



- ***SB. Smart, sustainable, resilient regions in time of multiple and overlapping crises***

Description: The Covid-19 crisis has led to unprecedented disruptions to the health systems, the economy and the society and has revealed the systemic fragility of our world. More recently, the war in Ukraine has been seen as a return of tragedy, causing a massive humanitarian crisis and threatening the world's recovery. The effects of geopolitical tensions propagated worldwide and countries all over the globe face further disruptions due to rising food and energy prices, inflationary pressures, disrupted supply chains, financial turbulence etc. There are serious concerns that the climate change plans and ambitions will be slowed or even abandoned in some parts of the planet. In relation to this background, there is an evident need to reflect on the spatial dimension of simultaneous transformations towards smart, sustainable and resilient regions and the significance for regional development policy and practice. Based on a starting point that acknowledges the diversity of regional challenges and the role played by the contextual factors, this special session addresses, but is not restricted to, the following questions: How do the multiple crises impact on the regional development agendas? How do smartness, sustainability and resilience relate to each other in time of crises? What are the synergies and the trade-offs that should be further addressed? Submissions covering conceptual, empirical and methodological contributions to the topic are welcome.

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