

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

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**Institute of Geography
Hallerstrasse 12, Room 001**

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Unit Economic Geography

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.