

ACADEMIC PUBLISHING

** SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS (etc.)*

Globelics Academy

University of Tampere, 21 August 2019

Päivi Oinas

Research Director,

Dept of Geography, University of Turku, Finland

[Own experiences]

Regional Studies

Editor 2008-2013+

Book Review Editor 2007-2013

Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society

Guest Editor 2016-2018

etc.

A few edited volumes

Co-editor/Editor, in progress

Springer Economic Geography book series, Advisory Editor, ongoing



Choosing a journal

- **Typical choice**: The journals you have been reading while conducting your research, and you likely refer to articles published in it.
- But: appropriate level of **ambition**?
- Who reads the journal?
- Match between the **aims of the journal** and **your research**?

e.g.:

What kind of research does the journal want to publish?



Taylor & Francis Online

Access provided by **Turku University**



Journal

Regional Studies >

Enter keywords

Submit an article

Journal homepage



Get content alerts



RSS

Subscribe



Citation



Current issue



Browse list of issues

This journal

> Aims and scope

Aims and scope

Regional Studies is a leading international journal covering the development of

Does my research match the aims of the journal?



- *Regional Studies* is a leading international journal covering the development of theories and concepts, empirical analysis and policy debate in the field of regional studies.
- The journal publishes original research spanning the economic, social, political and environmental dimensions of urban and regional (subnational) change.
- The distinctive purpose of *Regional Studies* is to connect insights across intellectual disciplines in a systematic and grounded way to understand how and why regions and cities evolve. It publishes research that distils how economic and political processes and outcomes are contingent upon regional and local circumstances.
- The journal is a pluralist forum, which showcases diverse perspectives and analytical techniques.

... match the aims of the journal?



"[...] Essential criteria for papers to be accepted for Regional Studies are that they

- make a substantive contribution to scholarly debates,
 - are sub-national in focus,
 - conceptually well-informed,
 - empirically grounded and
 - methodologically sound.
- Submissions are also expected to engage with wider debates that advance the field of regional studies and are of interest to readers of the journal."

... match the aims of the journal?



"[...] Essential criteria for Regional Studies are that

- make a substantial contribution
- are sub-national in focus
- conceptually well-grounded
- empirically grounded
- methodologically sound.

- Submissions are also expected to engage with wider debates that advance the field of regional studies and are of interest to readers of the journal."

If you're venturing into something novel that you think is important to the readership of the journal, you have to argue your case convincingly.

What has the Journal published recently?
Does my paper add novelty?

Journal news
Metropolises and Peripheries of CEE Countries: New Challenges for EU, National and Regional Policies | Pushing Regions beyond their Borders
Urban and Regional Horizons

Latest articles

Article Post-conflict area-based regeneration policy in deprived urban neighbourhoods >	Article Spatial influences on domains of life satisfaction in the UK >	Article Geography as strategy: the changing geography of corporate headquarters in post-industrial >	Article Unbounding gentrification theory: multidimensional space, networks and relational approaches >
--	---	---	---

Regional Studies: Vol 51, N... x +

www.tandfonline.com/toc/cres20/current

Most Visited T... mail

Pages: 973-976
Published online: 25 Feb 2017
Full Text | References | PDF (156 KB)

What are its most influential papers like?

Explore

Most read articles

Most cited articles

6 Open access articles

Multimed

Article
Proximity and Innovation: A Critical Assessment >

Boschma
Published online: 18 Aug 2010
Views: 9325

Article
The Happiness of Cities >

Florida et al.
Published online: 25 Mar 2013
Views: 8547

Article
The 21st Century Metropolitan Geographical Theory

Roy
Published online: 25 Mar 2013
Views: 6760

Browse journals by subject

Journals may have designated sections



Main Section

- Original research articles.

Special Issues

- Around key themes, established and emerging researchers.
- Invitation by Guest Editor; cfp; conference sessions; workshops

e.g., *Regional Studies* Special section: "*Urban and Regional Horizons*"

- Agenda-setting work that stimulates new thinking and novel approaches to addressing the big intellectual questions, issues and challenges in regional studies.
- Often but not always commissioned (=the editor invites authors).
 - Interested? Contact the respective Editor.

... Sections



e.g., Regional Studies Special section: *"Policy Debates"*

- Forum for analysis and debate about important policy issues of international relevance in urban and regional development.
- Often commissioned.
 - Interested? Contact the respective Editor.

Book Reviews

- Analysis and commentary on key recent books in regional studies.
- Often commissioned (various practices in different journals).
 - Interested? Contact the respective Editor.



May 22, 03:30 – 18:30 GMT: Your Account features, search, payment options and informational pages on Taylor & Francis Online v for view or download, where access rights already apply



Journal

Regional Studies >

Submit a

Journal impact & ranking? Good to be aware of – and think of the level of ambition of your own research – but not the only criterion.

This journal

- > Aims and scope
- > Instructions for authors
- > Society information
- > Journal information
- > Editorial board
- > News & offers
- > Subscribe

2015 Impact Factor: 1.987

Ranking: 34/104 (Environmental Studies) 18/77 (Geography) 54/344 (Econo

2015 5-Year Impact Factor: 2.411

© 2016 Thomson Reuters, 2015 Journal Citation Reports®

Regional Studies is a leading international journal covering the development of theories and analysis and policy debate in the field of regional studies. The journal publishes original resea

Editorial board

Editor in Chief

Professor David Bailey - Professor of International Business School, University of Birmingham

Deputy Editor in Chief

Professor Jennifer Clark - Professor of City and Regional University, USA

Editors

Dr Alessandra Colombelli - Associate Professor, Department of Management and Production Engineering (DI GEP) and Entrepreneurship and Innovation Centre (EIC), Polytechnic of Turin, Italy

Professor Ben Derudder - Professor of Urban Geography, Ghent University, Belgium

Professor Ugo Fratesi - Professor of Regional Economics and Policy, Department of Architecture, Built Environment and Construction Engineering, Politecnico di Milano,

Who are "doing" the Journal – who are the people who are going to make decisions about your work?

Affiliations; disciplinary backgrounds (international but ...)

Editorial board



- Editor in Chief Professor David Bailey - Professor of Business Economics, Birmingham Business School, University of Birmingham, UK
- Deputy Editor in Chief Professor Jennifer Clark - Professor of City and Regional Planning, The Ohio State University, USA
- Editors
- Dr Alessandra Colombelli - Associate Professor, Department of Management and Production Engineering (DI GEP) and Entrepreneurship and Innovation Centre (EIC), Polytechnic of Turin, Italy
- Professor Ben Derudder - Professor of Urban Geography, Ghent University, Belgium
- Professor Ugo Fratesi - Professor of Regional Economics and Policy, Department of Architecture, Built Environment and Construction Engineering, Politecnico di Milano, Milano, Italy
- Professor Michael Fritsch - Professor of Economics, Friedrich Schiller University Jena

A. Editors, who run the Journal, assisted by the Editorial Office

- Dr Tom Kemeny - Senior Lecturer in Economic Development, Queen Mary, University of London, UK
- Dr Dieter Kogler - Lecturer in Economic Geography, University College Dublin, Ireland
- Professor Arnoud Lagendijk - Professor of Economic Geography, Radboud University Nijmegen, The Netherlands
- Professor Raquel Ortega-Argilés - Chair Regional Economic Development, Birmingham Business School, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK
- Professor Stefano Usai - Director, Centre for North South Economic Research (CRENoS), University of Cagliari, Italy
- Early Career Editor Dr Carlo Corradini - Senior Lecturer in Regional Economics, University of Birmingham, UK

... Editors.



Executive + editorial office

Urban and Regional Horizons Editor

- Dr John Harrison - Senior Lecturer in Human Geography, Department of Geography, Loughborough University, UK

Book Review Editor

- Professor Ugo Fratesi - Professor of Regional Economics and Policy, Department of Architecture, Built Environment and Construction Engineering, Politecnico di Milano, Milano, Italy

Policy Debates Editor

- Lisa De Propriis - Professor of Regional Economic Development, Birmingham Business School, University of Birmingham, UK

Executive Editor

- Dr Madeleine Hatfield - Yellowback, London, UK

Editorial Office

- Dr Sarah Hands - Taylor & Francis, Abingdon, UK; PA Editorial, VEO, UK

Copy Editor

- Dr Cristiano Ratti - Gidea Park, Essex, UK

- **An example – varying arrangements across journals**

Editorial board



B. International Editorial Advisory Board, support, signaling effect (may review?)

Professor David B. Audretsch -
Institute for Development Strategies,
Indiana University, USA

Professor Gordon Clark - School of
Geography, University of Oxford, UK

Professor Richard L. Florida - H.
John Heinz III School of Public Policy and
Management, Carnegie Mellon University,
Pittsburgh, USA

Professor Ian Gordon - Department
of Geography and Environment, London
School of Economics, UK

Professor Gernot Grabher - Urban
and Regional Economic Studies, HCU
Hamburg, Germany

Professor Anne Green - Birmingham
Business School, University of Birmingham,
UK

Dr Ronald Hall - DG for Regional

Policy, European Commission, Belgium

Professor Michael Keating -
Department of Politics and International
Relations, University of Aberdeen, UK

Professor E. J. Malecki - Department
of Geography, Ohio State University, USA

Professor Philip McCann -
University of Groningen, The Netherlands

Professor Peter Nijkamp -
Department of Regional Economics, Vrije
University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Professor Sam Ock Park -
Department of Geography, Seoul National
University, Korea

Professor Jamie Peck - Department of
Geography, University of British Columbia,
Canada

Professor Allen Scott - School of
Public Policy and Social Research,

University of California at Los Angeles,
USA

Professor Frank Stilwell -
Department of Political Economy,
University of Sydney, Australia

Professor Kim Swales - Department
of Economics, University of Strathclyde,
UK

Professor Michaela Trippel -
Department of Geography and Regional
Research, University of Vienna, Italy

Professor Roger Vickerman -
Department of Economics, University of
Kent at Canterbury, UK

Professor Neil Wrigley - Department
of Geography, University of Southampton,
UK

The image is a screenshot of a web browser displaying the Taylor & Francis website for the journal 'Regional Studies'. The browser's address bar shows the URL: <https://www.tandfonline.com/action/authorSubmission?show=instruction>. The website header includes 'Regional Studies >' and a navigation bar with buttons for 'Submit an article', 'Journal homepage', 'RSS', 'Subscribe', and 'Citation search'. Below the navigation bar, there are links for 'Current issue' and 'Browse list of issues'. A large yellow circle with the text 'Read carefully before submitting!' and a yellow arrow pointing downwards is overlaid on the page. To the right of the arrow is a yellow circle containing a blue exclamation mark. The main content area has the heading 'Instructions for authors' and a paragraph of text.

Read carefully before submitting!

Instructions for authors

Thank you for choosing to submit your paper to us. These instructions will ensure we have everything required so your paper can move through peer review, production and publication smoothly. Please take the time to read and follow them as closely as possible, as doing so will ensure your paper matches the journal's requirements. For general guidance on the publication process at Taylor & Francis please visit our [Author Services website](#).

Instructions for authors

Thank you for choosing to submit your paper to us. These instructions will ensure we have everything required so your paper can move through peer review, production and publication smoothly. Please take the time to read and follow them as closely as possible, as doing so will ensure your paper matches the journal's requirements. For general guidance on the publication process at Taylor & Francis, visit our Author Services website.

AUTHORSERVICES
Supporting Taylor & Francis authors

SCHOLARONE MANUSCRIPTS™



Follow
instructions for
submitting at
the Manuscript
Central.

Reserve time for the submission

Welcome to the submission site for

Regional Studies

To begin, log in with your user ID and password.

If you are unsure about whether or not you have an account, or have forgotten your password, go to the [Reset Password](#) screen.

The image shows the cover of the journal 'Regional Studies'. It features a red background with a white world map. The title 'Regional Studies' is at the top in white. There is a small logo in the top right corner and a Routledge logo at the bottom left.

Log In

User ID [Create an Account](#)

Password [Reset Password](#)

Open access?

<https://www.tandfonline.com/action/authorSubmission?journalCode=cres20&page=instructions#oa>



- “This journal gives authors the option to publish open access via our Open Select publishing program, making it free to access online immediately on publication.”
- Many funders of research mandate publishing your research as open access
- Taylor & Francis Open Select gives you, your institution or funder the option of paying an article publishing charge (APC) to make an article open access.”



Journal

Regional Studies >

This journal

- > Aims and scope
- > Instructions for authors
- > Society information
- > Journal information

Journal information

Print ISSN: 0034-3404 Online ISSN: 1360-0591

12 issues per year



How do the
issues get
filled,

... i.e., what
happens after
you submit
your MS to a
journal?

The Peer Review Process

- Anonymous (“double blind”) review mostly in use.

Submission:

- Submitted manuscripts are checked by the journal office that basic conventions of double blind peer review have been followed (i.e. no identifying information included in the submission, all relevant files have been uploaded).
 - i.e. self-referencing should not happen (violates the principle of anonymity); eliminated by the Editorial Office/Editors.
- Routine check-up using specialist software for what is called ‘unattributed copy’ – that the work has not been published elsewhere and that the author is the originator of the text (= to avoid plagiarism).

The basics are pretty similar across journals

But how the editorial work is organised amongst the editors may vary quite a bit.

... Peer Review

→ MS's are then assigned to and screened by an expert
overseeing Editor:

Desk Review based on:

- Thematic **scope** of the Journal;
- **Quality** of the paper.

... Peer Review

Desk Review by the overseeing Editor: “desk rejection” or on to the review process?

Some papers are not sent for external review; an Editor may decide on immediate rejection. Common reasons:

- **Scope:** Wrong paper for the journal – its topic has no obvious link with the focus of the journal.
- **Failure to research the journal before submitting the paper:** Too long or short paper; paper not appropriately framed within a relevant debate, etc.
- **Quality:** not sufficiently developed conceptually or empirically, or in terms of clarity (i.e. poor English, insufficient argumentative clarity) to merit further consideration.

Contribution!

... Peer Review

... Overseeing Editor – selection of Reviewers

- If the Editor finds that the MS is of sufficient quality s/he will then identify a number of potential reviewers for the paper and invite some of them to write a review.
- Editors develop their own habits of how to do this.
 - Can you influence the choice of reviewers – ? No. Maybe?
- Securing a sufficient number of reviewers can be time-consuming.

... Peer Review

→ Reviewers

- Potential Reviewers are busy academics, they are approached by a number of Journal Editors. *Your manuscript will hardly be reviewed by the most well known scholars.*
- Reviewers will be sent the title & abstract of the paper when invited to review it, but not the full paper. This helps them determine if this is a paper they might be willing and able to review. → A carefully written abstract is important at the submission stage. Often written last but don't do it fast.

... Peer Review

... Reviewers

- Reviewers are volunteers. Conducting reviews of peers' research is a cornerstone of academic work. All parties depend on it at all stages of academic life.
- Review quality varies ... but typically reviews for good journals are quite detailed and comprehensive. Agreeing to undertake a review is a commitment.
- When (if) a Reviewer agrees to evaluate the paper s/he is typically given *one month* to complete the review. But Reviewers do not always meet the time commitment. Sometimes they fail to deliver.

... Peer Review

The decision

- A minimum of 2 but often 3 reviews are required before the Editor makes a decision on a paper. Sometimes (e.g., in the case of poor or contrasting reviews) additional reviewers are invited.
- Where the Editor, supported by the reviewers' recommendations, decides the paper has the potential to be developed into a publishable paper they will ask the author to complete **Major** or **Minor Revisions** based on the reviewers and their own editorial comments and resubmit the paper within a given time period (e.g., 6 months for Major Revisions).

... Peer Review

Manuscripts change in the review process:

- In my experience, most papers eventually published in Regional Studies initially received a decision of Major Revisions.
 - = The MSs may change considerably during the review process.
- In a letter to the Editor, the author/s of a resubmission respond to each comment and question by the Reviewers and the Editor and explain how s/he/they have revised the MS – *or why not*. (I.e., you can disagree with the Reviews and/or Editorial comments if you are sure they are mistaken and can convincingly, but politely, argue your case.)

... Peer Review

“R&R”: A Reject & Resubmit decision (not common)

- A MS is not acceptable but the Editor may find that the ideas in the paper could be worked up.
 - = The paper is rejected as it stands but the author is given the opportunity to consider the reviewers' and the Editor's comments and submit a new MS.
- Authors may misinterpret this decision as meaning they should submit a revised version of the paper (cf “Major Revision”) but without genuine re-thinking & re-writing, the MS will probably be rejected.

What's your chance ... ?

SOME JOURNALS PUBLISH THEIR REJECTION RATES, SOME DON'T. Some ideas:

- In RS, less than a third of original submissions were given an option to make Major or Minor Revisions and resubmit their paper.
- Major Revisions may be subsequently rejected if the resubmission fails to convince reviewers or editors that initial weaknesses have been adequately addressed.
- Several revision rounds are not unusual.

... your chances ... ?

- In major journals, rejection rates are high.
- Do not submit half-baked manuscripts: "Let's see what reviewers say."
- Have your paper read and commented on by peers or more experienced academics around you.

Patience needed

- Typically, with the volume of papers received and the time taken to solicit two, three or even more reviews, a submission will take 90-100 days for a decision to be made. (Significantly longer where additional reviews are sought.)

Special Issues

- Contributions around key themes addressed in Journals.
 - Interested in being a Guest Editor? Get in touch with the Journal Office or Special Issues Editor and explain your idea. You will be given instructions to submit a Special Issue Proposal.
- 10+ manuscripts per proposal recommended;
some/many/ even the whole issue may fail.
- If the proposal is accepted, Guest Editors ensure papers are submitted together and on time, that the papers are of sufficient quality before submission, that revisions have adequately addressed the referees reports etc.

... Special Issues



- All manuscripts go through full peer-review process.
- The Special Issue policies of Journals vary. In the case of Regional Studies, the peer-review process is overseen entirely by the Editors of the journal. The Editors will discuss the reviews and decisions on papers with the Guest Editors, but the final decision on any paper rests with the Journal Editors. = Not “easy publications” / RS.
- Guest Editors write the Introduction to the SI.
- SI's may contain 4-8 articles (also “Mini Issues” with 3 articles).
- Failures are not exceptional.

**WHAT DOES IT
TAKE TO WRITE A
PUBLISHABLE
PAPER?**

- let's think

What is a good title like?

What is a good abstract
like?

What do I write in an
introduction?

What is a good structure
of a paper?

What should I write in a
discussion section?

How should I conclude?

* For the future? – Serving the academic community as Guest Editor

- One-time commitment – but the process can take 2+ yrs
- Own initiative: Instructions often at journals' websites → how to propose a Special Issue
- Many (most?) journals publish Special Issues
- But e.g. Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society publishes only Special Issues:

“The Journal adopts a focused thematic format. Each issue is devoted to a particular theme selected by the international editorial team.” (<https://academic.oup.com/cjres/pages/About>)

* For the future? – Serving the academic community as Editor

- By invitation
- Commitment for a fixed number of years (often 3-5)
- Highly recommended = very interesting
- Very time-consuming
- Hard to turn down if invited but think seriously of what else is going to be on your plate when you commit for a lengthy period.

Sometimes Academic Associations behind journals

- serving members in various ways



but also involved in some decisions related to their
Journal(s), e.g. choosing Editorial Teams

Regional Studies Association

OUR PURPOSE

To support members with the latest research, funding schemes, networking opportunities and spaces to grow their research, careers and influence.



Welcome to the global and interdisciplinary forum for city and regional research, development and policy

www.regionalstudies.org

2020 RSA Annual Conference, Ljubljana

Transformations:
Relational Spaces, beyond Urban and Rural

RSA Regional Studies
Association
A leading & impactful community

SEB

17 - 20 June 2020

Regional
Studies
Association

The Regional Studies Blog

Share your
research/insights with the
global RSA community

RSA Research Funding &
Excellence Awards

2019 Student and Early Career Conference

Designing Research for Impact: Shaping and
Influencing Regional Policy

October – 1 November 2019, Lincoln, United Kingdom

UNIVERSITY OF
LINCOLN

Regional
Studies
Association

Other types of publication

Edited volumes:
(co-)editing
yourself; writing a
chapter

- Pros & cons?

Your thesis
published as a book

- Pros & cons?