Webinar Series on COVID-19 & Inequality

Spatial Inequalities during and after the COVID-19 Pandemic

with Andrés Rodíguez-Pose, London School of Economics and Laura Khoury, Norwegian School of Economics

Thursday 8th July 2021
4:00pm (CET)
Virtual event

Poorer regions have experienced higher Covid-19-related mortality, in line with the fact that social distancing was less feasible and harder to implement there. At the same time, the development of teleworking may trigger a rebalancing of opportunities and prices between areas, with long-term consequences for productivity and inequality across regions. Pr. Rodríguez-Pose will present his views on the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 on spatial inequality, while also reflecting on its possible future trends. In a second presentation, Laura Khoury will document spatial inequalities in excess mortality in France during the pandemic. In her paper, she shows that the poorest municipalities experienced a 30% higher increase in excess mortality over the year 2020. Both labour-market exposure and housing conditions are major determinants of the direct effect of the epidemic on mortality inequalities.

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose is the Princesa de Asturias Chair, a Professor of Economic Geography at the London School of Economics, and the Director of the Cañada Blanch Centre LSE. He was awarded the 2018 ERSA Prize in Regional Science, arguably the highest prize in regional science. In 2019 he received Doctorates Honoris Causa from Utrecht University (the Netherlands) and Jönköping University (Sweden). Pr. Rodríguez-Pose is an editor of Economic Geography, and sits on the editorial board of 33 other scholarly journals, including many of the leading international journals in economic geography, human geography, regional science, and management.

Laura Khoury is a postdoctoral researcher at the Centre for Experimental Research on Fairness, Inequality and Rationality (FAIR) at the Norwegian School of Economics (NHH). She received in 2020 the French Association for Economic Science Award for her PhD thesis “Optimal Unemployment Insurance and On-the-Job Behaviours”. Her main areas of research include public economics, labor economics and economics of crime.

This webinar, co-organised with the OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities, is part of a series of webinars that aim to carve a comprehensive overview of the COVID-inequality nexus in a number of areas including: income, spatial inequality, labour, gender, education, mental health and more. The webinar is open to academics, statisticians, policy professionals.

For more information and to register for the webinar, visit: https://oe.cd/covid-inequality.

Agenda

4:00pm Welcome by Rudiger Ahrend, Head of Division at the OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities
4:05pm Presentation by Andrés Rodíguez-Pose, London School of Economics
4:35pm Presentation by Laura Khoury, Norwegian School of Economics
5:05pm Floor open for discussion
5:15pm End of meeting