



ABSTRACT WORKING PAPER 5.23

A Foursquare Quality of Life Agenda: Governing European Neighbourhood Policy, Open Method of “Neighbourhoods” Coordination, Smart “Cross-Continental Regions” Specialisation, and an “Adaptive Synchronous” European Strategic Energy Technology Plan

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Abstract

In this paper, we re-construct the sphere of European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) with respect to the empirical evidence collected from Web of Science and systematically meta-analysed. This analysis provides us the dynamics of the ENP knowledge asset in terms of stock and flow in temporal, spatial (geographical), organisational and contextual dimensions. The same meta-analysis is applied to Quality of Local Governance (QoLG) and dynamics of the re-constructed sphere of Quality of Local Governance is analysed, with cross-comparison to the ENP sphere. The main result indicates the sphere of Environment, Energy and Ecology (EEE) form the main sectoral gateway between the ENP and QoLG in a multi-level (international, national, regional) setting. We constructed our conceptual framework based on these evidence bases that gathered from spheres of the ENP and QoLG with comparison to analysis of temporal evolution of governance studies, and checked for theoretical debates of Bureaucratic Planning, Public Choice Theory and Structuralist Critiques, which are shown as incomplete to grasp this emerging EEE sphere. Although promising, New Regionalism concept is discussed with the condition of those current or potential future developmentalist tendencies in the European Neighbourhood with respect to triangulated tensions between economic, social and environmental development. We listed and concluded that technological and social innovation are the vital enablers to activate this EEE Bridge in the governance of a foursquare quality of life agenda, with “enhanced” information and finance-based intelligent and interactive instruments between i) European Neighbourhood Policy, ii) Open Method of “Neighbourhoods” Coordination, iii) Smart “Cross-Continental Regions” Specialisation, and iv) “Adaptive Synchronous” European Strategic Energy Technology Plan (ASSET-Plan).

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