

SS2. Social and Political Trust – Territorial Patterns across Europe

Zoltán Grünhut, Ákos Bodor, and Katalin Füzér – grunhut.zoltan@krtk.hu

Trust is widely considered in many disciplines of social sciences the glue that binds society together. It has diverse forms, including social and political, and can be universal as well as particular. In the field of Regional Studies trust is often addressed, among others, as the fundamental domain of social or territorial capital; the pillar of local/regional identity; the generative source of civic engagement; the lubricator of democratic governance; or the facilitator of multilevel actor-ness. Accordingly, researches in Regional Studies frequently turn towards trust during their problematization, yet there are much less original theoretical or methodological innovations related to the notion in the field. The current session hopes to reflect on this challenge by giving platform for progressive thinking and constructive debate.

We invite papers on topics encompassing social and/or political trust that seek to describe its many realizations (including studies that theorize trust or examine its sources and impacts). We welcome contributions, for example, including trust in other individuals, organizations, institutions, and the social order over time and across places. As regards to empirical investigations although multi-country studies are especially encouraged, single country studies with a comparative lens on regional level similarities and dissimilarities will also be considered.