developmental and Strategic Analysis, Slovenia. Editor of Springer Book Series Advances in Spatial Science.

Presented by **Dr. Juan R. Cuadrado-Roura** - Catedrático de Economía Aplicada – Emer. Titular de la Cátedra J. Monnet ‘UE y Política Económica’

Wednesday 27

11.45 PARALLEL SESSION I

URBAN-RURAL POPULATION MOBILITY AND SETTLEMENT

Room: Salón de Actos

Chairman: María Teresa Fernández Fernández

Urban-rural population changes and spatial inequalities in Sweden

Kerstin Enflo; Martin Henning; Hans Westlund

The rururban process in Spain: a historical and regional perspective

Juan Luis Santos; María Teresa Fernández Fernández; Alberto Blázquez

Estonian population and regional development during the last 30 years. Back to the small town?

Garri Raagmaa

Urban-rural continuum: an overview of their interactions and territorial disparities

Carolina Perpiña Castillo; Jean Philippe Aurambout; Sjoerdje van Heerden; Ricardo Barranco; Chris Jacobs-Crisioni; Mert Kompil; Filipe Batista e Silva; Carlo Lavalle

PUBLIC POLICIES AND SOCIAL ASPECTS OF URBAN/RURAL POPULATION

Room: Sala de Conferencias

Chairman: Valerija Botrić

Healthy life expectancy in the Russian Federation and some countries in 2016

Ramonov Aleksandr

Urban/rural differences in youth engagement in Croatia

Valerija Botrić

Reflections on rurality: from fiction to reality

Francisco Diniz

Senior Liveability Index in European Cities

Maria Laura Parisi; Nicola Pontarollo; Carolina Foglia

13.00 LUNCH

14.45 PARALLEL SESSION II

SPECIALIZATION AND COMPETITIVENESS IN URBAN AREAS

Room: Salón de Actos

Chairman: Cristina García Fernández

Connecting the Smart Village. A Switch towards Smart and Sustainable Rural-Urban Linkages

Cristina García Fernández; Daniël Peek

The Interpretation of Urban Economic History Matters. How imaginaries and directionalities influence agency and new path creation

Anna Herzog

Western Balkan Countries the New Urban Cluster for ICT Talent Acquisition of European Enterprises

Jolta Kacani

POPULATION STATISTICAL ADVANCES AND TECHNIQUES

Room: Sala de Conferencias

Chairman: Josep Anton Sánchez

Degree of urbanization in Catalonia: administrative divisions versus high-resolution grids

Eduard Suñé; Mireia Farré; Daniel Ibáñez; Clara Hormigos

A small area index to measure the socioeconomic characteristics of the population of the neighbourhoods, urban and rural areas

Xavier Cuadras Morató; Cristina Rovira; Josep Anton Sánchez; Mireia Farré; Daniel Ibáñez;

El envejecimiento en España desde un análisis territorial multiescalar: continuidades y discontinuidades a nivel municipal

José Antonio Nieto Calmaestra; Alberto Capote Lama

16.15 COFFEE BREAK

16.45 PARALLEL SESSION III

POPULATION AND COVID-19

Room: Salón de Actos

Chairman: Eduardo Gutiérrez

Dinámicas de población en España durante el Covid-19

Eduardo Gutiérrez; Enrique Moral-Benito; Roberto Ramos

How COVID-driven research attention on cross-border commuting benefits EU cross-border labor policy recommendations – A review

Johanna Trager

The Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic on Regional Inequalities in Romania. Spotlight on UnEmployment and Health Conditions

Adriana Elena Dardala; Daniela-Luminita Constantin

Post Pandemic Cities - competing for size or cooperating for interaction. An analysis of the evolution of Portuguese Municipalities based on an Organic and Rational Spatial Interaction Growth Models

Tomaz Ponce Dentinho

Urban-Rural Dichotomies in Post-Corona Europe: A Study on Anticipated Spatial Inequalities

Karima Kourtit; Cristian Incaltarau; Gabriela Carmen Pascariu

POPULATION AND MIGRATION

Room: Sala de Conferencias

Chairman: Ana Viñuela

Immigrant population or the answer to our demographic issues

Ana Viñuela

Local attributes and migration balance – evidence for different age and skill groups from a machine learning approach

Moritz Meister; Annekatrin Niebuhr; Jan Cornelius Peters; Johannes Stiller

Social Security Agreements and Social Welfare: Albanian immigrants in Italy, through demographic changes and contribution to social security and pension system sustainability

Ada Spiru; Viviana Fanelli; Armelina Lila

Políticas y estrategias de acogida e Integración de personas de origen extranjero En el medio rural

Alberto Conejos Sevillano; Vicente Pinilla; Luis Antonio Sáez Pérez

18.30 GUIDED TOUR OF THE UNIVERSIDAD DE ALCALÁ (Spanish and English)

Place: Tienda UAH - are located to the right of the entrance.

Thursday 28 April

09.00 ACCREDITATION

09.30 PARALLEL SESSION IV

SERVICES FOR RURAL AND URBAN AREAS

Room: Salón de Actos

Chairman: Margherita Mori

Financial vulnerability of small and medium-sized enterprises in sparsely populated areas. The case of Castilla La Mancha

Francisco del Olmo-García; María Teresa Gallo-Rivera; Rubén Garrido-Yserte

El acceso a servicios en la España rural

Patry Tello; Mario Alloza; Víctor Gzlez-Díaz; Enrique Moral-Benito

Rural versus urban communities: financial implications, challenges and opportunities

Margherita Mori

THE FUTURE OF WORK

Room: Sala de Conferencias

Chairman: Raquel Llorente Heras

Urban agglomeration, city size and spatial density effects on wage flexibility: new evidence on the wage curve

Ana Maria Bonomi Barufi; Eduardo Amaral Haddad; Peter Nijkamp

El mercado laboral en el ámbito rural: una perspectiva desde el hogar

Raquel Llorente Heras; Diego Dueñas Fernández

Working from a New Home? Remote Work and Counter-Urbanization in Sweden before and during the COVID19 Pandemic

Miquel Correa

Catching the bus in Barcelona

Miquel-Àngel Garcia-López; Rosella Nicolini; José Luis Roig

11.00 COFFEE BREAK

11.30 PLENARY SESSION

Room: Salón de Actos

"Mobility, Migration and Employment Imbalances in Europe"

Dr. Ferrán Brunet i Cid

Associate Professor of Applied Economics at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. Currently researching and publishing on European economy

Presented by Dr. Juan R. Cuadrado-Roura - Catedrático de Economía Aplicada – Emer. Titular de la Cátedra J. Monnet 'UE y Política Económica'

13.00 LUNCH

14.45 PARALLEL SESSION V

POPULATION POLICIES

Room: *Salón de Actos*

Chairman: Ana Patricia Fanjul Alemany

LEADER and the revitalization of rural areas

Ana Patricia Fanjul Alemany; Liliana Herrera; María F. Muñoz-Doyague

La política de cohesión y la lucha contra el éxodo rural ante la nueva perspectiva federal de la Unión Europea

Carlos Francisco Molina del Pozo; Virginia Saldaña Ortega

Polish demographic challenges and policy responses

Grzegorz Gorzelak

URBAN TERRITORIAL EXTENSIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Room: *Sala de Conferencias*

Chairman: Verónica Cañal Fernández

Are urban spillovers the solution to spatial inequalities?

Luisa Alamá Sabater; M.A. Márquez; Julia Cravo; E. Tortosa-Ausina

From ageing peripheries to rejuvenated suburbia in Latvia

Zaiga Krisjane; Maris Berzins; Janis Kruminis; Elina Apsite- Berina

Rural depopulation and infrastructures: Asturias in the period 1998-2019

Verónica Cañal Fernández; Antonio Alvarez Pinilla

16.15 COFFEE BREAK

16.45 ROUND TABLE

Room: *Salón de Actos*

"Public policies for sparsely populated areas: the case of Castilla La Mancha"

Chairman: Dr. Rubén Garrido Yserte - Director, Instituto Universitario de Análisis Económico y Social, Universidad de Alcalá

Participants:

- Local communities views: **Excma. Dña. M^a Jesús Merino** - Mayor, Sigüenza, Guadalajara, Spain
- Civil society's commitment: **D. Carlos Moreno** - Despelta Flour Factory, Palazuelos, Guadalajara, Spain
- New Public Policies: **D. Jesús Alique López** - Comisionado del Reto Demográfico. Junta de Comunidades de Castilla La Mancha

19.00 GUIDED TOUR OF THE UNIVERSIDAD DE ALCALÁ (Spanish and English)

Place: *Tienda UAH - are located to the right of the entrance.*

Friday 29 April**09.00 ACCREDITATION****09.30 PARALLEL SESSION VI****SPECIALIZATION AND COMPETITIVENESS IN RURAL AND DEPOPULATED AREAS (I)***Room: Salón de Actos**Chairman: María Hierro Franco***Dinámica demográfica y competitividad territorial con especialización agrícola extrema: la provincia de Jaén y el olivar**

Juan Carlos Rodríguez Cohard; Antonio Garrido Almonacid; José Domingo Sánchez Martínez

The coexistence of agricultural models: what conditions for sustainable territorial development?

Frederic Wallet

Unravelling rural resilience to face depopulation: The case of Cantabria (Spain)

María Hierro Franco; Adolfo Maza

**POPULATION AND ENVIRONMENT (I):
Energy/Climate Change***Room: Sala de Conferencias**Chairman: Álvaro García Riazuelo***La consolidación del derecho a un medioambiente sano como nuevo derecho fundamental de la ciudadanía europea**

Iris del Pino García

Justicia climática: un paso obligado en la lucha contra el cambio climático

Margarita Trejo Poison

A just and clean energy transition: insights from the European regions

Rosa Duarte Pac Rosa; Álvaro García Riazuelo; Cristina Sarasa Fernández

DEPOPULATION AND OPPORTUNITIES(I)*Room: Sala 3M**Chairman: Vicente Budí***The social impact of rural depopulation in Romania between 1990 and 2020 - A problem or a development opportunity?**

Claudia Anamaria Iov

Identification of territorial nodes in depopulated rural areas

Vicente Budí

De pueblos a municipios Las pautas de asentamiento de la población española a través del Nomenclátor de 1887

Francisco Beltrán-Tapia; Alfonso Diez-Minguela; Víctor Fernández-Modrego; Alicia Gómez-Tello; Julio Martínez-Galarraga; Daniel A. Tirado

11.00 COFFEE BREAK

11.30 PARALLEL SESSION VII**SPECIALIZATION AND COMPETITIVENESS IN RURAL AND DEPOPULATED AREAS (II)***Room: Salón de Actos**Chairman: Jane Wuth***(Why) Do digital startups move to rural regions?**

Jane Wuth

Depopulation of EU Lower-income Regions: Can the Digitalisation via Broadband Access Reduce it?

Anna Garashchuk; Fernando Isla Castillo; Pablo Podadera Rivera

Anclajes poblacionales en municipios de las Islas Canarias dedicados a la Economía Azul

María Teresa Fernández Fernández; Juan Luis Santos; Pedro Suárez López

POPULATION AND ENVIRONMENT (II): Smart Cities*Room: Sala de Conferencias**Chairman: María Jesús Delgado-Rodríguez***Short-run links in Ecological Footprint**

María Jesús Delgado-Rodríguez; Alfredo Cabezas-Ares; Sonia de Lucas-Santos

Medioambiente y sostenibilidad en ciudades inteligentes y áreas despobladas de Europa

Antoni Seguí

Cooperative and Commercial Banking: different roles in the territorial financial inclusion of Castilla La Mancha

Beatriz Fernández-Olit; María Teresa Gallo-Rivera; Rubén Garrido-Yserte

DEPOPULATION AND OPPORTUNITIES (II)*Room: Sala 3M**Chairman: Juan Luis Santos***La despoblación: análisis territorial y constitucional de España**

Adrián Fernández Méndez

Depopulation and rururbanization in a non coastal region: the case of La Alcarria

Alberto Blázquez; Juan Luis Santos; María Teresa Fernández Fernández

Does a reduction of search frictions foster return migration to peripheral regions? Evidence from the establishment of return initiatives in rural regions of Germany

Moritz Meister; Jan Cornelius Peters; Anja Rossen

13.00 PLENARY SESSION**Room:** *Salón de Actos***“Future of cities and population concentration in a postcovid and digital era”****Prof. Dr. Fernando Rubiera Morollón**

Professor in Applied economics, University of Oviedo. Researcher in REGIOlab- Regional Economics Laboratory. Director of C_innova – Chair for innovation analysis. President of the Spanish Association of Regional Science

Presented by **Dra. María Teresa Fernández Fernández** - Rey Juan Carlos University – Instituto Universitario de Análisis Económico y Social – Academic Coordinator Settle International Conference

13.30 CLOSING CEREMONY**Room:** *Paraninfo Universitario*

Dr. Julio Cañero Serrano - Vicerrector de Relaciones Internacionales, Universidad de Alcalá

Dr. Tomaz Ponce Dentinho - Professor of Regional, Environmental and Agricultural Economics at University of Azores. Editor-in-Chief, Regional Science Policy and Practice. SADF's Regional Cooperation Research Programme Director. Research of the Centre for Applied Economic Studies of the Atlantic (CEEApIA)

Dr. Fernando Rubiera Morollón - Professor in Applied economics, University of Oviedo. Researcher in REGIOlab- Regional Economics Laboratory. Director of C_innova – Chair for innovation analysis. President of the Spanish Association of Regional Science

Dr. Juan R. Cuadrado-Roura - Catedrático de Economía Aplicada – Emer. Titular de la Cátedra J. Monnet 'UE y Política Económica'

POSTER EXHIBITION**Place:** *Patio de Santo Tomás – Rectorado Universidad de Alcalá*



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1. En tren

Desde las estaciones de Chamartín, Nuevos Ministerios, Recoletos y Atocha, salen trenes de cercanías de las líneas C2 y C7 (Chamartín/Alcalá de Henares/Guadalajara) que llegan hasta la estación de Alcalá de Henares. Los horarios de los trenes figuran en la página web de **Renfe**

La frecuencia de salida es aproximadamente cada 5-8 minutos en hora punta y cada 10-20 minutos el resto de las horas. El tiempo estimado que se tarda desde Atocha hasta Alcalá de Henares es de 41 minutos.

2. En autobús

Desde Madrid (intercambiador de Avenida de América), salen autobuses de la empresa “**ALSA**” con destino Alcalá de Henares. El tiempo empleado en este recorrido es de 30 minutos aproximadamente.

- **Línea 223** Alcalá de Henares (Campus histórico).
- **Línea 229** Alcalá de Henares (Virgen del Val).

Desde Torrejón también salen autobuses con destino Alcalá de Henares:

- **Línea 251** Torrejón de Ardoz - Valdeavero-Alcalá de Henares
- **Línea 252** Torrejón de Ardoz- Daganzo - Alcalá de Henares

3. En coche

Desde Madrid se llega a Alcalá de Henares por la Autovía A-2, Madrid-Barcelona. Hay varias salidas que sirven para entrar en la ciudad, aunque la primera de ellas es la 23, que sirve para llegar al centro de la ciudad y a los distintos edificios enclavados en el casco histórico.

From Madrid

1. By train

Cercanías suburban railway network trains on line C2 (Chamartin/Alcalá de Henares/Guadalajara) depart from the stations of Chamartin, Nuevos Ministerios, Recoletos and Atocha, stopping at Alcalá de Henares station. The train timetables are listed on the **Renfe** website.

There are departures approximately every 5-8 minutes during rush hour and every 10-20 minutes at other times. The estimated journey time from Atocha to Alcalá de Henares is 41 minutes.

2. By bus

Buses run by the company ALSA bound for Alcalá de Henares leave from Madrid (at the Avenida de América transfer point). The journey time is approximately 30 minutes.

- [Line 223](#) Alcalá de Henares (Historic Campus).
- [Line 229](#) Alcalá de Henares (Virgen del Val).

Buses also leave Torrejon for Alcalá de Henares:

- [Line 251](#) Torrejón de Ardoz - Valdeavero - Alcalá de Henares
- [Line 252](#) Torrejón de Ardoz - Daganzo - Alcalá de Henares

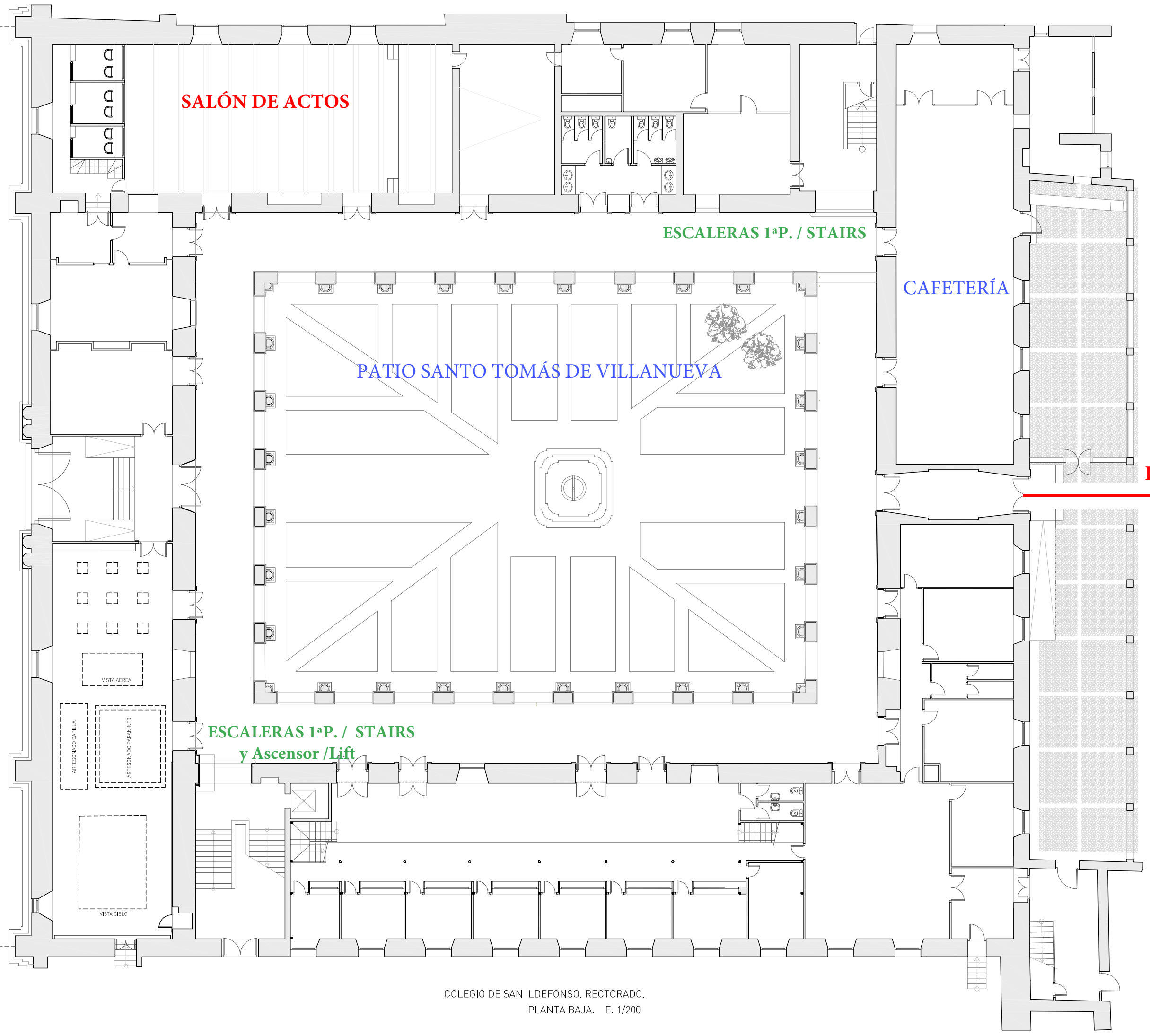
3. By car

You can reach Alcalá de Henares from Madrid via the A-2 Madrid-Barcelona motorway. There are various exits you can use to reach the city, although the first one is number 23, from where you can reach the city centre and the various buildings in the historical district.

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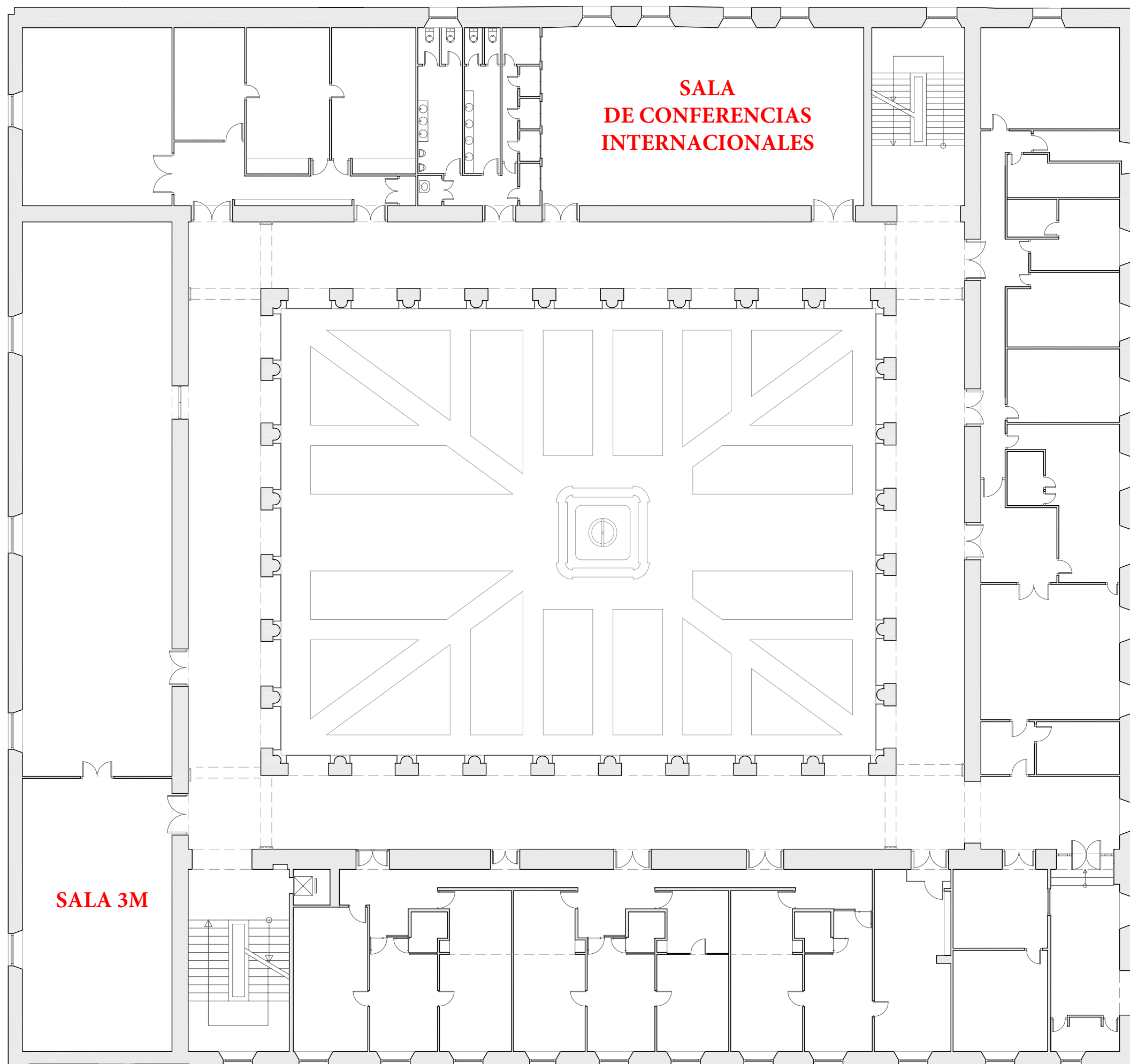
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URBAN-RURAL POPULATION MOBILITY AND SETTLEMENT

Urban-rural population changes and spatial inequalities in Sweden

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Abstract:

This paper documents regional population changes in Sweden since 1860 and investigates how these changes link to regional economic development. To create a longitudinal analysis of the regional population changes and spatial inequalities in Sweden from the 1860s to 2020 and analyse their determinants and links to regional economic convergence and divergence, we combine long-term decade population data for the historical counties (1960-2010) with detailed annual population observations for municipalities (1968-2021). We find that since the early 1900s, regional divergence has overall characterized regional population growth in Sweden – as the national population grew larger, the differences between regions have increased. Before 1910, the regional differences grew smaller, both in terms of population and in the production of economic value. As industrialization picked up speed, this benefited regions all around the country, both in terms of wealth and in terms of population growth. After a slowdown in the convergence processes during the low-growth period of the 1980s, “double divergence” (in both population and regional GDP/per capita) characterize growth patterns since the 1990s. Smaller regions, and especially peripheral ones, lag behind both in terms of wealth and population.

Keywords: *regional growth; population; Sweden*

JEL codes: *P25; N94*

The rururban process in Spain: a historical and regional perspective

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³ Universidad CEU San Pablo

Abstract:

In this communication we define the rururban process and we compare it with other concepts such as urban sprawl, suburban areas, and periurbanization. A clear definition makes it possible to measure the extension of this process in the Spanish regions since its origin in the second part of the XX century. We make use of data from the population at municipal since 1940 to the last one of 2021. Thus, the process of rururbanization is studied since its origins.

The findings include the first extension around the Mediterranean coast in the proximities of Barcelona and Valencia, as well as in the Basque Country and Madrid. The process is mainly located in the southern and eastern coast of the Iberian Peninsula, the Balearic Islands and the Canary Islands, as well as in metropolitan areas of the most populated Spanish cities. However, in the last two decades the process became ubiquitous and affect the surrounding areas of mid-tier cities located far from the coast such as Burgos, León and Granada.

Additionally, we study the recent population pyramids of the three spaces: urban, rururban and rural areas. In this way not only the rururbanization is considered, but it is explored the nature of the phenomenon and the effect on the rest of the country. We put the focus on the disappearance of rural areas in certain regions and the aging in some urban areas.

Keywords: *urban, rural, periurban, suburban, sprawl, rururban*

Estonian population and regional development during the last 30 years. Back to the small town?

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Abstract:

The employment of primary and secondary industries declined and massive urbanisation started in the 1990s. Typical spatial patterns emerged: (1) depopulating rural and (2) old-industrial areas contrasting with (3) sprawling suburbs around the capital Tallinn. The urban growth accelerated after the EU accession in the 2000s and the financial crisis caused mass emigration. However, the Estonian population grows due to the returnees and expanding start-up and export industries since 2015. Families live in multiple places thanks to distance work boosted by the Covid19 and the Ukrainian war. Several rural localities gain population. At the same time, Estonian regional policy has been non-persistent with limited ambition and resources and the EU cohesion policy has rather increased regional differences.

Keywords: *urbanisation; peripheries; regional economic development; small towns*

JEL codes: *J11; O18; R12; R58*

Urban-rural continuum: an overview of their interactions and territorial disparities

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Abstract:

This study provides an overview of the interactions between urban and rural areas and their territorial disparities at the EU level from a conceptual, analytical and policy point of view. Relevant indicators at the highest spatial resolution such as population, access to Services of general interest (SeGI), access to internet (broadband), housing prices, tourism and land-use/cover flows are analysed based on the most recent data. In particular, territorial disparities are identified by applying the degree of urbanisation to compare EU regions (cities, towns and suburbs, rural areas) on the mentioned aspects. Overall, rural and remote areas are lagging for relevant territorial features compared to more urbanised typologies. However, there are strong variations from region to region and depending on the indicator that is being analysed. Therefore, the study provides quantitative and graphical information and concludes summarising the most important outcomes with a set of policy recommendations and way forward.

Keywords: *urban; rural; territorial; population; accessibility; broadband; housing; tourism; land use*

JEL codes: *L8; Q1; R1; R3; Z3*

PUBLIC POLICIES AND SOCIAL ASPECTS OF URBAN/RURAL POPULATION

Healthy life expectancy in Russia and in EU-15 in 2006-2016

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Abstract:

The aim of this study:

- to estimate the scenarios of healthy life expectancy dynamics, against the background of life expectancy dynamics;
- to analyze the structure of demographic differences between EU-15 and Russia by age.

To achieve it, mortality-health life tables were constructed (Sullivan's method) and decomposition in healthy life expectancy was used.

The observed dynamics of HLE indicators made it possible to link the growth of $e(20)$ and $eH(20)$ indicators which allowed the researchers to speak about the demographic trends, and to say to what level the "compression of morbidity" hypothesis was confirmed or rejected. E.g., among Russian females in 2016, the value of the difference between them, or $eH(20)$, decreased by 1,1: from 10,2 years in 2006 to 9,1 in 2016 (from 19% to 17% of $e(20)$).

Among males, major contribution to total difference in HLE between EU-15 and Russia in 2016 was by the excess mortality from 40 to 84 (8,3 of 13,3 years).

Among females, both the components of bad (or very bad) health and the excess mortality contributed, from the age of 60 (7,6 of 9,7 years).

Keywords: *Health; demographic trends.*

JEL codes: *I18; J11.*

Urban/rural differences in youth engagement in Croatia

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Abstract:

Extant studies document a decrease in political participation in most European economies in recent decades; the trend has been more pronounced for youth. Although studies suggest that, at least for the youth, traditional modes of participation have been widely replaced with the broader civic engagement, little empirical evidence is available for the post-transition economies, particularly on the analytical level more disaggregated than the whole national economy. By relying on the survey conducted in spring 2021, the paper explores differences in the forms of youth engagement in Croatia, disaggregated by the settlement of residence size. The focus is on different forms of engagement as well as youth profiles.

Keywords: *youth; political and social engagement; Croatia*

JEL codes: Z13; J19

Reflections on rurality: from fiction to reality

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CETRAD/UTAD

Abstract

The rural world has not been a sufficiently captivating subject for scholars and researchers within the area of economics. Underlying this lack of interest are various factors.

Rural translates to poor; it is not prestigious or ennobling. At most, it causes sympathy, or tenderness. Here is the position of many, probably most economists.

In congresses and public meetings, some economists express the need to pay attention to the rural world, study it, and do something to enhance it. They do it out of decorum or because, deep down, they are aware of the importance this subject has been acquiring abroad. But they usually end up leaving it to others because they are too busy dealing with the more serious problems of the urban world. For them, being urban is being superior, even when it has no intellectual, urban, or rural relevance.

Still others, unable to conquer their own space as economists, albeit generalists dream of capturing the public’s attention by demeaning those who dare to accept the challenge of researching, and studying the rural world.

Keywords: *Rural development Rural policy: EU.*

JEL codes: *R58: R48*

Acknowledgements: This work is supported by national funds, through the FCT – Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology under the project UIDB/04011/2020 and under the project UIDB/04728/2020.

Senior Liveability Index in European Cities

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Abstract:

The demographic challenge of the ageing population in European countries needs to be assessed in terms of sustainability and effectiveness of public policies improving the quality of life of the elderly. The European Commission has monitored the quality of life in European cities since 2004 through a survey on citizens' perception of cities' liveability. Given that the assessment of life quality embeds a multitude of positive and negative aspects, we develop a composite indicator that we call Senior Liveability Index (SLI) able to rank the performance of cities, to monitor the rank changes over time and to explore possible reasons.

Keywords: *European cities; the elderly; quality of life; composite indicator.*

JEL codes: *I31; R10*

SPECIALIZATION AND COMPETITIVENESS IN URBAN AREAS

Connecting the Smart Village A Switch towards Smart and Sustainable Rural-Urban Linkages

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²Honorary Contributor at the Department of Applied Economics, Public Economics and Political Economy, Faculty of Political Sciences and Sociology, Universidad Complutense de Madrid (UCM), Somosaguas, 28223 Pozuelo de Alarcón, Madrid

Abstract:

This research focuses on the dimensions of the Smart Village concept in order to understand to what extent smart development in the countryside could contribute to reducing disparities between rural and urban realities. Population imbalances and intensifying climate impacts are prime challenges for rural areas, which also need to counter diminishing infrastructure and the lack of digital competencies in order to enhance their attractiveness. Cities, in turn, face their own set of challenges, such as contamination, natural resources exploitation, and tense population density. Local governments have been embracing the Smart City approach to accomplish sustainable development, which might also benefit the revitalization of rural areas if conducted through a tailored regional approach. Enhanced connectivity between rural and urban realities through smartness is, therefore, becoming an important element for the shaping of adaptive, energy-efficient, and resilient communities.

Keywords: *Smart Villages; Smart Cities; Rural Depopulation; Adaptation; Climate Change; Digital Transformation; Sustainable Development*

JEL codes: *D85; J18; O13; Q01; R11*

The Interpretation of Urban Economic History Matters How imaginaries and directionalities influence agency and new path creation

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Abstract:

This study focuses on how imaginaries and directionalities, i.e. the interpretation of the urban economic history and the derived fundamental perceptions, conventions, mental representations and identities, influence actor behaviour (agency) with regard to enabling or inhibiting new path creation. Applying concepts of evolutionary economic geography (EEG) and sociology, this paper aims at contributing to the scientific discourse regarding the impact of historical dependencies on urban structural change processes. These theoretical reflections are applied to an empirical case study analysing the development of the textile and clothing industry in Mönchengladbach, Germany. The qualitative case study is based on a document-based analysis and seven guideline-based interviews with local experts of the textile and clothing industry. It concludes that imaginaries and directionalities can take effect via four mechanisms: communication and cooperation, motivation, training and employment as well as research and innovation. Furthermore, the case study confirms that change agents can shape textile-related narratives to disseminate imaginaries and directionalities purposefully. Despite the contribution's emphasis on the importance of agency, it also reveals the significance of structure and context for new path creation. In this respect, the case study illustrates the stabilisation and innovation effects of a sector-specific education landscape. Overall, this contribution concludes that imaginaries and directionalities should be given more attention as they can be put into value to drive agency towards new path creation and thus future welfare.

Keywords: *new path creation; agency; history; Mönchengladbach; evolutionary economic geography*

JEL codes: *N94; O18; R10*

Western Balkan Countries the New Urban Cluster for ICT Talent Acquisition of European Enterprises

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Terms like 'nearshoring' have gained particular attention reflecting the current trend among European enterprises in reconsidering their supply chains. The disruptions brought by the COVID-19 pandemic constrained European enterprises to think about increasing resilience in production through supply diversification, shorter value chains, and geographically closer production units. Despite the social and economic challenges caused by Covid19 pandemic, nearshoring is blooming in the Western Balkans region highly benefiting from the rearrangements occurring in global production networks especially in the ICT industry. Jointly, countries in the Western Balkans are implementing reforms to shape new policies in attracting investments of European enterprises in the ICT industry. These policy measures appeal to European enterprises in order to undertake large scale ICT investments in the region creating new knowledge based clusters and population disparities in the region. Based on a survey of 327 European ICT enterprises with operating units in the Western Balkan countries this paper tries to identify the new population and labor force trends the newly created ICT clusters are generating in the region. Our findings indicate that the region is experiencing high population movements from urban to rural areas and is attracting inflows of highly qualified return migrants that improve the quality of the labor force. In order to take full advantage of the nearshoring potential opportunities, policies to strengthen investment competitiveness and to promote brain gain programs are implemented by regional institutions hand in hand with European enterprises that have changes the population landscape in the region through the creation of regional ICT clusters.

Keywords: *ICT clusters; population flows; returned migrants; Western Balkans; nearshoring*

JEL codes: *C83; F21; I24; J11; J21; J61*

POPULATION STATISTICAL ADVANCES AND TECHNIQUES

Degree of urbanization in Catalonia: administrative divisions versus high-resolution grids

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Abstract:

This paper studies the determination of the degree of urbanization based on the distribution of population density throughout the territory of Catalonia. Using grids with sizes of 1km, 500m and 250m, derived from the European standard 1km grid, we classify small administrative units as densely populated areas (cities), areas of intermediate density or thinly populated areas (rural areas). We find that both at the level of grid cell classification and when assigning a degree of urbanization to the municipalities of Catalonia grid size plays a major role, leading to different results as we vary grid size. We discuss as well the density cuts used in the calculation of the degree of urbanization, finding no evidence that they could be derived from data.

Keywords: *Degree of urbanization; high-resolution grid; urban-rural continuum*

JEL codes: *O18; Y10; Y91*

A small area index to measure the socioeconomic characteristics of the population of the neighbourhoods, urban and rural areas

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Abstract:

A new small area socioeconomic index (called IST by its acronym in Catalan) has been defined to measure the socioeconomic level of the territories, based on a set of 6 indicators regarding employment, educational level, immigration and income. The sources of the information are administrative records, so that the index can be calculated for small areas (municipalities, neighbourhoods, census tracts, 1 km² grid) and updated annually. The IST index has been calculated for the Catalan population and the results are a powerful tool for comparing rural and urban areas both in a synthetic and multidimensional way.

Public administrations can use the index as an auxiliary tool in planning and management, as well as to identify the geographical areas that may require a more sizeable allocation of resources. Also, researchers can use the index as an auxiliary variable for their models and to analyse the relationship with other variables such as health, poverty or voting behaviour.

Keywords: *synthetic index; socioeconomic; degree of urbanisation; rural areas; urban areas; small area; spatial segregation; administrative data*

JEL codes: *C38; C43; I24; I30*

El envejecimiento en España desde un análisis territorial multiescalar: continuidades y discontinuidades a nivel municipal

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² Profesor contratado doctor indefinido, Universidad de Granada

Abstract:

En 2020, algo más de 9,2 millones de personas contaban en España con más de 65 años. Esto suponía casi un 20% del total de su población, siendo el país uno de los más envejecidos del mundo.

El principal objetivo del presente trabajo es tipificar la distribución geográfica del envejecimiento en España, recurriendo al Análisis Territorial Multiescalar, que permitirá indagar en los contrastes territoriales que respecto al fenómeno se producen en el país, permitiendo establecer una tipología de la distribución del envejecimiento.

El procedimiento seguido pondrá de manifiesto que el envejecimiento no es un fenómeno territorialmente homogéneo, pues muestra sobre el territorio continuidades, discontinuidades y contrastes que son resultado de la desigual incidencia que, sobre las estructuras demográficas pasadas, tuvieron tanto el devenir de la movilidad natural como, sobre todo, el de las dinámicas migratorias.

El envejecimiento, como principal resultado de muchos de esos cambios estructurales acontecidos, está comprometiendo el presente demográfico de muchos municipios españoles determinando la viabilidad de gran parte del territorio español abocado, irremediablemente, a la despoblación y al colapso demográfico.

El reverso de esta situación lo protagonizan los entornos de muchas ciudades, las islas o las franjas litorales que han visto remozadas sus estructuras demográficas gracias a la continua avalancha de población joven.

Keywords: *Análisis Territorial Multiescalar, Envejecimiento, España, Tipología*

JEL codes: *J11*

POPULATION AND COVID-19

Dinámicas de población en España durante el Covid-19

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Abstract:

El año 2020 se caracterizó por unas dinámicas de migración neta en España que desembocaron en un aumento de la población rural en detrimento de la población urbana, rompiendo la tendencia secular hacia una mayor urbanización vigente desde mediados del siglo pasado. De acuerdo con los resultados de este documento, el dinamismo poblacional de las áreas rurales obedeció tanto a un aumento de las llegadas de población procedentes del resto del país como —en mayor medida— a un freno de las salidas desde dichas áreas. Asimismo, un análisis de regresión muestra que las dinámicas demográficas durante el éxodo rural (1950-1990), el porcentaje de viviendas secundarias y la accesibilidad a servicios (tanto físicos como digitales) se revelan como factores explicativos a la hora de caracterizar los cambios poblacionales a nivel municipal durante la pandemia. Cabe señalar que el año 2020 constituye un período excepcional, caracterizado por importantes restricciones a la movilidad y a la actividad, así como por profundas medidas de distanciamiento social. Este contexto, así como los niveles modestos de implantación del teletrabajo, arroja notables dudas e incertidumbre a la hora de anticipar hasta qué punto el freno a la urbanización observado en dicho año tiene visos de permanecer en un horizonte temporal más amplio.

Keywords: *COVID-19, pandemia, población, migraciones, municipios españoles.*

JEL codes: *J11, R10.*

How COVID-driven research attention on cross-border commuting benefits EU cross-border labor policy recommendations – A review

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Institute for Applied Informatics, Deggendorf Institute of Technology, Freyung, Germany

Abstract:

This paper aims to investigate how COVID-driven research on cross-border commuting benefits EU cross-border labor policy recommendations. For this purpose, a systematic literature review with an in-depth qualitative analysis of selected articles is performed. Overall, three major categories of recommendations were revealed. Besides recommendations on contagion policies and the centrality of decision-making, recommendations on solving the social impact of the pandemic on the reputation of cross-border commuters are deductible. The three categories are unified by the general need for regional, cross-border approaches in decision-making. Seeing the EU rather more as a constellation of various economic and social regions, including cross-border communities, than a total of countries divided by national borders, would not only benefit EU labor policy, but cross-border commuters automatically.

Keywords: *Cross-border commuting; COVID-19 pandemic; EU labor policy*

JEL codes: *J01; J61; J70; J83*

The impact of covid-19 pandemic on regional inequalities in Romania. Spotlight on unemployment and health conditions

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Daniela Luminita Constantin¹, daniela.constantin@amp.ase.ro

¹Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania

Abstract:

For a long time, inequalities have existed across the population and between different communities and groups. Although regional inequality is a topic of interest among scholars and policy makers, only recently they have increasingly been investigated at local territorial units. The economic shock related to COVID-19 crisis, which resulted from the lockdown and severe decline in economic activity in many sectors, has affected all regions but not in the same way and with a similar intensity. By assessing some regional indicators available in the first period of COVID-19 ongoing crisis, depicting the quality of life, it is becoming clear that new regional disparities emerge and interact with many of the pre-existing inequalities. This paper aims to provide new insights into the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on inequalities across two dimensions, namely employment and health conditions, with high relevance for the standard of living. By investigating past and current evolutions of some indicators, as reflected at NUTS3 territorial level in Romania and the use of spatial analysis, our study reveals that new fissures generated by the health crisis have deepened the existing inequalities at the regional level along various key dimensions like gender, age, education, rural-urban and local geography. This empirical study, approaching traditional measurements of inequality and relevant spatial investigation, evaluates the intensity of inequalities across all Romanian counties.

Keywords: *regional disparities; employment; health crisis*

JEL codes: *I14; I24; R12*

Post-Pandemic Cities - competing for size or cooperating for interaction. An analysis of the evolution of Portuguese Municipalities based on an Organic and Rational Spatial Interaction Growth Models

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Abstract:

This chapter focuses on the spatial interaction of Portuguese municipalities from 1960 until 2021 and tries to address two questions: i) what is the implicit model of spatial interaction between municipalities, organic or rational; and ii), what are the post-pandemic scenarios of spatial interaction between municipalities. The analysis looks into the economic-demographic evolution of Portuguese municipalities from 1960 to 2021 and estimates their evolution using both an organic model that assumes that municipalities try to maximize their size and a rational model that presupposes that municipalities maximize the interaction between them. The two models serve to simulate two scenarios of the post-pandemic evolution of Portuguese City Regions. Results show that the Rational Spatial Interaction Growth Model present better results than the Organic Spatial Interaction Growth Model. The simulation of the demographic profiles for 2041 indicates that the Rational Interaction expression leads to more concentration of population around Lisbon and Porto metropolitan areas.

Keywords: *Spatial Interaction Models; Urban Structure; Post Pandemic Urban structure; Portugal*

JEL codes: *R11;J11; R58*

Acknowledgements: to DRCTD - Direção Regional da Ciência e Transição Digital, which financed the workshop on Pandemic, Location and Mobility (project number M3.3.B/ORG.R.C./027/2021) and to the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology that financed the research project Operational Models of Complex Spatial Interaction (EXPL/GES-OUT/1325/2021).

Urban-Rural Dichotomies in Post-Corona Europe: A Study on Anticipated Spatial Inequalities

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Abstract:

Since the beginning of the 21st century we live in the 'urban century', characterised by a rise in the number of cities and mega-cities and structural population increase in most cities to the detriment of rural areas. Given the declining interest in rurality, the aims and scope of this paper is to map out the complex force field of rurality versus urbanity and explore if the COVID pandemic has become a 'game changer' and thus swift the existing patterns. Relying on the Eurobarometer data, the study investigates the mobility willingness of population across the EU countries in both rural and urban areas in the aftermath of the pandemic. Following a decomposition approach, three sets of explanatory variables were used for explaining the bidirectional settlement trends between urban and rural spaces. Whilst the first set of factors refers to different individual characteristics, the second set accounts for the territorial factors. The final group of variable account for the wider contextual pandemic effects. Our results do not find support for a major post-covid resettlement. Whereas less than 15% percent are more willing to move, the percent intending to leave the cities is even lower (11%) which is against an urban exodus hypothesis. In policy terms, the paper addresses the need for a better understanding of the factors triggering the dynamics of mobility after the corona pandemic and thus urges to further scientific reflection on the future of both urban and rural areas.

Keywords: *mobility; urban; rural; pandemic; spatial; population inequality*

JEL codes: *R23; J610; I180*

POPULATION AND MIGRATION

Immigrant population or the answer to our demographic issues

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Abstract:

The spatial concentration of immigrants across and within European countries is highly heterogeneous, tending to reinforce the internal spatial disparities within EU member states and regions. Although European regional data show that the highest levels of foreign-born population concentration correspond to those NUTS2 regions that contain a large city or metropolitan area, there are other place-based determinants that might explain their attractiveness to immigrants. Using a comprehensive database at NUTS2 (regional) and LAU2 (local) levels for three large European countries in terms of immigrant population (Italy, Spain and France), comparable results show how the relevance of these determinants depend on the country under analysis and the spatial unit chosen, which provides challenges for the design of a common future European policy addressing the unresolved demographic issues.

Understanding the main regional and local factors of attraction to foreign-born population within countries is crucial to explain the present spatial concentration patterns and anticipate future migration flows, especially in a context where immigrants are the fastest growing population group in those European countries. Nevertheless, there might be a trade-off between the foreign-born population alleviating the territorial aging and depopulation issues and the seeking of spatial justice.

Keywords: *Immigrant concentration, demographic issues, spatial justice, local data*

Local attributes and migration balance – evidence for different age and skill groups from a machine learning approach

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Abstract:

Many European regions currently experience a significant population decline and, related to this, are increasingly confronted with labour shortage. Migration is a main driver of changes in regional labour supply and the local level of human capital. A region's ability to attract residents thus becomes more and more important for its growth prospects. We use a large panel data set for the period 1999 to 2017 to investigate the relationship between local attributes and the migration balance of regions in Germany. Our econometric specification can be understood as an aggregate formulation of a two-region random utility model. The data set includes 30 factors that might potentially influence a region's migration balance. Given this large number of explanatory variables and significant multicollinearity issues, we apply machine learning techniques (Lasso, Complete-Subset-Regression) to identify important local characteristics. Our results point to a robust negative relationship between the net migration rate and population density, yet locations in close proximity to large urban centres seem to be rather attractive destination regions. Moreover, labour market conditions and some amenities are significantly correlated with the region's migration balance. However, the former and, in particular, facilities for vocational training matter primarily for young workers.

Keywords: *internal migration; age groups; skill level; amenities; labour market conditions; machine learning*

JEL codes: *C21; C63; J61; R23*

Social Security Agreements and Social Welfare: Albanian immigrants in Italy, through demographic changes and contribution to social security and pension system sustainability

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Abstract:

Despite Albania has a young population, it has experienced slow rates of population growth over the last decades as a result of high migration. Immigrants have generated significant remittance flows over the years, that can be quantified in 1.15 billion euros on average per year during the period 2008-2017 or about 12% of the country's GDP. These flows are an important source for financing the domestic economy and have often shown that they can withstand economic crisis. In the meantime, immigrants are a country's missing workforce, reducing the level of social security income in the state budget that affects the sustainability of the pension system.

Albanians have been confirmed for several years as the second-largest community in number among foreign communities in Italy. Until 2021, Albanian immigrants could not benefit to some socio-economic privileges. By the end of December 2021, Ministers of Labour and Social Policies of Italy and Albania enable the start of negotiations in the recognition of retirement years for Albanian immigrants who work and pay taxes in Italy starting from 2023.

In this paper, we examine through theoretical and empirical investigation the effect of recognizing years' work of immigration between the two countries to alleviate poverty and increase well-being in old age associated to changes in demographic structures and labour market. The actuarial model is based on demographic and economic assumptions, which aim to evaluate the effects that these type of social welfare reforms may also produce in terms of financial sustainability.

Keywords: *social welfare; immigration; social security agreement, financial sustainability, demographic and labour changes*

JEL codes: *D69; H55; I19; J62*

Políticas y estrategias de acogida e integración de personas de origen extranjero en el medio rural

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Abstract:

The aim of this paper is to contribute to the debate on how policies for the reception and integration of immigrants and refugees should be implemented in rural areas. The research is limited to the rural environment, with special attention to the most depopulated, since we consider that the peculiarities of this environment are sufficiently important for it to be necessary to modulate and adapt more general policies or implement some specific ones. In any case, without mechanically applying the mechanisms of rural proofing, but with criteria that combine social innovation and spatial justice, adapted to the contexts of the local community.

Keywords: *Immigration Policies; Refugee; Rural Population*

JEL codes: *J15; J61; O15*

SERVICES FOR RURAL AND URBAN AREAS

Financial vulnerability of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in sparsely populated areas. The case of Castilla La Mancha

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Abstract:

The aim of the contribution is to analyse the factors that result in situations of financial vulnerability in companies, assessing especially the situation of SMEs in a context of sparsely populated environments. The most important literature on financial vulnerability and its main determinants -economic, financial, business size, etc.- have been analysed. In addition, the contribution completes this approach by analysing the contextual or environmental factors that affect this vulnerability: location in rural areas, the type of existing local activities, access to local financial services, economic dependence, etc. A financial vulnerability indicator has been developed using the SABI database and a two-stage cluster analysis is used to determine the territorial patterns of this vulnerability. The data refer to the Spanish region of Castilla La Mancha, a representative case study of a region facing the challenge of population imbalances and rural depopulation.

Keywords: *Financial vulnerability, SMEs, municipalities, Castilla La Mancha.*

JEL codes: *G40, L25, M13, R11*

El acceso a servicios en la España rural²³

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Abstract:

This document explores the differences in accessibility to services between rural and urban areas in EU countries. According to our analysis, rural areas in Spain have worse accessibility to services than their European counterparts, while the differences are not significant in the case of urban areas. The availability of information at the municipal level for the Spanish case allows documenting a deficit in the accessibility to services of rural municipalities compared to urban ones, even within each region. Likewise, there are some idiosyncrasies in the remoteness and fiscal structures of rural municipalities that could explain, at least in part, this deficit. In light of these results, some economic policy considerations are discussed that could be useful to mitigate the negative differential in terms of accessibility to services in rural areas.

Keywords: *services accessibility; rural areas; urban areas; Spain*

JEL codes: *R10; I31; J11*

² Este artículo es una versión resumida del Documento Ocasional nº2122 publicado por el Banco de España.

³ Los autores agradecen a Mert Kompil y a Kiko Llaneras por compartir sus datos sobre accesibilidad a servicios, y a Francisco Goerlich y Ángel Gavilán por sus sugerencias.

Rural versus urban communities: financial implications, challenges and opportunities

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Abstract:

This paper aims at providing a conceptual framework for analysis on financial issues pertaining to population imbalances, that stem from the deep-rooted trade-off between rural and urban communities. The wide differences in their intrinsic features include a remarkable gap in terms of financial inclusion, which leads to emphasize the key role of finance. Factors to be investigated encompass technological advances that keep stimulating progress in the financial industry, especially in the delivery of financial services, and that fuel optimism on digitization as a catalyst for mitigating the polarization under scrutiny. Conclusions draw upon best practices and success stories – such as those involving ag(ri)tech and fintech – that are worth sharing and that can contribute to the post-pandemic “new normal” as a prerequisite for the expected “new future”.

Keywords: *Agricultural finance; financial inclusion; new rurality; sustainable finance; unbanked and underbanked.*

JEL codes: *F36; G53; I25; O18; R51*

THE FUTURE OF WORK

Urban agglomeration, city size and spatial density effects On wage flexibility: new evidence on the wage curve

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Abstract:

Heterogeneous population composition and spatial density, as well as agglomeration economies, appear to have a significant impact on the functioning of local labour markets. In particular, city size plays an important role in the relative bargaining power of workers and firms in the relevant spatial labour market. When analysing the relationship between local wages and the business cycle – the so-called wage flexibility, measured by the wage curve –, this influence is likely higher in informal sectors in less densely populated areas. Clearly, large agglomerations may provide a stronger bargaining power for workers, as they offer more job opportunities. In addition, the presence of labour market dualism is an essential factor in the evaluation of the wage curve, in particular in developing economies. However, such analyses should be conducted at the appropriate regional level (labour market areas), so as to be able to trace a relevant impact of city size on the relative bargaining power of workers and firms. The present study aims to shed new theoretical and empirical light on the importance of the wage curve, taking into account various specificities of cities and regions in developing economies. This proposition will be tested for the case of Brazil. The main results for Brazil show that wage flexibility is higher in less dense local labour markets and in the informal sector in relation to the formal sector. Furthermore, to control for unobserved local characteristics is necessary in order to obtain the 'true' elasticity of wages with respect to local unemployment rates, while spatial autocorrelation effects should be accounted for when the spatial unit of analysis is rather small. In this sense, a significant part of the difference in outcomes between the formal and the informal sectors appears to originate from spatial-economic dependence effects.

Keywords: *wage curve; informal sector; agglomeration economies; rural-urban dichotomy*

JEL codes: *R12; J31; J46*

El mercado laboral en el ámbito rural: una perspectiva desde el hogar

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Resumen:

Tradicionalmente, existe una importante dualidad entre los mercados de trabajo rural y urbano. Los mercados de trabajo rurales se caracterizan por presentar *a priori* menos oportunidades laborales y un mayor nivel de desempleo. En el presente trabajo pondremos a prueba dicha afirmación, demostrando que si bien el desempleo rural es elevado, la diferencia realmente importante entre el ámbito rural y urbano radica en la desigual participación laboral.

En este trabajo analizamos la evolución reciente de estas relaciones enfatizando en cuál es la importancia de la estructura familiar para sostener el empleo tanto el medio rural como urbano. Nuestra hipótesis de trabajo consiste en demostrar que, en el ámbito rural, las relaciones familiares son más determinantes de la situación laboral.

Para ello utilizamos los datos de la Encuesta Continua de Hogares (ECH) elaborada por el INE para el año 2020. En base a estos datos se estiman diferentes modelos de probabilidad sobre la situación laboral de los ciudadanos (probabilidad de formar parte de la inactividad, estar empleado y/o, parado) teniendo en cuenta la estructura familiar tanto para el ámbito rural como para el resto de ámbitos geográficos.

Palabras claves: *Ámbito rural, mercado de trabajo, empleabilidad, paro, hogares*

Códigos JEL: *J10, J40, O18, P25, R11*

Working from a New Home? Remote Work and Counter-Urbanization in Sweden before and during the COVID19 Pandemic

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Abstract:

We examine how the ability to Work from Home (WFH) contributes to out-migration decisions of the working-age population of large cities in Sweden. Studying the effects of remote work on migration is important because this employment arrangement is becoming increasingly common, as highlighted by the COVID19 pandemic, and in terms of regional policy and territorial governance it has theoretical potential to contribute to the reversal of rural depopulation. Based on an adjusted telework index for occupations at the 3-digit level and registered Swedish microdata of individuals in the period 2015-2020, the results show that before COVID19 and long-time mandates to WFH, workers with a high ability to WFH showed a slightly lower likelihood to out-migrate than those with no or low ability. Moreover, exposure to WFH during the pandemic by workers with a high ability to WFH was not significantly associated with an increased likelihood to move. Remote workers showed also a significantly lower counter-urbanization tendency than those workers with no or low ability, and again the COVID19 pandemic didn't modify the prevalent suburbanization trend. Lower densities of large Swedish cities, the shortage of housing supply and a higher preference for urban cultural amenities, singularly in Stockholm, may explain the immobility of remote workers and their higher degree of attachment to large cities, even during the pandemic.

Keywords: *Working From Home (WFH); remote work; COVID19; migration; suburbanization; counter-urbanization.*

JEL codes: *J81 – Working Conditions; R23 – Regional Migration; Regional Labor Markets; Population; Neighborhood Characteristics*

Catching the bus in Barcelona

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Abstract:

In our study, we seek to identify the basic factors in citizens' decisions to regularly use public transportation, especially the decision to ride a bus in Barcelona, Spain. Our survey reveals that, contrary to other recent results, income is not a statistically significant factor in those decisions, whereas level of education and occupation are. Moreover, the effects of congestion emerge as a key factor in the decision to ride the bus regularly. Considering congestion's impact on the likelihood of regularly using the bus transport system, regular commuters in the urban area and riders with a high level of education are more responsive to reductions in congestion. Those findings contribute to an important discussion about implementing public policies that support citizens' use of public transportation systems in urban areas.

Keywords: *Accessibility, Bus urban transport, Citizens, Congestion, Education, Income.*

JEL codes: *D12; D91; I29; R41*

POPULATION POLICIES

LEADER and the revitalization of rural areas

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Abstract:

Regional imbalances and depopulation dynamics have led to the implementation of several EU-funded programs. We evaluate the performance of LEADER, a bottom-up development approach, and its contribution towards building a balanced population in rural areas of Spain. Using a novel difference-in-difference estimator developed by Callaway and Sant'Anna (2021), we are able to accommodate multiple periods of aid, as well as a key covariate for the parallel trend assumption: belonging to a rural area. To be able to apply it, we construct a novel dataset with information of over 12.5 million beneficiaries, aggregated at a municipality (LAU-2) level, covering the period from 2014 to 2021. Following this econometric strategy, results show that aided municipalities have significantly lower unemployment levels than non-aided municipalities. Nevertheless, there is significant heterogeneity in the effect across recipients. We study the effect of these results on local job creation and on population dynamics.

Keywords: *Rural Development; European Union; Common Agricultural Policy; LEADER; Community-Led Local Development; Entrepreneurial ecosystems*

JEL codes: *J01; J08; J68; J78; J88*

La política de cohesión y la lucha contra el éxodo rural ante la nueva perspectiva federal de la Unión Europea

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Abstract:

The situation that occurs within the framework of European demography is currently one of the most worrying aspects of the development of the European project, insofar as the consequences that a massive exodus of population from rural territories can cause in the correct progress of the Common Market. This expressed concern is not recent, since since its creation, the European Union has advocated the protection of such disadvantaged territories and proof of this can be found in article 174 of the TFEU and in the need that its wording establishes for the support of the regions with special natural or demographic conditions and clear evidence of inferiority with respect to the rest of the areas.

We will have the opportunity to analyze in detail the areas most affected by depopulation, which, predictably, are located in Northern Europe and the consequences that their depopulation has had in the economic, social and environmental spheres. A harsh demographic map that increasingly extends to a greater part of the national territory and that generates data that is not at all elusive in terms of unemployment and loss of opportunity.

With such motivation, we come to propose a research project aimed at highlighting the main lines of action of the European Union for the coordination of actors through cross-cutting strategies, the use of greater efficiency of European funds and the development of a policy of more ambitious and far-reaching cohesion for the next agendas. And it is at this point that we consider it appropriate to take a closer look, since the territorial cohesion policy is currently one of the main instruments of action against the problems detailed along these lines. The future of the cohesion of the European Union and the configuration of its territory must be considered the undisputed protagonists of this new reality, undoubtedly marked by the change in perspective that we have been glimpsing and whose natural evolution will foreseeably end in the federal development of the Union. European. Therefore, we will have the opportunity to answer the following question: What role does cohesion policy play in this new federal horizon and in the context of an empty Europe?

Keywords: *European Union. Exodus. integration. Spain emptied. Regions. Europe. Community law.*

Polish demographic challenges and policy responses

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Abstract:

The paper presents the main demographic processes in Poland within last 30 years. In particular, it discusses the natural demographic patterns, age structure of Polish population, migrations, situation on the labour market. It also provides account of family-oriented state policies and evaluates their results. Where applicable, regional patterns are presented.

Keywords: *demography; fertility; age structure; migrations; labour market, demographic policy; regional differentiation*

JEL codes: *J11; J13; J14; J18; F22*

URBAN TERRITORIAL EXTENSIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Are urban spillovers the solution to spatial inequalities"?

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Abstract:

In this paper it is studied to what extent linkages among rural, intermediate and urban areas could contribute to stimulate the development of those areas affected by depopulation. To do this we develop a spatial econometric model, based on simultaneous system techniques where both population and employment are endogenous variables. We apply the model to 278 continental municipalities in Portugal during the period 2010-2018, to detect how the spread or backwash effects among urban, intermediate and rural regions could enhance the local development of Portuguese municipalities. The results obtained suggest policies aimed to promote urban-rural diffusion in order to revert a severe problem which affects specific European regions: depopulation.

Keywords: *spillover; population dynamic; sectoral employment; spatial effects; territorial development*

JEL codes: *C3; R1; R23*

From ageing peripheries to rejuvenated suburbia in Latvia

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Abstract:

Population ageing and urban change are worldwide phenomena that are transforming societies and having profound economic and social effects. Ageing is one of the most important demographic phenomena of this century. Driven by fertility decline and the continuing increase in the life expectancy, the process of population ageing has not been uniform across time and space. In an increasingly urbanised world the spatial distribution of youth and an elderly is a matter of growing scholarly and policy interest. Previous studies provide evidence that in many developed countries ageing growth rates are greater in peripheral areas than in the core regions while development of metropolitan areas is associated with suburbanisation predominantly driven by young in-migrants. The combination of the key role of emigration in population decline and ageing, the significant drop in the size of children and youth, the increase in the share of the elderly, and large territorial differences has made Latvia an interesting laboratory for studying population ageing. The purpose of this paper is to study the geographical patterns of population ageing in Latvia and changes in the number and distribution of the pre-working and post-working age populations between 2000 and 2019 across different geographical areas within Latvia. We use a method of spatial analysis to identify not only population ageing patterns, but also areas of concentration of pre-working age groups. Our results suggest that, despite initial expectations, there was no remarkable divergence in the analysed age structures between metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas. The results indicate that the residential patterns of young and elderly tend to converge in the Riga metropolitan area.

Keywords: *population ageing; spatial distribution; metropolitan area; core-periphery*

JEL codes: J110; R580

Rural depopulation and infrastructures: Asturias in the period 1998-2019

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Abstract:

The aim of this paper is to analyse the causes that contribute to explain rural depopulation in Asturias in the period 1998-2019. A panel dataset is constructed from the Municipal Registers using the population that live in parishes below a certain threshold to compute rural population. An econometric model is estimated in which the rural population is explained by three groups of variables: economic, infrastructures, and geographical. The main results show that the income disparity between rural and urban areas contributes to reduce the rural population. On the other hand, accessibility to physical infrastructures - hospitals, roads, railway - is important for keeping the population in the countryside. There is also a positive effect of medium-sized cities on the rural population. Conversely, the higher the altitude or not being on the coast, the lower the rural population.

Keywords: *Econometrics; Infrastructures; Municipalities; Rural depopulation.*

JEL codes: *J11; R23; O15; C23.*

SPECIALIZATION AND COMPETITIVENESS IN RURAL AND DEPOPULATED AREAS (I)

Dinámica demográfica y competitividad territorial con especialización agrícola extrema: la provincia de Jaén y el olivar

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Resumen:

En el marco de una creciente competencia territorial, condicionada por la globalización, la dinámica demográfica se ve profundamente afectada por la especialización productiva. En el sur de España, la provincia de Jaén está en regresión demográfica, tanto sus ámbitos rurales como urbanos. A su vez, sus suelos agrícolas se han convertido en un monocultivo para la obtención de aceites de oliva. En este trabajo nos preguntamos hasta qué punto esta especialización extrema es capaz de generar actividad y rentas suficientes para garantizar el mantenimiento de la población a largo plazo. La metodología aplicada es descriptiva y el propósito es proporcionar una imagen holística y prospectiva de una realidad compleja. En los resultados se ofrecen estrategias de mejora desde una perspectiva de desarrollo territorial.

Palabras clave: *competitividad territorial, desarrollo local, globalización, monocultivos agrícolas, reto demográfico*

Códigos JEL: *J10, O18*

Population imbalances in Europe: challenges of urban concentration versus rural depopulation

The coexistence of agricultural models: what conditions for sustainable territorial development?

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A growing number of studies have now highlighted the limitations of the agro-industrial model and the need to reform it because of the negative externalities it generates and because of its inability to meet the objective of providing everyone with access to quality food. Based on a logic of cost reduction and economies of scale, this agricultural model has led to a process of concentration along the entire lengths of value chains, starting from land structures and the seed market all the way up to distribution systems. This process is also reflected geographically in the increasing regional specialisation of forms of agricultural. And yet, the need for a transition to more sustainable agricultural models has led to dynamics of innovation that take the form of both an internal reconfiguration of the agro-industrial model and multiple alternative models. New actors in the agricultural and food sector are the main drivers of this innovation, as also existing farmers who are beginning to view their profession differently.

Initially considered marginal, these new or rediscovered agricultural models are now becoming more firmly rooted in the landscape, calling for an examination of the forms of coexistence they maintain, ranging from opposition to hybridisation, with the agro-industrial model. Thus, agricultural and food systems, as they are deployed in a territory, create multiple configurations, far from a binary competition between a dominant model and alternatives that naturally tend to converge towards a common horizon and are expected to overturn the established socio-technical regime.

These developments are taking shape in a context of changing regional policies where the idea of identical intervention mechanisms and development principles for all territories has shown its limits. Thus, the recognition of the importance of regional and territorial specificities, and the search for higher performance in terms of innovation and sustainable development now form the basis of the so-called 'smart specialisation' principle. It is thus necessary to not only examine the contribution made by agricultural and food systems to this strategy in each region, but also the relevance of applying this policy to agricultural activities and rural areas: which productive

and organisational structure should be promoted to make this approach work for agriculture and be coherent within a territorial strategy?

In the first part of this chapter, we start by revisiting the characteristics and foundations of the regional specialisation of agricultural models. We then discuss the variety of initiatives that currently constitute avenues for diversification, and the way in which these different models make up territorial food systems. In the second part, we situate these changes in the broader context of the evolution of regional development policies in Europe and their impact on rural spaces and agricultural value chains. In the third and final part, we discuss the notion of coexistence and the questions it raises for researchers and decision-makers in order to move towards a desired transition in agriculture and development models in rural territories.

Unravelling rural resilience to face depopulation: The case of Cantabria (Spain)

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Abstract:

This paper highlights the need to enhance rural resilience as a forward-looking strategy in the fight against rural depopulation. As a contribution to this line of research, a multidimensional composite index based on factor analysis is proposed to quantify different dimensions of rural resilience. This approach is applied to rural municipalities in the region of Cantabria (northern Spain) for the year 2020. In addition, as a basis for the future design of public rural development policies in this region, a simulation analysis is carried out to assess the potential impact of enhancing and prioritising some dimensions of resilience. The results reveal low levels of rural resilience in the municipalities of Cantabria and, furthermore, the need to adopt a broader resilience-based approach that recognises the complexity and diversity of rurality and goes far beyond general economic and employment considerations.

Keywords: *rural resilience; rural depopulation; composite index; factor analysis; Cantabria.*

JEL codes: *C43; J11; J18; R58.*

POPULATION AND ENVIRONMENT (I): Energy/Climate Change

La consolidación del derecho a un medio ambiente sano como nuevo derecho fundamental de la ciudadanía europea.

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Abstract:

En este documento se propone aproximarnos hacia un fenómeno que creemos embrionario: la consolidación del derecho a un medioambiente sano como nuevo derecho humano y derecho fundamental de la ciudadanía europea. Actualmente, no existe mención expresa de él en la Declaración Universal de los Derechos Humanos, tampoco en la Carta de los Derechos Fundamentales de la Unión Europea, en donde la protección del medio ambiente sólo aparece como principio solidario rector de las políticas de la Unión. No obstante, consideramos que el impacto de la pandemia del covid-19 ha podido alterar el escenario respecto a su reconocimiento, iniciando un contexto propicio para su consolidación. Tras un diagnóstico de la situación actual en base a su evolución en el ámbito internacional y europeo, reflexionaremos acerca de la importancia de los últimos acontecimientos para responder a la cuestión: ¿hacia dónde va el reconocimiento del derecho a un medio ambiente sano?

Keywords: *Derechos humanos, medio ambiente, pandemia, sostenibilidad.*

Abstract:

This document proposes to approach an embryonic phenomenon: the consolidation of the right to a healthy environment as a new human right and a fundamental right of European citizenship. Currently, there is no express mention of it in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, nor in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, where environmental protection only appears as a principle of solidarity guiding the Union's policies. However, we believe that the impact of the covid-19 pandemic may have altered the scenario regarding its recognition, initiating a context conducive to its consolidation. After a diagnosis of the current situation based on its evolution at international and European level, we will reflect on the importance of recent events in order to answer the question: where is the recognition of the right to a healthy environment heading?

Keywords: *Human rights, environment, pandemic, sustainability.*

Justicia climática: un paso obligado en la lucha contra el cambio climático

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Resumen:

La justicia climática, exige nuevas formas de plantear las relaciones internacionales en el planeta y nuevas respuestas por parte del Derecho y de la Comunidad Internacional.

Profundizar en el alcance y contenido de la justicia climática será el objeto de esta comunicación. Para ello, se analizarán los principales obstáculos para alcanzarla y los nuevos retos que los ordenamientos jurídicos nacionales, comunitarios e internacionales deben dar respuesta en su consecución.

Finalmente, se realizarán propuestas para encarar y asumir compromisos ante la lucha contra el cambio climático. En suma, para poder hablar de la existencia de justicia climática en el planeta.

Abstract:

Climate justice requires new ways of approaching international relations on the planet and new responses from the law and the international community.

The purpose of this paper is to delve deeper into the scope and content of climate justice. To that end, the main obstacles to achieve it and the new challenges that national, community and international legal systems must respond to in its attainment will be analyzed.

Finally, proposals will be made to address and assume commitments in the fight against climate change. In short, to be able to speak of the existence of climate justice on the planet.

Palabras clave: *justicia climática., justicia intergeneracional., litigiosidad climática., participación pública., precaución.*

Key words: *climate justice., intergenerational justice., climate litigation., public participation., precaution.*

A just and clean energy transition: insights from the European regions

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Abstract:

The increasing political and social pressure in the fight against climate change and its consequences has led to the need for a change in the current energy model. Environmental objectives must be linked to economic and social objectives in order to achieve an energy transition process that is fair to the territories.

The infrastructures associated with renewable energies cause a series of socio-economic and environmental impacts on the territory. The main objective of this work is to evaluate the retrospective impacts that renewable energy installations have on the territory, in the short and long term. To this end, we will identify those European regions with the greatest installed capacity of renewable energies, evaluating the socio-economic effects that these installations have had on them.

From the methodological point of view, the Synthetic Control Method is applied to try to characterise the compatibility of economic, social and environmental objectives in the best possible way.

Keywords: *Renewable Energies; Synthetic Control Method, Territorial Integration.*

JEL codes: *Q56; C33; O13*

DEPOPULATION AND OPPORTUNITIES(I)

The social impact of rural depopulation in Romania between 1990 and 2020 - A problem or a development opportunity?

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Abstract:

The important demographic crisis that Romania has been going through, like most European states, requires a constructivist approach with a multidisciplinary perspective. In this context, we will analyze the depopulation of the rural areas of Romania, extended for more than 30 years (1990–2021), in order to identify specific patterns of territorial evolution, focusing on socio-economic, cultural, historical and geographical factors. Our attention will be focused on two regions with high net migration loss, internal and external, North East and South-Muntenia, the reference to the other development regions being made only for comparative purposes. These regions are predominantly characterized by high shares of employment in subsistence agriculture, an accelerated ageing of population, lack of education, lack of ability to adapt to various transitions, a low level of infrastructure and a GDP per capita that makes up only 50-60% of the national average. The situation of these two regions allows discussions on the need for local community - oriented public policies tackling the most urgent local problems. In order to elaborate the paper, we used the method of analyzing the specialized literature, numerical evolution of the rural population of Romania and case studies.

Keywords: *depopulation, rural areas, migration, public policies.*

JEL codes: *F5; F50; H75; I31; I32; J11; J18; J24.*

Identification of territorial nodes in depopulated rural areas

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Abstract:

The problem of depopulation should not be understood as a local phenomenon but as a territorial one, in such a way that its effects extend to all integrated rural areas. Public policies, articulated through the allocation of public resources, encounter the problem of identifying the most appropriate territorial nodes to centralize investment and which, in turn, perform the function of territorial capital. This work aims to establish, based on a set of criteria and indicators referring to the Valencian Community, a methodology that allows the selection of optimal territorial nodes.

Keywords: *Depopulation; territorial nodes (core)*

JEL codes: *J18, R11*

De pueblos a municipios. Las pautas de asentamiento de la población española a través del Nomenclátor de 1887

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Julio Martínez-Galarraga (U. Barcelona)

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Abstract:

Los recientes acontecimientos en los que los territorios menos favorecidos o los "lugares que no importan" se han rebelado a través de las urnas ponen en duda los resultados obtenidos en términos de desarrollo equilibrado e inclusivo en los países más desarrollados. Teniendo en cuenta esto, entender los orígenes, la evolución y las causas de los desequilibrios territoriales es primordial. En este trabajo se parte de la hipótesis de que la realidad actual es el resultado de un largo proceso, marcado por las profundas transformaciones socioeconómicas e institucionales acaecidas desde los inicios del proceso de desarrollo económico contemporáneo. Partiendo de esta premisa, se presenta un avance de los resultados obtenidos en el proyecto ESPAREL (España, del Antiguo Régimen al Estado Liberal). ESPAREL ha generado una infraestructura de datos espaciales que permite enlazar la información disponible a la escala territorial correspondiente a la división administrativa del Antiguo Régimen (con las 20.236 entidades singulares de población como ciudades, villas, lugares o aldeas relacionadas en el Censo de Floridablanca de 1787) con la existente en la ordenación territorial establecida por el Estado Liberal (el censo de 1887 recoge un total de 9.287 municipios y de 43.907 entidades mayores) y, por extensión, con la vigente en la actualidad (8.131 municipios en 2019). El trabajo realizado ofrece, por primera vez, una visión espacial y conjunta del asentamiento de la población en el territorio en la España de 1887, facilitando la comprensión de diferentes aspectos relacionados con el avance territorial del proceso de desarrollo económico español, como son la desigualdad económica entre territorios o los procesos de despoblación y su relación con el despliegue territorial Estado Liberal.

Keywords: *Antiguo Régimen; Estado liberal; España; Asentamiento población; Desigualdad territorial*

JEL codes: *N33, N93, O15*

SPECIALIZATION AND COMPETITIVENESS IN RURAL AND DEPOPULATED AREAS (II)

(Why) Do digital startups move to rural regions?

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Abstract:

While especially rural regions struggle to grow economically, startups – important drivers for regional economic growth - mainly settle in cities. Startup founders usually start a firm where they live and only afterwards decide where to locate the business on a long-term plan and based on economic considerations (Feldman, 2001). Existing literature explains when and why startups usually move but does not differentiate between rural or urban circumstances (E. Stam, 2007; F. C. Stam & Spigel, 2016). Based on a descriptive analysis of 6550 German start-ups and several in-depth interviews, this article discusses indicators that can support or inhibit the increasing settlement of specifically digital start-ups in rural regions. Results show that nearly the same total number of digital start-ups move from urban to rural regions as vice versa. Further results raise the assumption that especially digital start-ups are not as bound to local access to e.g. customers or suppliers. Digitization might therefore increase potentials for rural regions to become more competitive to urban regions than before.

Keywords: *Rural Development; Digitization; Business Formation; Start-up; Economic Growth; Location Economics*

JEL codes: *D24; M13; O18; R12*

Depopulation of EU Lower-income Regions: Can the Digitalisation via Broadband Access Reduce it?

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Abstract:

Depopulated regions, which are often low-income rural or post-industrial areas, with fewer job opportunities, represent an open challenge for the European Union. Sharp declines especially in Eastern and Southern Europe, due to the combination of intra-EU migration of younger, skilled workers from these areas have become a serious obstacle for the sustainable development of many EU lower-income regions. The European Parliament highlights the gap of ICT connectivity among other reasons.

This paper aims to provide the empirical evidence, by applying Panel Data Analysis, that digitalisation of depopulated European NUTS-2 regions with lower incomes via Broadband Access may contribute to reversing negative demographic trends.

Keywords: *Depopulation; Digitalisation; European Union; Lower-income Regions; Broadband Access; Panel Data Analysis.*

JEL codes: *J11; O33.*

Anclajes poblacionales en municipios de las Islas Canarias dedicados a la Economía Azul

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Abstract:

Dentro de la política marítima de la UE se reconoce la importancia de mares y océanos como motores de la economía en determinadas zonas. Existe una literatura cada vez mayor acerca de la Economía Azul tanto a nivel institucional como por la academia. El trabajo refleja una evolución de las distintas posiciones y ámbitos de interés teórico de la economía azul y considera la contribución de la economía Azul al equilibrio poblacional en las islas Canarias entre territorios más y menos poblados.

A nivel empírico, el trabajo analiza a través del número de empresas por municipio, la representatividad de la Economía Azul, distinta del turismo costero, en zonas menos pobladas de las Islas Canarias. Se observa cómo dichas actividades constituyen un anclaje poblacional en determinadas zonas despobladas en comparación con las dos capitales provinciales de mayor tamaño. Del estudio se extrae también la diversificación en dichas actividades de economía azul de estas zonas, así como el carácter transversal y las sinergias entre las distintas actividades que conforman ecosistemas de asentamientos de población sustentados por la economía azul.

Palabras clave: *Economía Azul; despoblamiento; sinergias; emprendimiento; ecosistemas de asentamientos.*

POPULATION AND ENVIRONMENT (II): Smart Cities

Short-Run Links in Ecological Footprint: A Dynamic Factor Analysis for the EU

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Abstract:

The Ecological Footprint (EFP) is a useful indicator for assessing the progress of environmental performance and offers a solid basis for sustainability studies. In this paper, we contribute to the broadening of its possibilities of investigation by measuring the cross-country links in the EFP in global hectares per capita. The modeling framework is based on the dynamic factor analysis to estimate, in the parametric form, an index that provides information about the short-run dynamics of the EFP in the EU. Following this approach, we identify different patterns in the EFP behavior of the European countries during the period of 1962–2017. The results show stronger links across the EFP of the main European countries: France, Austria, Belgium, Germany, Denmark and the U.K. The proposed analysis gives a better understanding of the links behind environmental degradation in the EU and is applicable for the implementation and design of environmental policies.

Keywords: *ecological footprint; dynamic factor model; cross-country links*

JEL codes: C38; E32; Q51

Medioambiente y sostenibilidad en ciudades inteligentes y áreas despobladas de Europa

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Resumen:

Las ciudades inteligentes disponen de entornos urbanos que tratan de utilizar las modernas TIC (tecnologías de la información y la comunicación) como tecnologías Blockchain, internet de las cosas, realidad aumentada, Big Data, Open Data y otras tecnologías de última generación con tal de aumentar y optimizar la gestión medioambiental urbana e incrementar la eficiencia de los recursos, consiguiendo un alto nivel de sostenibilidad.

El auge de estas tecnologías apunta al incremento de la ventaja competitiva de las ciudades que las utilizan para captar inversiones, un incremento de la asignación de los recursos y de la calidad de vida de los habitantes. Por otra parte, la sostenibilidad en las ciudades inteligentes se desarrolla con la aplicación de las TIC modernas. El objeto de este comunicado es valorar cómo se desarrolla la sostenibilidad en áreas inteligentes y despobladas de Europa considerando los aspectos enumerados.

Concluimos que la transformación a ciudad inteligente sostenible, requiere de la elaboración de un plan de ciudad consensuado con las distintas formaciones políticas y los grupos de interés. Además la gestión de datos es clave en las sociedades de la información que buscan explotar este sector económico, para lograr una mejor comprensión de las potencialidades y limitaciones de los territorios

Keywords: *ciudad inteligente; medioambiente; movilidad; sostenibilidad.*

JEL codes: *P25; Q48; Q53*

Environment and sustainability in Smart cities and unpopulated areas in Europe

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Summary:

Intelligent cities have urban environments which try to use the modern ICT (Information and Communication Technology), like Blockchain technologies, internet of things, increased reality, Big Data, Open Data and other ultimate technologies; with the purpose of increasing and improving the urban environmental management and getting a high level of un sustainability.

In one hand, the rise of this technology points the incensement of the de competitive advantage of the cities which use it for getting investments, an increasing of the assignation of the resources and the quality of life of the citizens. On the other hand, the sustainability in intelligent cities is developed with the application of modern ICT. The purpose of this communication is to assess how sustainability is developed in intelligent and unpopulated areas of Europe considering the aspects listed.

In conclusion, we think that a sustainable intelligent city requires the elaboration of a city plan agreed with the different political formations and interest groups. In addition, data management is key in information societies that seek to exploit this economic sector, to achieve a better understanding of the potentialities and limitations of the territories.

The marked role given to technology stands out even when its environmental impact has been proved, due to the waste derived from the promotion of excessive consumption of goods and services, which are offered in a market as unfinished products that are likely to be obsolete in the medium term.

Keywords: *smart city; environment; mobility; sustainability*

JEL codes: *P25; Q48; Q53*

Cooperative and Commercial Banking: different roles in the territorial financial inclusion of Castilla La Mancha

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Abstract:

This article focuses on the importance of bank branches for the financial inclusion of the territory, regardless of the fact that digitalisation partly favours the provision of services. Previous studies indicate that during the Great Recession (2008-2013), Spanish commercial banking remained mainly in dynamic and urban areas, where it absorbed part of the savings banks' network. In turn, cooperative banks expanded their own network, also taking advantage of the empty spaces left by the savings banks, in a greater diversity of territories, including depopulated and ageing areas. This paper studies the period from 2014 to 2020. Quantile regression is used to determine potential differences between the behaviour of both types of banks (cooperative banks and commercial banks) regarding their territorial presence. This study focuses on one region (Castilla La-Mancha) and carries out an analysis at the municipal level. Among the main results, it finds a different behaviour of the demand variables in different points of the distribution, showing how the phenomenon of branch network restructuring is unbalanced by territory. Likewise, banks and cooperatives show different strategies when operating in the territory, especially in the smaller rural territories with a greater presence of agricultural activity, where rural savings banks are more present.

Keywords: *Financial Services, Territory, Financial Inclusion, Entrepreneurship, Social Banking, Cooperative Banking; Quantile Regression.*

JEL codes: *G21; G28; P13; R11; R51.*

DEPOPULATION AND OPPORTUNITIES (II)

La despoblación: análisis territorial y constitucional de España

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Abstract:

El fenómeno de la despoblación en el medio rural presenta uno de los retos demográficos más sustanciales que, junto a la imperante globalización, provocan un preocupante incremento de las inestabilidades territoriales. Fijando una especial atención al territorio español, se indaga en cómo este fenómeno acarrea un alarmante desequilibrio en el ejercicio y disfrute de varios derechos recogidos en nuestra Constitución para con los ciudadanos residentes en núcleos rurales pequeños, generalmente del interior de la península, considerada ahora como la España vaciada tanto por los partidos políticos como por los medios de comunicación.

Keywords: *Despoblación; Medio rural; Constitución española; Derechos; España vaciada*

JEL codes: *F60; J11; K0; R13; R23; R58*

Depopulation and rururbanization in a non coastal region: the case of La Alcarria

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Abstract:

A homogeneous region that includes 191 municipalities is selected to know the determinants of depopulation and peri-urbanization processes in rural areas. Its limits are established from the historical, political, and geographical points of view. The article analyses the population dynamics with regression models for decades according to information from population censuses. The impact of the initial population, proximity to a large city, motorways, nuclear power plants and altitude above sea level are included in the study. Data shows the phenomenon of depopulation began early, from 1910, was of great importance between 1950 and 1981 and increased again in the last decade. This process affects towns of different sizes similarly. Peri-urbanization began in 1950 and spread and intensified, but since 2011 it has slowed down. Proximity to transport infrastructure has not been significant since 1970 and proximity to nuclear power plants has no effects that are high enough to be significant. In addition, altitude has a negative effect on population density, but not on depopulation since the middle of the last century.

Keywords: *concentration of the population, population imbalances, nuclear power plant, access to motorway, effect of altitude*

Does a reduction of search frictions foster return migration to peripheral regions? Evidence from the establishment of return initiatives in rural regions of Germany

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Abstract:

This paper studies the effect of the establishment of so-called 'return initiatives' in rural regions of Germany on inter-regional return migration. The initiatives aim at increasing return migration by, inter alia, reducing search frictions and increasing the probability of cross-regional job matches. The empirical analysis is based on unique panel data on return initiatives and administrative information on individual labour market biographies. Combining survival data analysis and a panel event study framework, we find that return initiatives may promote inter-regional return migration. Among the considered workers particularly those at the top of the wage distribution are more likely to return.

Keywords: *Labour mobility; labour market frictions; rural areas; return migration; return initiatives*

JEL codes: *C31; R23; R58*

PLENARY SESSION

Mobility, Migration and Employment Imbalances in Europe

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Abstract:

This paper analyses the mobility of labour force, migration, employment, and welfare in the European Union Member States. Despite the liberty of Europeans to move and despite the degree of economic and monetary integration there is a huge immobility of the labour force, even inside States, and disparate, high, and sustained unemployment rates. Even more, in the countries with higher unemployment and higher immobility there is the stronger non-European immigration.

Should national work and welfare regulations be related with this? In what way and degree labour regulation mollifies internal mobility and pulls external immigration? Is the welfare State fostering immigration of non-European and unemployment of European and placating mobility of Europeans? The peculiar dynamics on euroimbalances and of the euoperiphery is also related with these conditions and shows the need for national structural reforms and for European integration.

Finally, the case of Spain is considered because its dramatic imbalances: low employment rate, huge unemployment, important immigration, and null mobility to other European Union Member States with less unemployment and less immigration. All this has hard consequences on competitiveness and wellbeing.

Keywords: *Mobility; Migration; Unemployment; Welfare State; Europe; Economic Policy*

JEL codes: *F15, J61, K30, L51, N34.*

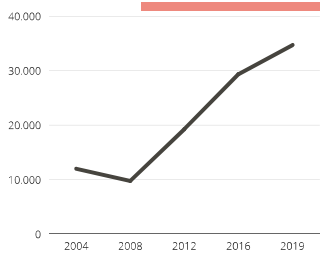
POSTERS

Desde antaño, el Camino de Santiago ha vertebrado la economía y el poblamiento asturiano y, por ende, ha sido clave en su desarrollo y evolución. Así, llegados al presente, es considerado por muchos como "uno de los mayores productos turísticos de mayor éxito tanto a nivel nacional como europeo" (Cànoves & Blanco, 2011). Es por ello que la proliferación de estudios al respecto ha tenido un auge en los últimos años, con énfasis en el Camino Primitivo. Por todo esto, la influencia de la Historia como aliada para luchar contra la despoblación en la región se ve como un elemento clave.



Figura 1. Mapa del itinerario del Camino del Norte-Costa y Primitivo Fuente. Etapas del Camino de Santiago del Norte o de la Costa. <https://www.alberguescaminosantiago.com/camino-del-norte/etapas/> (recuperado el 28/03/2022)

Se ha optado como metodología para comprender la repercusión que tiene el Camino en la economía asturiana el vaciado de datos significativos de los portales de la Oficina de Atención al Peregrino y Albergues del Camino de Santiago. A sumar, diversos artículos y libros científicos de las disciplinas de Derecho, Economía e Historia. Con esta base, se pretende ilustrar el impacto que tiene el Camino para la región que, sumado al equilibrio con otras actividades económicas, pretende emplear el turismo como dinamizador y reducir (con muchas dificultades) el espectro de la despoblación.



Como se expone en la figura 2, el número de peregrinos que optan por el Camino del Norte o el Primitivo ha crecido sustancialmente en los últimos 10 años, hasta el punto de triplicar los datos absolutos y situarse como el tercer Camino a Santiago más transitado (13,31% en 2020 frente a un 6,6% en 2004). A todo ello, cabría sumar el impacto que tiene el Camino del Salvador. Entre algunas razones que explican este desarrollo, Martín (2014) y Magadán & Rivas (2021) apuntan a las tareas de promoción turística, definición de las rutas, expansión, mejora y apertura de albergues (figura 3) y mejora de infraestructuras como factores principales a tener en cuenta.

Figura 2. Número de peregrinos que realizan el Camino del Norte o el Primitivo en su paso por Asturias entre 2004 y 2019 con intervalo de 4 años salvo el 2020 por el impacto del COVID 19.

Fuente. Elaboración propia a partir de la información estadística de la Oficina de Acogida al Peregrino (<https://catedral.df-server.info/est/index.html>)

Año	Albergues de titularidad pública					Albergues de titularidad privada					Total		
	Allande	Grado	Grandas de Salime	Las Regueras	Salas	Tineo	Allande	Grado	Grandas de Salime	Las Regueras		Salas	Tineo
2004													
2005													
2006													
2007	2		1								1		4
2008													
2009	1						1						2
2010		1				1						1	3
2011			1										1
2012											1		1
2013											1		1
2014											1		1
2015												2	3
2016		1								1			3
2017							1			1			4
2018								1				1	3
2019											3	1	4

Figura 3. Apertura de albergues en concejos del Camino Primitivo entre 2004 y 2019.

Fuente. Magadán, M. & Rivas, J.I. (2021). Los impactos socioeconómicos del Camino Primitivo en Asturias: percepciones de los residentes. *Revista Galega de Economía*, 30 (3), 1-25.

Implicación económica

Por otra parte, uno de los estudios más completos realizados en el 2021 (Magadán & Rivas, 2021), aborda el impacto del Camino y, aunque contribuye a las mejores económicas de las regiones por las que pasa en comparación con otras cercanas, sentencian que la despoblación sigue ocurriendo y no debe perderse de vista, si bien es cierto que este turismo parece un elemento ralentizador y, por extensión, positivo. Marcadores como la apertura de nuevos albergues y reaperturas de centros de interpretación, restaurantes y tiendas son claves para amparar este freno a la pérdida de población.

Protección

A tenor de lo expuesto y contrastando con muchos más indicadores de los aquí recogidos, expertas como Alonso Ibáñez (2017), señalan que la consideración del Camino como BIC supuso un punto de inflexión. En paralelo a las ayudas que ello conlleva de protección del patrimonio cultural, posee unas implicaciones sobre el territorio rural que no ocurre en otros lugares y ello debe tomarse en consideración para estudiar la contribución al desarrollo socio-económico de la región. Además, la promoción turística que se ha fomentado y los proyectos y planes estratégicos vertebran este apartado de protección que es clave para el desarrollo de la Comunidad Autónoma en su conjunto (Somoza & Lois, 2017).

Equilibrio y Sostenibilidad

Con todo, existe un aspecto muy interesante que debe tomarse en consideración: una aceptación por parte de la sociedad asturiana a este tipo de turismo sostenible, al no percibirse masificación. Además, no se puede olvidar que en estas zonas, a pesar de las dificultades y las diferencias con otros concejos de la Comunidad Autónoma, tiene una gran influencia el sector primario y lo que se debe de buscar, ante todo, es el equilibrio.

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- Cànoves, G. & Blanco, A. (2011). Turismo religioso en España: ¿La gallina de los huevos de oro? Una vieja tradición, versus un turismo emergente. *Cuadernos de Turismo*, 27, 115-131.
- Magadán, M. & Rivas, J.I. (2021). Los impactos socioeconómicos del Camino Primitivo en Asturias: percepciones de los residentes. *Revista Galega de Economía*, 30 (3), 1-25
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TERRITORIAL AND GENDER DIGITAL GAP

Paloma Rodríguez Martínez, PhD candidate in the Interdisciplinary Gender Studies program of the UAH, and in the RSC-UAH Santander Chair, Doctoral thesis supervisor Adoración Pérez Troya.



International Conference
"Population imbalances in Europe"

What is the digital gap?

The inequality that exists between different population groups in terms of access, use and impact of new information and communication technologies (ICT).

METHODOLOGY

Documentary analysis and analysis of national and international statistical sources.

OBJECTIVE

Analyze the current situation and the challenges of the territorial and gender digital gap.



8% of the Spanish population has never connected to the internet. (6*)



43% of people aged 16-74 lack basic digital skills in Spain (compared to the EU average of 42%). (6*)



51% of the groups made vulnerable by insufficient digital skills are in rural areas in the EU, and 52% in Spain. (3*)



In 2 out of 3 countries, men use the internet more than women. (1*)

Internet access in households by size of municipality. Year 2021. Percentage of households with a member aged 16 to 74. INE (5*)

	Broadband connection	Mobile broadband only connection
+ 100.000 habitantes	86,2	10,4
50.000 - 20.000 habitantes	82,9	13,1
-10.000 habitantes	76,0	18,3



RESULTS

1. Households use more fixed broadband and less mobile broadband-only connection the larger the population of their municipality and the more income they have. (5*)
2. We find a clear gender digital divide in the difference in digital skills between women and men, both in basic and advanced skills, either at national or EU level. (2*, 5*, 9*, 10*).
3. Every 1,000 people graduate in STEM between 20-29 years old: 14 women vs. 28 men (EU-2019). (2*)
4. Of the total number of employees 1.7% are female ICT specialists and 6.5% are male (EU-2020). (2*)

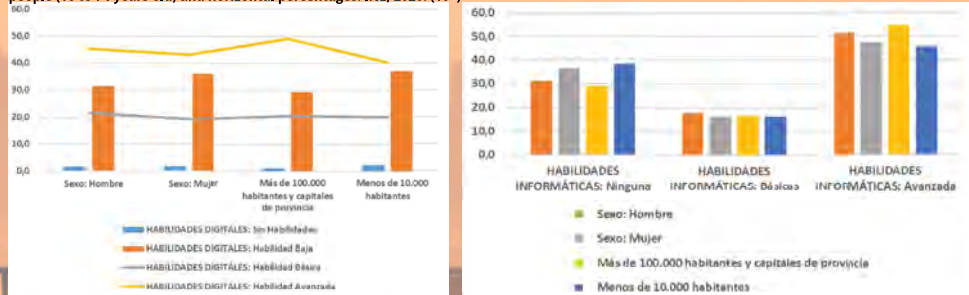
CONCLUSIONS

1. Rural populations have a greater digital divide due to a lack of IT infrastructure and digital skills.
2. The gender digital gap is exacerbated in rural areas.(1*)
3. Therefore, there is a need to increase IT infrastructure as well as digital skills training to prevent vulnerable groups such as women from being disadvantaged.
4. At national level we find Law 9/2014, of 9 May, General Telecommunications, where in its articles 2.1 and 25.1, establish that telecommunications are services of general interest and by general interest is considered: "the defined set of services whose provision is guaranteed for all end users regardless of their geographical location, with a certain quality and at an affordable price". Thus, we are faced with a mandate of general interest to alleviate the territorial and gender digital divide set out in the aforementioned Law, and in Spain we find the National Digital Skills Plan (6*), as well as the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan (8*), where funds allocated by Europe to the Autonomous Regions amount to 11,151 million euros for public policies linked to different areas and highlighting digitalisation with specific budgets for digital vouchers for vulnerable groups and/or for portable devices to reduce the digital divide, among many other measures.

Use of ICT products by people aged 16 to 74. Frequency of Internet use and services. Internet services used, for particular reasons, in the last 3 months by demographic characteristics and nature of service. Units: Number of persons (16 to 74 years old) and horizontal percentages. INE, 2021. (9*)



Use of ICT products by individuals. People aged 16 to 74 Digital skills. Digital skills, by demographic characteristics and type of skill. Units: Number of people (16 to 74 years old) and horizontal percentages. INE, 2020. (10*)



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10. Utilización de productos TIC por las personas. Personas de 16 a 74 años Habilidades digitales. Habilidades digitales, por características demográficas y tipo de habilidad. Unidades: Número de personas (16 a 74 años) y porcentajes horizontales. INE, 2020.





International Conference "Population imbalances in Europe"

POLÍTICA LINGÜÍSTICA DE LA UE EN RELACIÓN CON LA ESPAÑA RURAL VACIADA

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OBJETIVOS:

Sensibilizar a las instituciones sobre los derechos lingüísticos de los ciudadanos extranjeros que no hablan el castellano y residen en poblaciones rurales españolas.



RESULTADOS:



- En España viven, según publica la ONU, 6.104.203 de inmigrantes, lo que supone un 12,9% de la población de España (<https://datosmacro.expansion.com/demografia/migracion/inmigracion/>)
- Aumento de población extranjera en la España vaciada (e.g. Zamora, Teruel, Burgos, Soria, Palencia, Cáceres, Badajoz, Asturias, Ávila, Lugo, etc.).
- Países con cierto índice de migración: Diversidad de lenguas (dialectos) y culturas: Marruecos, Rumania, China, Bulgaria, Ucrania, Afganistán, Siria, Irán, etc.)
- Según el experto Francisco Burillo.

"Corremos el riesgo de convertir los pueblos en 'guetos' de gente que no trabaja ni habla el idioma",

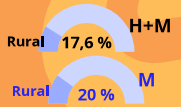
(https://www.elconfidencial.com/espana/2017-09-04/valladolid-salamanca-despoblacion-espana-vacia-refugiados_1423429/)

GRÁFICOS:



OBJETIVO

Sensibilizar sobre la problemática de la violencia en las relaciones de pareja de la población de las zonas rurales en Perú y la importancia de las actuaciones de prevención por parte de las organizaciones.



Cerca del 18% de la población reside en zonas rurales en el Perú (4*) y el 20% en el caso de las mujeres (2*)

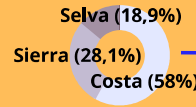
Estereotipos y escaso apoyo familiar y comunitario

"Maya nació en la comunidad de Cangari (Iguaín) y ahora tiene 24 años, no concluyó sus estudios secundarios porque se comprometió con su esposo quien la llevo a vivir lejos de su comunidad. Fue en este viaje cuando el comenzó a golpearla. Maya retorna a vivir a Cangari le contó a su madre que su esposo la golpeaba, pero su madre no quiso que ella se separe, le dijo «yo he conocido a un solo hombre, tengo vergüenza de que te separen». Cuando los golpes fueron más constantes, Maya decidió denunciar a su esposo ante las autoridades comunales". Aquí empieza un largo viaje para acceder a justicia (desde el nivel comunal, distrital hasta el nivel provincial)". (1*)

Un representante de la comunidad: "La denominan «justicia popular», la explican de esta manera. «Si hay una denuncia, convocamos a una asamblea comunal. Allí asisten todos los pobladores de la comunidad, hombres, mujeres, adultos, niños y ancianos. Todos. Allí se presenta el caso, hablan las personas involucradas y luego la comunidad decide el castigo o la sanción que se puede dar...Precisa: «nosotros no queremos juicios, no queremos problemas, queremos vivir tranquilos, tenemos que vivir en la comunidad». Esta autoridad comunal asegura que para los casos de violencia contra las mujeres no llaman al fiscal ni a la policía. Le pregunto por qué y responde: «ellos hacen manejo, el que tiene plata sí gana allá [en Lircay]» (1*)

METODOLOGÍA

- Revisión documental y cuantitativa (fuentes de estadísticas nacionales).
- Entrevistas a mujeres de zonas rurales (historias de vida) y a representantes de gobiernos municipales
- Revisión de experiencias de prevención en las zonas rurales



Algo más del 28% de la población reside en la región natural de la Sierra en el Perú (3*)

Ausencia de respuesta de las instituciones

"Caso de Aitana, quien vive en la comunidad de Chacapunco (Anchonga), edad 46 años, casada, con cuatro hijos y dedicada a la agricultura y ganadería de autoconsumo. Aitana no fue a la escuela, solo habla quechua y entiende muy poco el castellano. Cuenta que su esposo siempre la ha golpeado pero recientemente —debido a una calumnia— este la golpeó brutalmente. Le dejó los ojos y cara hinchada y el cuerpo con múltiples heridas. Ella denunció a su esposo ante las autoridades locales, pero estos no le hicieron caso porque su esposo es hermano del presidente de la comunidad" (1*)

Comentario de autoridad gobernador : «a veces el hombre tiene derecho de dar orden a la mujer, o sea cuando el hombre le ordena, la mujer tiene que ir a cualquier sitio. Ahora la mujer dice que no va ir, dice:¿quién eres para que me des ordenes? Así le dice la mujer. Hay mujeres que también son así. [...], las mujeres buscan motivos» (1*)

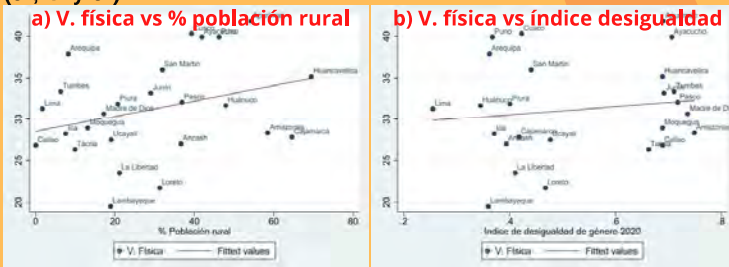
RESULTADOS

- Constante éxodo desde las zonas rurales a urbanas. Fuerte descenso del peso población rural desde 64,6% en 1940 hasta 17,6% en 2017. (4*)
- Intensa recomposición poblacional por regiones naturales a favor de la Costa y Selva en detrimento de la Sierra (peso población Sierra en 1940: 65,7% y en 2017: 28,1%). (4*)
- Alta prevalencia de la violencia por parte de la pareja o expareja en la sociedad peruana (superiores al 50%). Afectando de modo similar (en todos sus tipos) a la población urbana y rural; y, con mayor prevalencia en la población de la Sierra. (2*)
- La violencia física sistemática, frente a la que se ejerce solo una vez, se presenta en mayor proporción entre las mujeres de la zona rural que en la urbana (58,6% frente a 53,6%) (6*)
- Correlación positiva entre la prevalencia de violencia en las relaciones de pareja y la proporción de la población rural. Y entre la prevalencia de la violencia física y el índice de desigualdad de género. (2*, 3* y 4*)

Violencia contra la mujer de 15 a 49 años de edad, ejercida alguna vez por la pareja, 2020 (porcentaje) (2*)

	Residencia urbana	Residencia rural	Región natural costa	Región natural sierra	Región natural selva
Violencia Psicológica y/o verbal	50,6	48,0	51,0	52,2	43,1
Violencia física	27,5	25,7	26,6	29,7	25,4
Violencia sexual	6,0	6,0	5,5	7,9	5,2
Total	55,3	52,3	55,4	56,6	48,8

Relación entre tipos de violencia contra las mujeres de 15 a 49 años de edad, por parte de la pareja (2019), ratio de población rural (2017) e índice de desigualdad de género (2020), por departamentos (3*, 4* y 8*)



CONCLUSIONES

- La violencia de género alcanza a un proporción similar de mujeres en las zonas urbanas y rurales, pero las políticas y programas estatales se implementan fundamentalmente en las zonas urbanas.(1*) Por ello, la pérdida de productividad y talento se produce también en los entornos rurales.
- Las mujeres rurales que sufren violencia no reconocen al Estado como espacio para garantizar sus derechos humanos. (1*)
- El grado de reconocimiento de las mujeres de sus derechos individuales, sociales, sexuales y reproductivos es claramente inferior en las zonas rurales comparado con las urbanas (38,4% vs 60,6%) (6*)
- Las mujeres que viven situaciones de violencia en áreas rurales enfrentan mayores limitaciones debido a: menor acceso a la información, mayor tolerancia social, mayor control y miedo a denunciar y difícil acceso a recursos y servicios de ayuda. Contar con proyectos de prevención de la violencia contra las mujeres en el ámbito rural, con servicios integrales adecuadamente articulados, es clave. (5*)
- La mayoría de los estudios sobre violencia contra las mujeres se refieren a zonas urbanas (7 de cada 10). (7*). Se precisa un mayor desarrollo de estudios sobre esta problemática que atiendan las particularidades de las zonas rurales.

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POVERTY

As a risk for equality in the rural area.

shrinking gaps, widening benefits

Objectives



Societies need programs that encourage the integration of groups and diminish gaps in benefits and participation. The information presented below attempts to reflect the contrast with the EU rural context and raise awareness of the importance of social cohesion.

Methodology



Documentary analysis of reports on social cohesion and strategies against depopulation in the community of Castilla la Mancha including national and international statistics.

A DEFINITION BY THE UN



SOCIAL INCLUSION

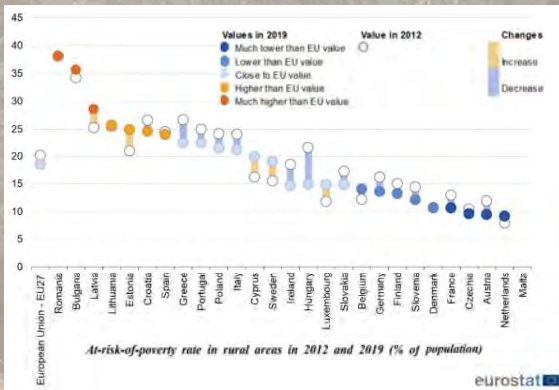
"...process of improving the terms of participation in society, particularly for people who are disadvantaged, through enhancing opportunities, access to resources, voice and respect for rights."

In the EU

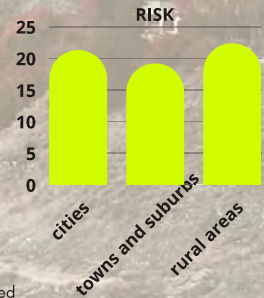


RURAL AREAS ARE IN RISK OF MANY FACTORS THAT COULD DETERMINE THE CONTINUITY OF THIS SPACES, POVERTY BEING ONE OF THEM.

Challenges related to demography, remoteness, education, and labour market may interact and generate "vicious circles", which may reproduce and amplify the phenomenon of poverty of rural areas.



The risk of poverty or social exclusion in rural areas is slightly higher than in towns and suburbs and cities



Many Roma, the largest ethnic minority of the EU, live often in high concentration in rural areas. Progress in Roma integration has been limited



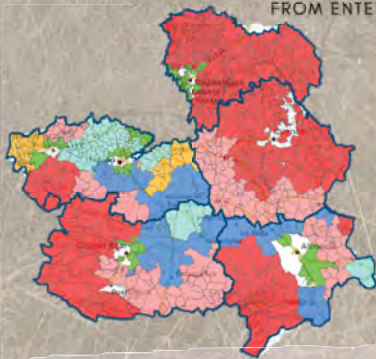
In 2016, four fifths of the Roma were estimated to be at risk of poverty, compared to less than one fifth for the general population of the EU

90% of Roma children are still at risk

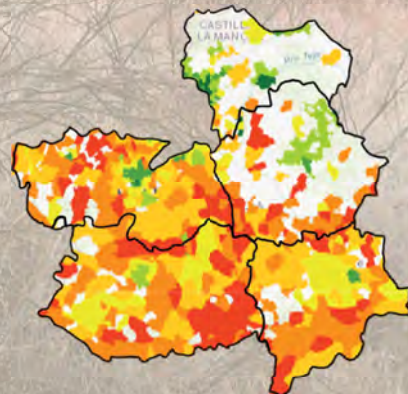


In Spain...

THE GOVERNMENT OF CASTILLA LA MANCHA IN SPAIN WILL SUPPORT FAMILIES AT RISK OR PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE WHO RESIDE IN SPARSELY POPULATED AREAS OR AREAS AT RISK OF DEPOPULATION TO PREVENT THEM FROM ENTERING SOCIAL EXCLUSION CIRCUITS.



The areas at risk of depopulation are the main areas to take care of vulnerable groups, especially those who have difficulties to make ends meet every month, as the distribution of income does not allow them to participate adequately.



The AROPE indicator measures which people are at risk of social exclusion and poverty.

CONCLUSION

RURAL AREAS BENEFITING FROM SUPPORT TO EMPOWER COMMUNITIES AND ACCESS TO SERVICES THAT FACILITATE SOCIAL INNOVATION WILL CREATE BETTER CONDITIONS AND HELP PROMOTE PERMANENCE IN THESE AREAS.

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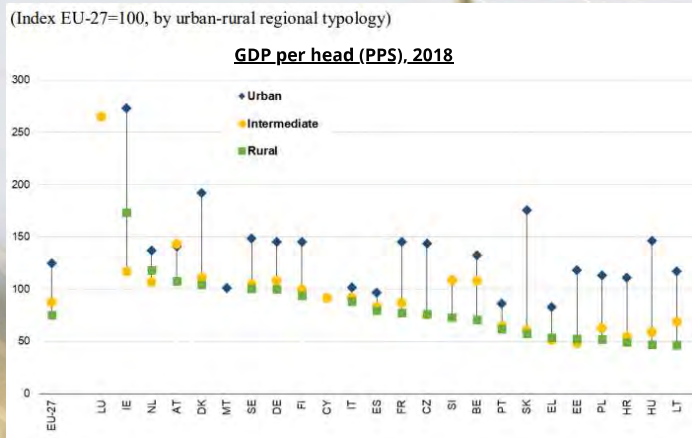


THE REAL IMPORTANCE OF THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR IN RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

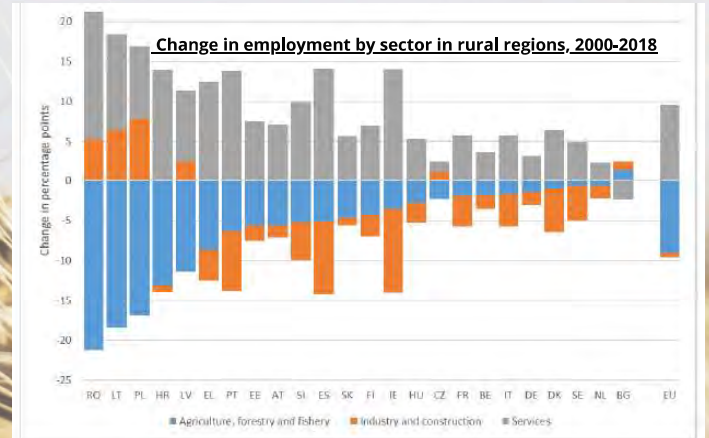
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1 AN OVERVIEW OF THE SITUATION IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

GDP per head in rural and intermediate areas is generally lower than in urban areas. For example, GDP per head in rural areas is 75% of the European average (a), while in urban areas it is 125%. In particular, in the case of remote regions it is 70% of the average. Moreover, there has been a dramatic change of the employment in this areas around de EU, where in countries such as Romania and Lithuania the share of Agriculture in employment has fallen by around 20% compared to the Service and Industrial sectors (b).



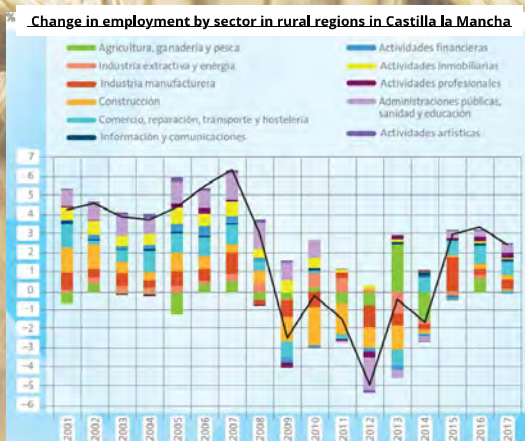
Source: (a)



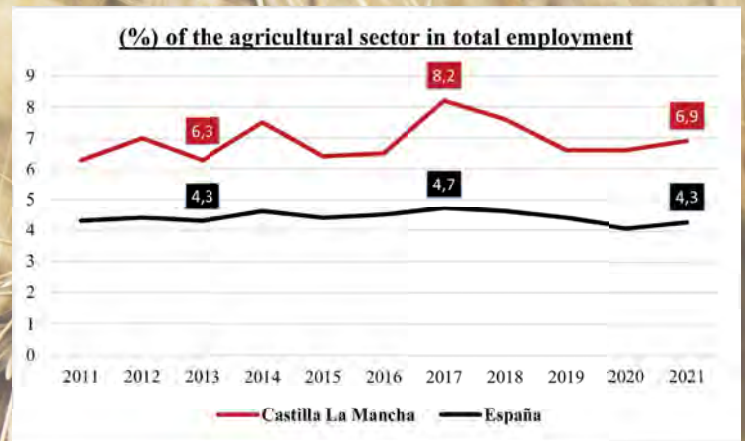
Source: (b)

2 THE CASE OF CASTILLA LA MANCHA

The case of Castilla la Mancha is similar to other rural areas in the EU. GDP per head was 78.9% of the national average, with a gap of almost 72% compared to developed urban areas in the EU. The economic structure of the region is also different from the national, as the agricultural and industrial sectors have an important weight, while the service sector is 10% lower than the national average. This is reflected in a constant gap of at least 2% in the agricultural sector (d), rising to almost 4% during the 2008 financial crisis.



Source: (c)



Own elaboration. Source: (d)

3 METHODOLOGY

Maps, data and graphs obtained from national and international statistical sources of rural economic development.

4 CONCLUSIONS

Despite a general negative trend in the EU, the agricultural sector in Castilla La Mancha seems to be resisting and increasing its weight in the economy compared to the last decade. This is why new technologies, policies with the recovery funds needed, and future actions present a great opportunity to correct this trend.

5 REFERENCES

- (a) and (b) European Comisión (2021). *A long-term Vision for the EU's Rural Areas - Towards stronger, connected, resilient and prosperous rural areas by 2040*.
- (c) CaixaBank Research (2019). *La economía de la Comunidad Autónoma de Castilla-La Mancha: diagnóstico estratégico*
- (d) Own Elaboration. Data obtained from INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE ESTADÍSTICA (INE)

Water, missvaluated treasure

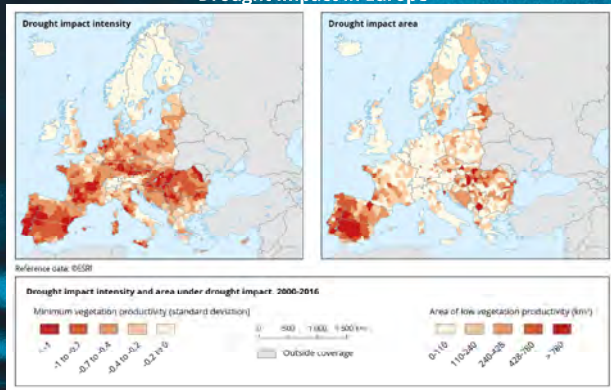
Mario Rodríguez García
 Master's Degree in applied economic analysis - Universidad de Alcalá
 mario.rodriguezgarci@edu.uah.es

Why is Water a treasure?

The European Commission in his long-term vision for the EU's rural areas explain the different climate risk which rural areas would suffer in the future. The objective of this poster is showed you one climate problem in this future and this trend in Castilla-La Mancha's rural region.

The expected trends by European Commission predict in the year 2040: "Water scarcity and increasing cost will affect economic activities requiring water, such as tourism and agriculture, driving shifts to systems requiring less water. Water scarcity will also increase environmental degradation such as wildfires in forests, moorland, and peatland." These two maps show us which have been the effects of the drought impact intensity and the area under drought impact since 2000 until 2016.

Drought impact in Europe



Source: European Environment Agency.

Methodology

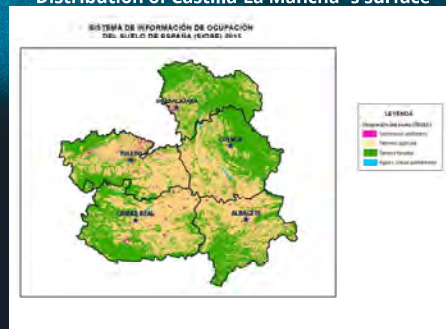
- Graphics
- Maps
- Data

Why is this important to Castilla-La Mancha region?

The agrarian surface in Castilla-La Mancha region is nearly 47%, this percentage is 37,638 square kilometers. Although, this sector is so important in the region. Agrarian sector needs a huge volume of water to the fields and animals, so this region needs different rivers to take it.

Castilla-La Mancha has water from different rivers Ebro, Guadalquivir, Guadiana, Júcar, Segura, Tajo and Duero, but the most important is Tajo. This river gives water to another river, Segura, through the Tajo-Segura canal.

Distribution of Castilla-La Mancha's surface



Source: Informe del servicio de estadística de la oficina de transparencia, buen gobierno y participación sobre la delimitación del medio rural de Castilla-La Mancha en zonas rurales y categorización de las mismas.

Castilla-La Mancha's rivers

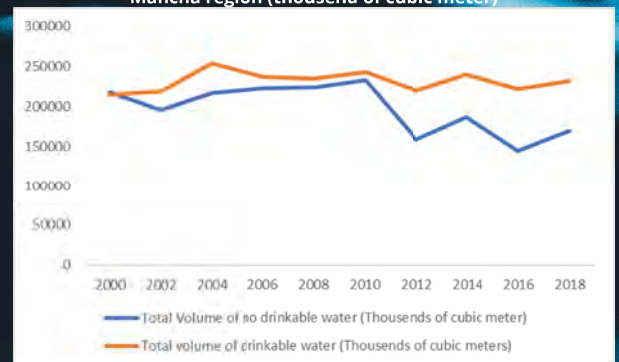


Source: Water Agency of Castilla-La Mancha.

In recent years, the total volume of no drinkable water in the Castilla-La Mancha region was reduced, but the volume of the drinkable water wasn't reduced. This could show us one thing, the total volume of water was reduced the last years, so the agrarian sector could be a problem to produce. But there is a good data the agrarian sector uses the 99.6% of reutilized water.

This trend is considered in the regional strategy of Castilla-La Mancha, they focus on improving the efficiency of the agrarian sector and the water waste, because this resource is so important to biodiversity and rural areas. This policy could make a big effect in the rural areas and it could develop the economic situation of this region, because it improves the production of the fields.

Total volume of drinkable and no drinkable water in Castilla-La Mancha region (thousand of cubic meter)



Source: own elaboration based on data from the Statistics Service of Castilla-La Mancha.

References:

- European Commission. A long-term vision for the EU's Rural Areas - Towards stronger, connected, resilient and prosperous rural areas by 2040 (2021). European Commission.
- Junta de Comunidades de Castilla-La Mancha. Estrategia regional frente a la despoblación en Castilla-La Mancha (2021). Junta de Comunidades de Castilla-La Mancha.
- Junta de Comunidades de Castilla-La Mancha. Informe del servicio de estadística de la oficina de transparencia, buen gobierno y participación sobre la delimitación del medio rural de Castilla-La Mancha en zonas rurales y categorización de las mismas (2021). Junta de Comunidades de Castilla-La Mancha

Depopulation, Ageing and Masculinization of Rural Areas in the European Union



Castilla- La Mancha a Region of Contrasts

By: Gregorio Escalera Bejar
Mail: gregorio.escalera@edu.uah.es



Gárgoles de Abajo

-Population 2020: 84 inhabitants
-Average age: 55 years old

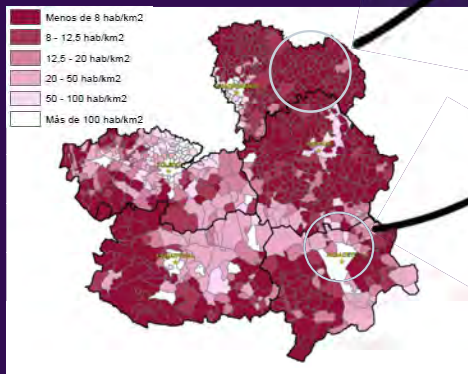


RESULTS

Imbalances in Castilla-La Mancha region are very heavy, specifically in provinces such as **Guadalajara** (North, in the map), which West region (**Corredor del Henares and its influence area**) covers almost **90% of the population**, resulting in a very difficult situation for the rest of the province (see Gárgoles de Abajo photo) nearly desertification. **Cuenca** province, where more than **75% of the population** lives in the **15% most populated municipalities**, leaving the 85% remaining municipalities with deep depopulation issues.

Rural population is significantly older than the urban population in the EU. In 2019 the average age in rural regions was 45 years, two years higher than in urban regions. Many regions present huge differences, as in Spain: **average urban age is 43 years old** when the **average rural age is almost 50 years old**. Eurostat projections suggest that the median age differences will increase in the next two decades and it will also grow 4 years for each type of region.

Municipality Population Density in Castilla-La Mancha 2020



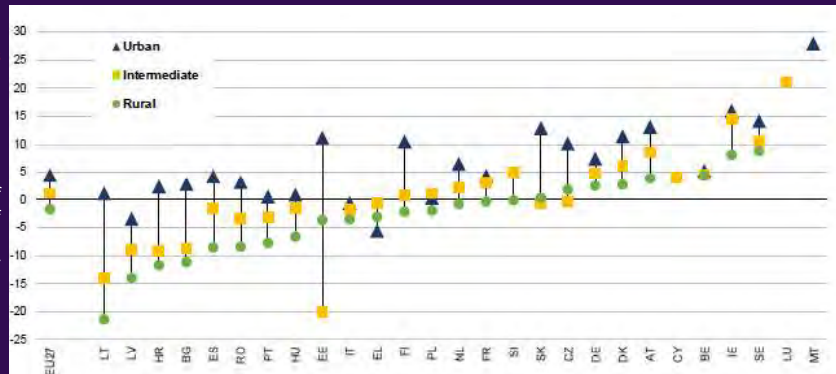
Albacete

-Population 2021: 172 722 inhab.
-Average age: 40.24 years old

	Urban	Intermediate			Rural			EU
		Close	Remote	Total	Close	Remote	Total	
Men aged 20-44 per 100 women of that age, 2019	100	104	105	104	106	106	106	103
Men aged 20-44 per 100 women of that age, 2014	100	103	104	103	105	105	105	102

Women aged between 20 and 44 are more likely to move out of rural regions and intermediate regions than men are. As a result, per 100 women in that age group there were 106 men in rural regions and 104 men in intermediate regions. Remote intermediate regions have slightly more men in that age group relative to women compared to intermediate regions close to a city. For rural regions, remoteness does not seem to affect the balance between men and women in this age group. Since 2014, this skewed distribution of young men and women has become more pronounced. In both intermediate and rural regions, for every 100 women aged 20-44, the number of men grew by one, while in urban regions number of men in this age group remained equal to the number of women.

Average annual population change between 2014 and 2019



The population in urban areas is shrinking in numbers, **average annual population change in rural regions was -2.3%** per-1000 residents compared to **-1.2% in intermediate regions** and **+1.0% in urban areas** between 2014 and 2019. In all the member states except from Poland natural growth in this period was lower in rural areas than in urban ones.

Average net migration was positive in all three regions, but was the lowest in rural regions. Lithuania presents the lowest net migration of these areas with a -15% per mile change followed by Latvia, Croatia, Belgium, Spain, Romania, Portugal, Hungary, Estonia, Italy and some others. The highest net immigration rate was Sweden with an average 10% growth of the period. There is a remarkable **separation between West and East Europe** in terms of net migration rate.

In this period every rural region lost more population due to natural change than they gained through net migration, compared to urban areas. It is common on the EU, the existence of rural areas that lost population due to net migration and natural change of the population. Urban regions experience the highest growth in combination of positive natural change and positive net migration in almost every EU country.

Conclusion

The EU population is expected to continue to age and to start shrinking during the next decade. Rural regions today already have an older population than the other regions do and are more likely to have a shrinking population, due to (higher) negative natural change in population and a less positive net migration rate. Remote rural regions face a particularly difficult situation. In many ways, rural regions are ahead of the demographic curve at the EU level because over the next decades more and more other regions will also experience ageing and population decreases.

Rural regions will have to develop policies that manage population changes and ensure that they do not affect their quality of life or hurt their economy and social systems. Innovative technological and organisational solutions in terms of digitalisation or green mobility may help regions to manage demographic changes, while contributing to perspectives for people to stay in rural areas or discover them as attractive living spaces, to minimise disruptions to their economy and to maintain a high quality of life or improve it.

If not EU rural areas will end up depopulated, severely aged and masculinized.

References

- Junta de Comunidades de Castilla La Mancha. 2022 *Estrategia Regional frente a la Despoblación en Castilla La Mancha 2021-2031*
- Comision Staff Working Document part 1.2021. *A long term Vision for the EU's Rural Areas*
- Instituto Nacional de Estadística, INE.
- European Statistics Office, EUROSTAT



Settle Poster



International Conference "Population imbalances in Europe"

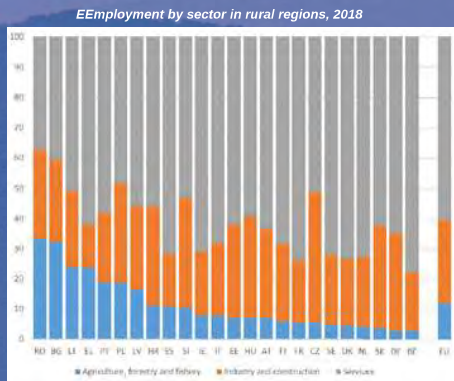
LABOR MARKET IN RURAL AREAS : THE IMPACT OF EMPLOYMENT IN ECONOMIC SECTORS

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The financing of the common agricultural policy between the EU countries



Source: European Commission, European Parliament.



Source: Eurostat and ARDECO database.

Why is it vital to boost employment in rural areas?

Over time, the European Commission has sought to promote innovation in rural communities and encourage entrepreneurship in order to generate a commitment to the rural environment. In sum, considering that many rural areas experience a great loss of opportunities, as evidenced by the considerable proportion of agricultural production and other economic activities that are wasted due to the lack of local processing, storage, marketing and transportation. It is vital to promote the participation and empowerment of rural populations because it would allow the generation of new perspectives such as rural economic growth, high earnings, employment, productive and quality livelihoods.

METHODOLOGY

Documentary analysis and statistical sources in rural areas.

OBJECTIVE

Analyze the impact of the labor market in economic sectors of rural areas in the European Union and Castilla La Mancha.

What effect does it generate in the region of Castilla La Mancha?

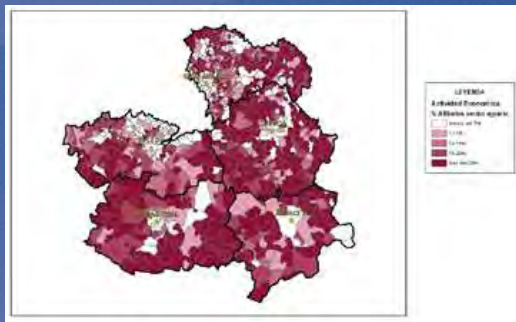
In the rural areas of the region of Castilla La Mancha, its effect on employment is fundamental for labor evolution, the support of the central government being essential in the development and financing plans to ensure opportunities in economic activities such as agriculture, livestock and services for the improvement of the regional economy. For this reason, it is essential to favor conciliation, employability and training with effective measures that can alleviate the situation of people in a situation of temporary unemployment and promote economic development at a regional and local level.

Agriculture in Castilla and León



Source: Usal

Social security affiliates in the agricultural sector



Source: Castilla La Mancha.

RESULTS

In the EU, it is observed that the participation of the agricultural, forestry and fishing sector in employment in rural regions went from 21% to 12% between 2000 and 2018. On the other hand, according to the annual regional database of the European Commission, this change would be in the economic structure that is significant in certain rural regions of Eastern Europe. Although, in several less developed Member States, rural regions are undergoing agile restructuring.

CONCLUSIONS

In short, initiatives in entrepreneurial projects and taking advantage of emerging opportunities in the labor market promoted in regional communities would make it possible to stimulate economic growth in rural areas, thus strengthening economic activities and improving the quality of rural life.

References:

- Economic and Social Council Spain (2020) Report on the socioeconomic and labor situation in Spain
- Eurostat (2019) Statistics explained
- European Commission (2020)
- ARDECO





International Conference “Population imbalances in Europe”

Education & training in rural areas: digital skills as a challenge

Illustration 1. A school in Quer, Guadalajara (Spain)²



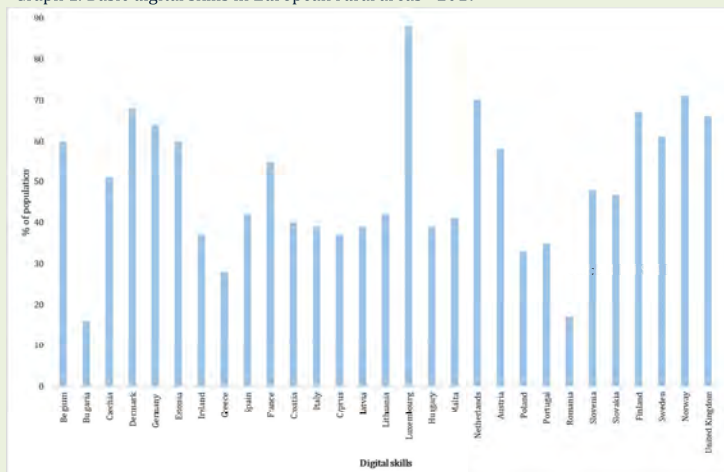
Illustration 2. Children with their phones³



1. Problems

- Early leaving rate higher in rural areas
- The share of NEET is higher in rural areas (13.6%, in Europe)
- The share of students with tertiary education is lower in rural areas (22%, in Europe)
- Half of UE-Spain rural population has at least basic digital skills

Graph 1. Basic digital skills in European rural areas - 2019⁴



2. Objective

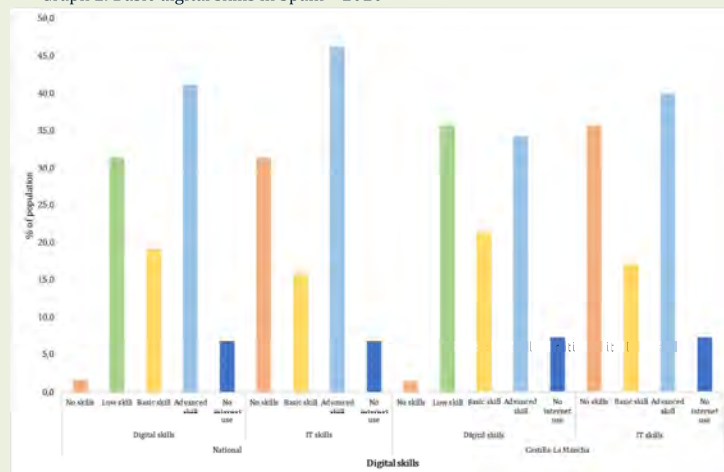
Digital skills analysis in rural areas

3. Methodology

Literature revision & data analysis

- National: Instituto Nacional de Estadística (INE)
- Europe: Eurostat

Graph 2. Basic digital skills in Spain – 2020⁵



4. Results

- Spain has 42% of population with basic digital skills
- Luxembourg has the highest proportion of population with basic digital skills (88%)
- In Castilla-La Mancha, people percentage with no digital skills is lower compared with national results (35.6%)

5. Conclusions

Due to the depopulation of rural areas, basic services must be strengthened. Also, the range of training opportunities should be expanded.

To improve the education levels in rural areas is required more investments in technology and more strong infrastructures.

6. References

- Castilla-La Mancha (2022). Estrategia Regional frente a la Despoblación en Castilla-La Mancha 2021-2031.
- Comision Staff Working Document (part 1) (2021). A long-term Vision for the EU's Rural Areas
- Diario Oficial de Castilla-La Mancha (2021). Disposiciones generales. Año XI, Núm.90.
- ^{1,5} Own elaboration with data from INE (2021). Encuesta sobre equipamiento y uso de tecnologías de información y comunicación en los hogares 2021.
- ² Own elaboration
- ³ La Vanguardia (2019). ¿Los niños deben tener teléfono móvil?
- ⁴ Own elaboration with data from Eurostat (2020). Individuals' level of digital skills



INFRASTRUCTURE AND ACCESSIBILITY AGAINST DEPOPULATION: A NECESSARY CONDITION, BUT NOT A SUFFICIENT ONE

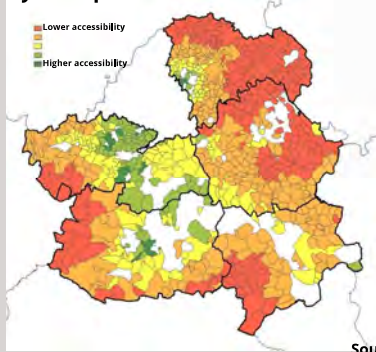
Author: Bruno Lozano Jiménez, Master's Degree in Applied Economic Analysis student
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Universidad de Alcalá de Henares

Objective:

The objective of this paper is to analyze the infrastructure's situation in Castilla-La Mancha (CLM) and its relationship with depopulation. In this case, the infrastructure will be approached from the point of view of transportation accessibility, to describe the effect it has on depopulation within the region.

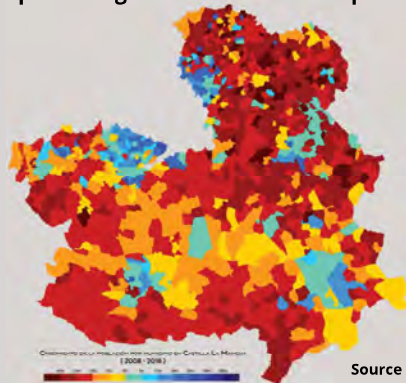
Accessibility is pointed out as a necessary factor to curb depopulation and be able to reverse population. However, it must be accompanied by other factors and a coordinated plan from public policies to achieve the objective.

Accessibility level by transportation infrastructure in CLM municipalities



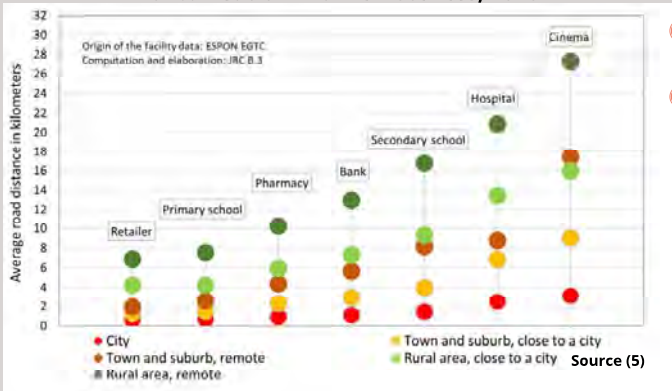
Source (4)

Population growth in CLM municipalities



Source (2)

Average road distance to the nearest service, by Degree of Urbanisation with remoteness, 2016



Source (5)

Methodology:

Analysis of regional and international statistical sources and documentation of articles and reports on depopulation and accessibility

What is accessibility?

It is the ease of access from one place to another as a measure of time. It allows the measure of not only the distance but also the quality of the infrastructure that allows transportation times to be reduced.

Digital access: telecommunications infrastructure.

Physical access: transportation infrastructure.

A measure of time: time required to access from one place to another. It allows for measures of quality of the infrastructure, not only of the distance. Roads are used as the main means of transport in the region, due to the scarcity of rail infrastructure and low population density that are creating dependence on individual means of transport.

- The layout of the roads connecting the main cities of the region with each other and with cities outside the region (mainly Madrid and Valencia) determine a large part of the accessibility of the region's municipalities. Beyond the provincial capitals and their surroundings, peri-urban areas are formed around the connections with Madrid from Guadalajara and Toledo, and the connection between Madrid and Valencia that crosses the region through Toledo and Albacete.
- The areas between Toledo and Albacete cities, although they have good accessibility, keep losing population. This is due to the strong agricultural and rural character of these municipalities of CLM, which is proof that the infrastructure is not a sufficient condition to combat depopulation.
- The Serranía de Cuenca, the Serranía de Guadalajara, the south and northwest of Ciudad Real, the southwest of Toledo and the southwest of Albacete suffer the main consequences of depopulation and accessibility. This is due to the fact that they are not located in the surroundings of urban areas or their connections.

Causes of depopulation



Past rural exodus

The populations with depopulation are ageing as a consequence of rural exodus of the young population during the last decades.



Employment

The productive framework is essential to provide the necessary income for the population to settle. Urban areas have a stronger agricultural component than cities.



Infrastructure

It provides access to goods and services that are necessary for economic activity and population settlement. Transportation and telecommunications can be used to bring these services closer to the most depopulated areas. The construction and maintenance of the infrastructure that provides public services such as health and education centers also increases the accessibility of the territories.

1 "Rural residents have to drive longer distances to reach services"

2 "More specialised services require longer distances"

Source (5)

	Primary school	Secondary school	Hospital
Rural remote areas	8 km	17 km	21 km
Rural not remote area	4 km	9 km	14 km
City	<1 km	<2 km	2 km

European Rural Pact accessibility objectives

-Stronger rural areas: improve services

-More connected: improve infrastructure

Conclusion

1 Lack of infrastructure hinders access to work and services that are necessary for the population and for economic activity in general.

2 Better infrastructure improves this access and helps to curb the depopulation situation, but is not necessarily capable of reversing it on its own. A joint plan of public policies is needed in several areas: infrastructure, public services, employment and productive framework, etc.

References:

- (1) Herran, J. L. (2002). Proyecciones demográficas y de los flujos migratorios en España. A. Entorno Internacional.
- (2) Instituto de Estadística de Castilla-La Mancha, 2018.
- (3) Martínez, H (2012). La accesibilidad regional y el efecto territorial de las infraestructuras de transporte. Aplicación en Castilla-La Mancha. Boletín de la Asociación de Geógrafos Españoles.
- (4) Martínez, H (2018). Defining rural: A functional and accessibility approach applied in Castilla-La Mancha (Spain). REDES, 23, 248–266.
- (5) European Commission 2021. A long-term vision for the EU's rural areas. Ref. 6.10.2021. https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/new-push-european-democracy/longterm-vision-rural-areas_en#avisionforruralareastowards2040





International Conference
"Population imbalances in Europe"



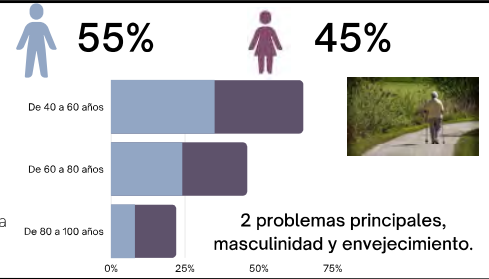
MUJERES Y EL RETO DEMOGRÁFICO EN LA PROVINCIA DE GUADALAJARA

INTRODUCCIÓN: EXTREMA DESPOBLACIÓN



5ª provincia con mayor número de municipios en riesgo, 268 en total menos de 2000 hab.
INE: Padrón 1 de enero de 2021
3,6 hab/km2 muy por debajo del umbral europeo de zonas despobladas.

El 70% de la población global de la provincia de Guadalajara, un total de 183.113 habitantes, reside en alguno de sus nueve municipios más poblados zonas como Azuqueca de Henares, Allovera, El Casar, Cabanillas del Campo, Marchamalo, Villanueva de la Torre, Torrejón del Rey y Ploz. Esto sucede por estar situados en la franja cercana al Corredor del Henares, donde se aprecia volumen de oferta de empleo a través de la industria y la logística.



Dentro de los ejes planteados a través de la Estrategia Regional Frente a la Despoblación de C-LM nos centramos en el análisis de los siguientes ámbitos:



IGUALDAD DE GÉNERO	
DESARROLLO INCLUSIVO	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LEP 1. GARANTIZAR EL ACCESO A LA SANIDAD PÚBLICA LEP 2. GARANTIZAR EL ACCESO A LA EDUCACIÓN PÚBLICA LEP 3. GARANTIZAR EL ACCESO A SERVICIOS SOCIALES LEP 4. GARANTIZAR EL ACCESO AL EMPLEO 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LE 1. DIVERSIFICAR LA ACTIVIDAD ECONÓMICA LE 2. FOMENTAR EL EMPLEO EN ESPECIAL DE PERSONAS Y COLECTIVOS CON BAJA HABILIDAD LABORAL LE 3. IMPULSAR LA PREVENCIÓN ECONÓMICA Y EMPRESARIAL Y LA FINANCIACIÓN DE SU ACTIVIDAD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LE 1. CONCILIACIÓN DE LA VIDA PERSONAL, FAMILIAR Y LABORAL LE 2. POTENCIAR LA ATENCIÓN A LA INFANCIA Y LA FAMILIA LE 3. MEJORAR LA INCLUSIÓN SOCIAL LE 4. PROMOCIÓN DE LA CULTURA Y DEL DEDICADO RESPONSABLE 	

- 1 Dificultades en términos de oportunaes laborales
- 2 Dificultades en el acceso a servicios públicos
- 3 Dificultades en el acceso a la conciliación familiar

OBJETIVO

Dar a conocer las principales barreras en el ámbito económico desarrollado en la Estrategia Regional Frente a la Despoblación en Castilla- La Mancha 2021-2031 sobre el papel de la mujer en el mundo rural y las propuestas para solventarlas.

METODOLOGÍA

1. Análisis de los principales indicadores desagregados por sexo.
2. Selección de buenas prácticas en la incorporación de políticas de igualdad de género que se desarrollan en el medio rural de otras realidades territoriales españolas
3. Estudios comparativos de los diferentes ámbitos de intervención (legislación, planes, proyectos, convocatorias de ayuda, etc.)

ESTEREOTIPOS Y SESGOS

Status Quo: yo a mis labores

Raíces: lo mío

Descontento social

Brecha de valores

Familia: lo primero

Brecha tecnológica

Escasez en cultura y ocio

PROBLEMÁTICA

Dificultad para crear oportunidades laborales

Las personas inactivas de la provincia de Guadalajara aumentaron en 20,5 miles de personas entre los años 2017 y 2021, principales causas en 2021:

Un 44% por jubilación
Un 25 % vuelta a mis labores.

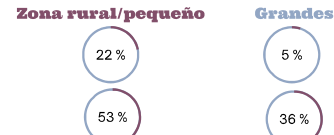
FUENTE:INE POBLACIÓN INACTIVA

Dificultad en el acceso a la conciliación familiar

Personas que se muestran muy de acuerdo o deacuerdo con las siguientes afirmaciones

Cuando los trabajos son escasos, los hombres tienen más derecho que las mujeres a acceder a uno

Las mujeres quieren niños y un hogar



FUENTE: LUCA ET AL, 2022 Y : DATOS DEL EUROPEAN VALUE STUDY (2008-2010) | ESADEECPOL. DATOS 47 PAÍSES/REGIONES DE LA UE. MUESTRAS ALEATORIAS MULTIETAPA O ESTRATIFICADAS REPRESENTATIVAS DE LA POBLACIÓN ADULTA DE 18 AÑOS O MÁS

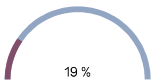
Dificultad en el acceso a servicios públicos

El coste por habitante del transporte sanitario es 7 veces mayor en la zona rural que en la urbana, en Castilla- La Mancha

FUENTE: INFORME DEL GRUPO DE TRABAJO SOBRE EL CÁLCULO DE LA POBLACIÓN AJUSTADA. MINISTERIO DE HACIENDA, 2021

Escasa participación femenina en la toma de decisiones

Solamente 56 ayuntamientos de los 288 de la provincia de Guadalajara, tienen una mujer como dirigente.



Momento coyuntural favorable en términos de inversión pública y concienciación destinada a impulsar las oportunidades para la mejora de la mujer en el mundo rural.

El Plan de Recuperación, Transformación y Resiliencia (PRTR), del nuevo Plan de Medidas ante el Reto Demográfico (PMRD), como acción transversal del Gobierno , junto con la Estrategia Nacional frente al Reto Demográfico para establecer una Agenda de Igualdad.

Dentro de los denominados Proyectos Estratégico en el 2º semestre se desarrollará el PERTE de Economía Social y de los cuidados que ayudará a gnerar impacto positivo en el as zonas rurales

El Estatuto de las Mujeres Rurales de Castilla-La Mancha, artículo 11.3 determina que, cuando las actividades se ubiquen en poblaciones de menos de 5.000 habitantes, tanto en priorización como en intensidad de la ayuda o subvención debe verse un trato preferente.



RESULTADOS: IMPLANTAR MEDIDAS DE ACCIÓN POSITIVA PARA FRENAR LOS PROCESOS DE DESPOBLACIÓN, ENFOCADOS EN ESTE CASO AL DESARROLLO DE LA MUJER RURAL.

Los expertos en economía valoran como positivo generar actividad económica en estas zonas, las políticas fiscales favorables, la inversión en escuelas y la expansión digital.

Para fomentar la mejora social y económica de la mujer en los entornos de máxima despoblación de la provincia de Guadalajara



1

Favorecer las condiciones para que se genere actividad económica en equilibrio e igualdad: sector servicios y turismo

2

Políticas a pequeña escala, cada municipio es diferente: fiscal, educación, mejora en los servicios públicos

3

Políticas educativas en primeros niveles formativos focalizadas a la atracción de la inmigración: familia, conciliación.

BUENAS PRÁCTICAS: BASADAS EN EVIDENCIA



Sería aconsejable basarse en evidencias existentes, en prototipos experimentales desarrollados en otros países con resultados positivos, ejemplo de ello:

Escocia con la "Highlands and Islands Enterprise"

Agencia independiente y con financiación estable fuera del ciclo político se encarga de implementar políticas territoriales en diversos ámbitos bajo de una estrategia "desde abajo" (McCullough, 2018)



Bibliografía



Settle-Poster

International Conference "Population imbalances in Europe"

Open innovation, supply chain management and regional spillovers

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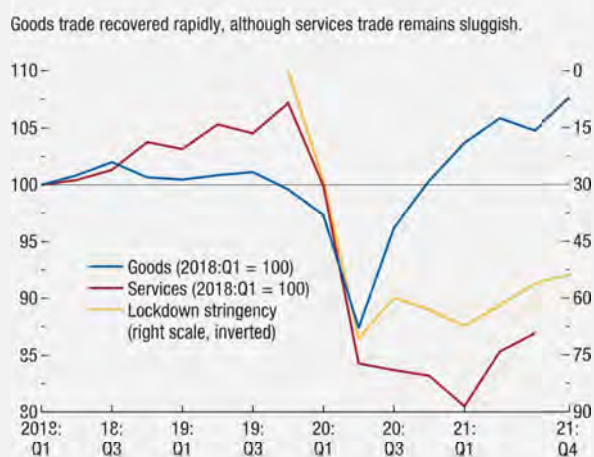
Objective

The objective of this paper is to analyze the virtuous relationship between open innovation and supply chain management, unveiling how stringent lockdowns during the pandemic bolstered international spillovers in advanced economies as well as in emerging markets and developing economies. The paper also attempts to explain the disruption in supply chains and the shocks in regional trade patterns unbridled by the pandemic.

What is Open Innovation?

Chesbrough (2006) defined open innovation, as "the use of purposive inflows and outflows of knowledge to accelerate internal innovation and expand the markets for external use of innovation".

Global Import Volume and Lockdown Stringency (Index)



Sources: CPB World Trade Monitor; Hale and others (2021); and IMF staff calculations.
Note: The lockdown stringency index is the world import-weighted average of the Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Stringency Index.

- Due to the pandemic, it was expected a sharp downfall in international trade. However, commerce has been more resilient and recovering at a faster rate than during the international financial crisis of 2007.
- The decline for services in 2020 (mainly tourism) was dramatic and is recovering more slowly than trade in goods, due to containment and lockdown measures.
- Open innovation encourages firms in the supply chain to adapt existing technology which might not be necessarily "cutting edge" technology, but it is new for the firm or sector in which is being adapted.
- Open Innovation also favors a decentralized approach of developments to create new opportunities for R&D activities, which can eventually lead to develop new products or services or new processes.

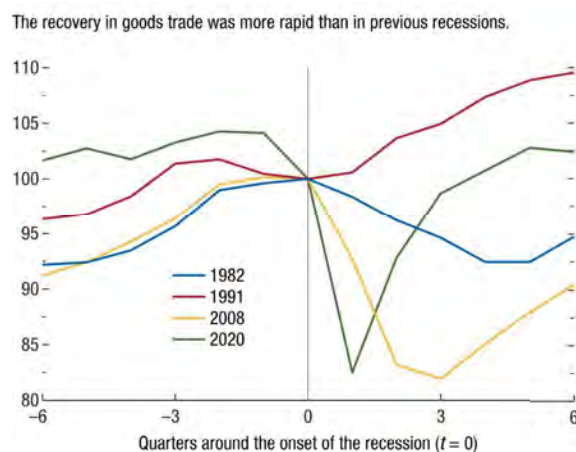
Methodology

Analysis of regional and international statistical sources, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, regional reports and related papers on global trade patterns and supply chains disruptions.

What is Supply Chain Management?

Mentzer et al (2001) defined supply chain management as "the systemic, strategic coordination of the traditional business functions and the tactics across these business functions within a particular company and across businesses within the supply chain, for the purposes of improving the long-term performance of the individual companies and the supply chain as a whole."

Trade patterns around global recessions: Goods and services imports volume (index)



Sources: Kose, Sugawara, and Terrones (2020); and IMF staff calculations.
Note: The goods and services import volume index is normalized to 100 at the onset of the recession (t = 0).

- Goods imports increased in 2020, even in countries with strict lockdowns.
- Lockdowns had significant spillovers. Countries with trade partners that implemented severe lockdowns experienced larger declines in imports of goods. The impacts were larger in industries that heavily hinge on global value chains, and participate downstream in the production process (IMF, 2022).
- Supply chain management is an established function of how a firm along the supply chain or the global value chain is handling the entire production flow of a good or service –from the raw materials and components to delivering the final product to the consumer.
- Supply chain management and open innovation work in tandem. While open innovation may be disruptive and lead to "creative destruction" activities of product and process innovation, supply chain management complements supply chains by creating a business-to-business platform.

Conclusions

- Open innovation keeps regional trade and global supply chains on the move by making supply chain management more efficient and by improving the overall performance of the global value chain.
- Building supply chain resilience through diversification of inputs across countries and greater substitutability of inputs are key to mitigate supply disruptions related to trade logistics.

- The pandemic has shown that infrastructure investments (physical and digital) are critical to facilitate global shipping routes, teleworking, and distance learning.
- Upgrading and modernizing strategic infrastructure may spawn further pecuniary externalities and technological spillovers that can help alleviate one of the well-known causes of depopulation.

References

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