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## **The evolution of regional entrepreneurship policies: “No one size fits all”.**

### **ABSTRACT**

In the last two decades, entrepreneurship policies have gone through a radical transformation in many parts of the world. New theoretical and empirical approaches have helped to better identify what the drivers of entrepreneurial creation are, the main actors in the process and the major contribution of entrepreneurship to socio-economic prosperity. One of the main conclusions of these new theoretical and empirical approaches is that the drivers and outcomes of entrepreneurship are heavily shaped by place. As such, there is no single ideal entrepreneurship policy formula because entrepreneurial mechanisms takes a different form depending in different types of places. However, what it is clear is that concepts such as path dependency, industrial heritage, connectivity, culture, as well as intra- and interregional knowledge spillovers are all linked in different ways with regional entrepreneurship. This lecture discusses the impacts of these different influences on the evolution of modern entrepreneurship policies, examines what the current evidence points to, and identifies areas for further consideration. Examples will be drawn from different countries and regions.

#### Short Bio:

**Professor Raquel Ortega-Argilés** holds the Chair of Regional Economic Development at City RED I Institute at the University of Birmingham where she leads the modelling and quantitative analysis team.

Previously she has held positions at the Max Plank Institute for Economics Jena, European Commission Joint Research Centre, Technical University of Lisbon and the University of Groningen. She is an economic researcher and policy adviser specialising in issues of regional development, firm performance, innovation and competitiveness, entrepreneurship and Brexit. Raquel has experience of building very large datasets and undertaking advanced econometric modelling. Her scientific work has been published in many different international academic journals and academic research books, and ranges in approach from advanced econometric and statistical modelling to case study techniques. Raquel is an editor of *Regional Studies*. Professor Ortega-Argiles also has extensive experience as policy advisor, from projects with the European Commission, the European Parliament, OECD, European Investment Bank, the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission as well as government ministries in Spain, Poland, Hungary, Germany, Italy and Greece. Currently, Raquel is coordinating the ESRC- UK in Changing Europe project: “The economic impacts of Brexit on the UK, its regions, its cities and its sectors”.