



## **Dynamics of Regional Growth in Europe: Social and Political Factors**

**by Andrés Rodríguez-Pose | Oxford University Press | ISBN: 9780198233831 | Oxford Geographical and Environmental Studies Series**

*Dynamics of Regional Growth in Europe: Social and Political Factors* by Andrés Rodríguez-Pose is a book offering a comprehensive and analytically rich exploration of the enduring spatial disparities in regional development across Europe. Andrés Rodríguez-Pose is a Professor at the London School of Economics and a reputable academic in Economic Geography. Published by Oxford University Press, as part of the distinguished Oxford Geographical and Environmental Studies Series, this book provides insights into the puzzling question in the field of economic geography regarding why regional inequalities persist despite the structural transformations and integrative forces of globalization, technological change, and capital mobility.

In this book, Rodríguez-Pose presents a multidisciplinary framework that integrates social, political, and institutional dimensions into the analysis of regional growth and development. The book begins by discussing the processes of socioeconomic restructuring and their spatial consequences. It then provides a thorough examination of regional growth patterns, exploring how social conditions, labor market characteristics, education systems, political dynamics, and institutional structures influence the economic dynamics of European regions.

Drawing on comprehensive Eurostat data at the NUTS 2 level, Rodríguez-Pose systematically examines patterns of growth and stagnation across a diverse set of European regions. Tassilo Herrschel (the *Geographical Journal*) acknowledges added value of the book, first, on the author's comparative approach allowing for the identification of underlying factors explaining persistent divergence between core and peripheral areas and, secondly, on the challenges posed against superficial visions of a "Europe of the regions" whether overlooking the importance of national frameworks in conditioning regional development outcomes.

Each chapter builds a layered and empirically grounded narrative and is structured as follows:

Preface

1: Introduction: The Process of Socio-economic Restructuring and Its Spatial Consequences

2: Introducing Social and Political Factors in the Study of Growth

3: Regions, Nations, and Growth

4: Regional Growth Patterns

5: Social Conditions and Regional Growth in Western Europe

6: Labour Market, Education, and Growth

7: Politics, Institutions, and Growth

8: Regional Politics and Growth in the European Context

Conclusion

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The book of Rodríguez-Pose, *Dynamics of Regional Growth in Europe: Social and Political Factors*, is particularly valuable for scholars, graduate students, and practitioners in economic geography, regional science, European studies, and political

economy. It also holds practical relevance for policymakers engaged in the EU context. Further information and purchase options are available at:

<https://global.oup.com/academic/product/dynamics-of-regional-growth-in-europe-9780198233831>

#### References

- <https://global.oup.com/academic/product/dynamics-of-regional-growth-in-europe-9780198233831?cc=gr&lang=en&>
- <https://www.lse.ac.uk/geography-and-environment/people/academic-staff/andres-rodriquez-pose>

**Book Review by Dimitrios Tsiotas,  
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