

15th Summer Conference in Regional Science
of the German Speaking Section of the European Regional Science Association
organized in cooperation with the Niederrhein Institute for Regional and Structural Research (NIERS)

“Entrepreneurship and Regional Development in Times of Transformations”

26-27 June 2025

Future Work Lab, Niederrhein University of Applied Sciences, Krefeld

Call for Submissions

Regional development and transformation processes often proceed hand in hand. These change processes are characterized by structural changes in civil society, political landscapes, and regional economy. Structurally weak and peripheral regions, in particular, find these changes a major challenge, as they often suffer from multiple crises. They must develop new and future-oriented strategies to compete with economically more vital and often metropolitan regions. Entrepreneurship can play a central role here, as entrepreneurs and especially young start-ups often have innovative ideas and growth ambitions that can positively impact a region’s economic dynamism and revitalization. To exploit the potential of entrepreneurship, it is important to understand how it contributes to regional development and transformation processes and how support policies need to be designed to result in a sustainable improvement of the well-being of regions.

Therefore, this year’s GfR Summer Conference focuses on taking a closer look at the role and potentials of entrepreneurship in regional development. We welcome contributions on the following topics with an entrepreneurial and/or regional focus:

- (Social) Entrepreneurship and innovation
- Promises and reality of Entrepreneurship
- Regional (economic) transformation and development
- Regional innovation policies and financial aspects
- Technological change and digitalization
- Labor market impact, skill transformation and demographic aspects
- Firm and individual behavior

Moreover, theoretical, empirical and policy-oriented contributions focusing on other topics related to regional science are highly welcome as well. The submission requires an extended abstract.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Future Work Lab at the Niederrhein University of Applied Sciences!

Keynote speakers:

Alexandra David (Institute for Work & Technology, Gelsenkirchen)

Alina Sorgner (John Cabot University, Rome)

Scientific committee: Udo Brixy, Stephan Brunow, Christian Hundt, Angelika Krehl, Jan Cornelius Peters, Sue Rossano-Rivero, Ebru Sarikaya, Michael Wyrwich

Local organisation (NIERS): Angelika Krehl, Ebru Sarikaya, Christiane Trappmann

Conference Language: English

Location: Future Work Lab of the Niederrhein University of Applied Sciences
Petersstraße 120
47798 Krefeld

Fee (incl. conference dinner): 70 €

Extended abstract submission deadline: Please submit your extended abstract (1000-2000 words) by February 28th, 2025 at: <https://gfr.ersa.org/>

We assume that by submitting your paper and personal data, you agree that this information will be used exclusively for purposes of conference planning. The data and your paper will be passed to the scientific committee for the review process. After the conference, the data will be deleted.

Notification of acceptance: April 15th, 2025