

Innovative Entrepreneurship in Cities and Regions: Knowledge Connectivity and Incumbent Appropriation Strategies

Principal investigator

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Research proposal (summary)

Innovative entrepreneurship introduces new products, processes, or business models that form the basis of the development of new markets and long-term prosperity of countries and regions. Incumbent (multinational) firms may however leverage their hold on global intangible assets and appropriation strategies to fence off the competitive threat of new innovative entrants. Innovative entrepreneurship is particularly salient in metropolitan areas with strong international knowledge connections ('global cities'). We examine the influence of knowledge connectivity, ownership concentration in R&D, and appropriation strategies of incumbent firms in facilitating or hampering innovative entrepreneurial entry, growth of innovative entrants, and economic growth and resilience in (metropolitan) regions. To this end, we construct and analyse a comprehensive database on corporate innovative entry and growth in European regions and industries at a fine-grained (NUTS-3 and NACE-4) level. The proposed project brings new insights on innovation, entrepreneurship and growth that are of major economic and policy importance. It builds novel bridges between regional economics, entrepreneurship studies, and business research, and constructs rich new data on innovation and entrepreneurship in European regions, while earlier work has focused on US cities.

Keywords

Innovative entrepreneurship, connectivity, appropriation, regional development, firm growth, R&D, Innovation

Priority Areas

人文与社会科学领域 / Humanities and Social Sciences

全球变化与区域响应 / Global Change and Regional Response

Institutional collaboration

The PhD candidate will be placed in UNU-MERIT. Collaboration will be sought with KU Leuven, through which the PI can make firm, patent and trademark data available. A double PhD degree Maastricht University and KU Leuven is an option.

Requirements

- Highly motivated student with good English communication skills, both written and oral.
- MSc in economics, econometrics, or business/management.

- Strong quantitative/econometric skills and programming experience handling large datasets (e.g. Stata, Python, SQL, R).

Key references

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Signatures

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