

Linking Cohesion Policy and Citizens' Identification with the EU in Regions Between Opportunism and Euroscepticism in the Netherlands

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Publication date
2018

Document Version
Final published version

Published in
Annual Conference Regional Studies Association 2018

Citation (APA)

Fernandez Maldonado, A. M., Spaans, M., Dabrowski, M., & Rocco, R. (2018). Linking Cohesion Policy and Citizens' Identification with the EU in Regions: Between Opportunism and Euroscepticism in the Netherlands. In *Annual Conference Regional Studies Association 2018: A Leading and Impactful Community*

Important note

To cite this publication, please use the final published version (if applicable). Please check the document version above.

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of the forms of contemporary urban while contributing to the debate on a new urban theory in order to feed a new urban agenda.

Linking Cohesion Policy and Citizens' Identification with the EU in Regions: Between Opportunism and Euroscepticism in the Netherlands

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Cohesion Policy being the EU's policy, bringing investment funds to European regions, has arguably the most tangible impacts on the citizens' environment and livelihoods. One could thus expect that it has a significant positive impact on the ways in which citizens perceive the EU. But does it? How does the regional context affect this linkage between the use of European funding for regional development and the identification with the EU? This paper brings an element of response to this question through study of two Dutch regions -Flevoland and Limburg - conducted as part of the Horizon 2020 COHESIFY project (Grant Agreement no 693427). The first used to be a substantial receiver of Structural Funds, but today finds itself marginalised in the stream of EU funding, while the latter is at the heart of a cross-border area with deeply embedded cooperation long-supported by Cohesion Policy. Although citizens in both regions show attachment to the EU, the perception of how the EU works tends to be negative. To what extent are those views related to the ways in which EU Cohesion Policy has been implemented in those regions? Drawing on interviews with the key policy stakeholders, surveys and focus groups with citizens, the paper explores this question and sheds light on the capacity of Cohesion Policy to mobilise positive European identification from the perspective of a country that is a net contributor to EU budget.

Investment to Human Capital in Czech Regions in the Context of Industry 4.0: Overview and Preparedness to New Challenges

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Czech Republic is historically very industry oriented country. Czech industry currently creates almost one third of GDP. Therefore, the upcoming fourth industrial revolution will affect the large part of the population and will have an essential impact on the demanded qualification and the labor market in general. These impacts will lead to changes in the role of employees and changes in workload of many professions. The Industry 4.0 as well as all previous technological changes will have an impact on employment and unemployment and will lead to the disappearance of certain professions / industries and vice versa. New automation and optimization processes will push out simpler and repetitive activities which will result in the release of less qualified workforce. All these changes requires a new set up of labor market and education policies. But, is the Czech Republic well prepared for these challenges? Differences between regions in the Czech Republic are significant therefore the individual approach in many regions must be implemented. This paper presents a brief overview of what new labor market and educational policies in which regions have been so far implemented and what investments to human capital have been made or are planned to be made in a near future.

Acknowledgements: This work was funded by the Internal Grant Agency of the University of Economics, Prague under the title 'Trends and context of human resources development in Czech