Smart specialization strategies – insights gained from a unique European policy experiment

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Institute of Geography
Hallerstrasse 12, Room 001

The lecture aims to develop a coherent vision and detailed methodology of the policy approach that is evoked by the term «smart specialization strategy» (S3) and to explore and elaborate the requirements and implications in terms of design and implementation that are consistent with that policy concept. The lecture will start with a short history of S3. It will introduce S3 both as a *geographical concept* allowing regions to address a dual problem – that of differentiation and concentration of their innovation capacities - and as a *policy design concept* that combines a planning logic and an entrepreneurial discovery logic. The future of S3 as part of a new generation of industrial policy will be addressed as well.