

Erasmus Institute for Philosophy and Economics (EIPE)

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Thesis title

Unity, plurality and explanation. The case of geographical economics and its neighbours

Supervisors

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Project description

Geographical economics (also known as the new economic geography) is a recent approach developed within economics. It aims to provide a unified framework for the study of spatial agglomeration: the spatial concentration of economic activity. This search for unity stands in sharp contrast with the present plurality of approaches, which seek to explain the same phenomenon across a variety of disciplines such as urban and regional economics, economic geography, and strategic management. More than any of the existing approaches, geographical economics has been contested by proponents of alternative theories. This thesis investigates the general philosophical issues of unity, plurality and explanation by analyzing them in relation to the case of geographical economics and its neighbours.