20th APDR Congress

University of Évora (Portugal), 10-11 July 2014

Renaissance of the Regions of Southern Europe

"Smart Specialisation in Southern Europe"

The S3 Platform will organise a special session on Smart Specialisation in Southern Europe at the 2014 Annual Congress of the Portuguese Association for Regional Development (APDR), the Portuguese section of the European Regional Science Association.

Abstracts should be submitted through the conference website by **30th March**. Informal enquiries to the session organisers in advance of submission are welcome.

Description

Smart Specialisation is a new policy concept which promotes a prioritisation of public support to place-based development through the strategic use of research and innovation. It has been adopted as a central pillar of the new EU Cohesion Policy from 2014-2020 and all Member States are required to submit national and/or regional Smart Specialisation Strategies (S3) as an ex-ante conditionality for spending European Structural and Investment Funds on R&I. This session will allow for a comparative analysis of how the approach is being interpreted and implemented in the South of Europe.

Scope

Papers may cover different aspects of smart specialisation but should have a conceptual or empirical focus on Southern Europe.

Objectives

The main objectives of the session are to:

- Provide useful insights into the challenges, opportunities and specificities of the next generation of regional policies in Southern Europe
- Explore the contribution of Southern Europe to the objectives of the Europe 2020 strategy in the context of current socio-economic challenges
- Promote the debate about relevant and spatially sensitive analytic and policy tools looking at the specificities of Southern Europe

Session organisers

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