



Extended abstract

EXTENDED ABSTRACT

Title: Mode of emplacement in territorial agglomerations of firms. A QCA analysis.

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Subject area: *(please, indicate the subject area which corresponds to the paper)*

S05 – Glocal clusters: critical aspects and new trajectories

Abstract: *(minimum 1500 words)*

This research work places the main focus of interest on migratory enclaves whose main characteristics gravitate around a high concentration on migrant population of a given nationality in an specific geographical location. Furthermore and complementarily we also position our research interests in a certain typology of territories such as the so called industrial districts. These type of contexts base themselves in the agglomeration of specific economic activities in a particular geographical location populated in consequence by companies that belong to the same, or interconnected, industrial sector. Starting with the work of Becattini (1979) there is a growing interest in these particular setting of industrial activity in the literature by several economic disciplines (Becattini, Bellandi, and De Propis 2014; Giuliani, Rabellotti, and Van Dijk 2005; Molina-Morales and Martínez-Cháfer 2016; Hervás-Oliver et al. 2017; Belso-Martinez, Molina-Morales, and Mas-Verdu 2011; Boschma and Ter Wal 2007; Giuliani 2007). In fact, other conceptualizations of very similar phenomena are also similarly developed in the research arena. This is the case of other notions of these agglomerations such as the industrial cluster made popular by Porter (1990).

The global mobilization of resources (particularly human) is a phenomenon that clearly affects the structure and dynamics of the industrial districts themselves, challenging the basic principles that they represent. The relationship between Industrial Districts and migratory enclaves has been studied primarily through cases of ethnic economies (Galeano, Sabater, and Domingo 2015) developed within industrial districts by immigrant entrepreneurs. In this study we follow a particular stream of literature that considers the existence of a more general and complex interaction between the two phenomena as it is the case of the theoretical model proposed by Molina et al., (2018). In fact, within the literature of districts, it has traditionally dominated an approach that



we can consider as egocentric by taking as reference the location of the actual industrial district as a unit of analysis. However, the current economic context draws a completely new scenario where industrial districts themselves can be conceived as links of global chains that include the mobility of people and capitals. In this work we are interested in studying the relationship between IDs and migratory enclaves, following the theoretical model proposed by Molina et al., (2018), in a selection of Italian and Spanish industrial districts that are experimenting the migration phenomena depicted above.

As a consequence, with this study we aim to empirically test a theoretical model of the migrants mode of emplacement (Schiller and Çağlar 2013; Glick Schiller and Çağlar 2016) in industrial districts. This phenomena has often been approached in the academia under the “ethnic enclave economies” lenses (Galeano, Sabater, and Domingo 2015), as stated above. As a consequence, the main issues addressed in this previous research efforts are related to problems with the migrants integration, racist conflicts and, often, segregation situations (Barbu, Dunford, and Weidong 2013; Cachón 2006; Narotzy 2009). However, the complexity of the mode of emplacement results in every case and its interaction with industrial clusters contexts deserves additional efforts.

Indeed, several levels of influential factors may affect the way migrants integrate with local populations. National regulations, institutional completeness (Breton 1968), local contexts and individual characteristics interact and configure the final result in terms of positive or negative modes of placement (Schiller and Çağlar 2013; Glick Schiller and Çağlar 2016). In this work we compile several cases of migrant concentrations, both in Italy and Spain, in areas where industrial districts are important in the local economy (Boix-Domenech et al. 2015; Boix-Domenech 2008).

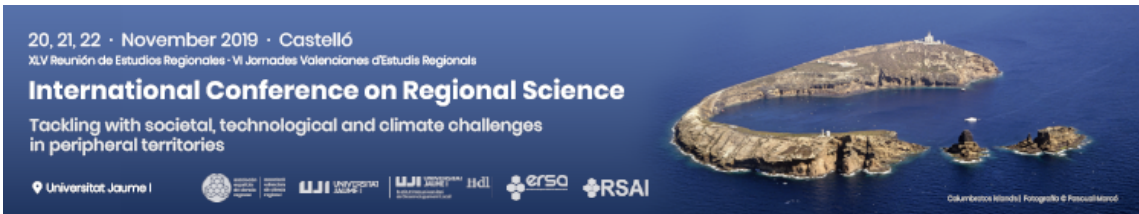
Through the application of a Qualitative Comparative Approach (QCA) (Ragin 2008; Meyer, Tsui, and Hinings 1993; Woodside 2016; Ordanini, Parasuraman, and Rubera 2014) we are able to assess what are the necessary and/or sufficient conditions that enable a positive mode of emplacement based on the combination of factors related to individual characteristics and also institutional contexts (Molina et al. 2018). We use specifically the latest version of the Qualitative Comparative Analysis, namely Fuzzy Set QCA (fsQCA) (Crilly, Zollo, and Hansen 2012; Fiss 2007, 2011; Ragin 2008). The model under study is described in Table 1.



Table 1. Definition of the outcome and the conditions.

Type	Name	Description
Outcome	Mode of emplacement (MOD)	Binary variable that has the value 1 for positive modes of emplacement and 0 otherwise
	Legal (LEG)	Binary variable that takes the value 1 for migrants that have a legal status and 0 otherwise. .
	Entrepreneurship (ENT)	Variable that distinguishes between communities by the presence or absence of an entrepreneurship orientation.
Condition	Institutional Completeness (INS)	Variable that identifies the existence of institutional completeness affecting the migrants community.
	Industrial district degree of formality (IDF)	Variable that classifies industrial districts in formal / not formal labour conditions according to the industrial activities

This study provides a new approach in the literature of industrial districts. Through the approach made, in this research work, a new prism is introduced that allows addressing the issue from a more realistic approach such as, for example, the study of related migratory phenomena. Additionally the use of a mixed methods approach such as the Qualitative Comparative Analysis provides interesting avenues of research for future endeavours regarding migrants movements affecting socio-economic entities like the industrial districts or clusters. The results contribute to a very interesting stream of literature that aims to understand the success of migration movements in Europe.



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Industrial Districts, migrant enclaves, ethnic economies, mode of emplacement, institutional completeness

JEL codes:

O31, O32, O33