



ABSTRACT WORKING PAPER 3.15

ARE GEOGRAPHICAL MOVEMENTS OF INVENTORS AND THE FORMATION OF RESEARCH NETWORKS A PHENOMENON BOUNDED IN THE SPACE?

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The aim of this paper is to analyse the existence of regional variations in the returns to labour mobility and networking. In such a case, we could conclude that development policies based on stimulating these mechanisms of knowledge diffusion could differ in their effectiveness according to local conditions. We have initially introduced a cross-effect of the corresponding focal variable, both labour mobility and the different proxies for research networks, with a dummy for each region. This way we are able to compute a specific elasticity for each regional economy in Europe. However, with the idea of providing more general patterns of heterogeneity in the returns to labour mobility and networks, we give a step forward and obtain different elasticities according to a set of typologies of the European regions.