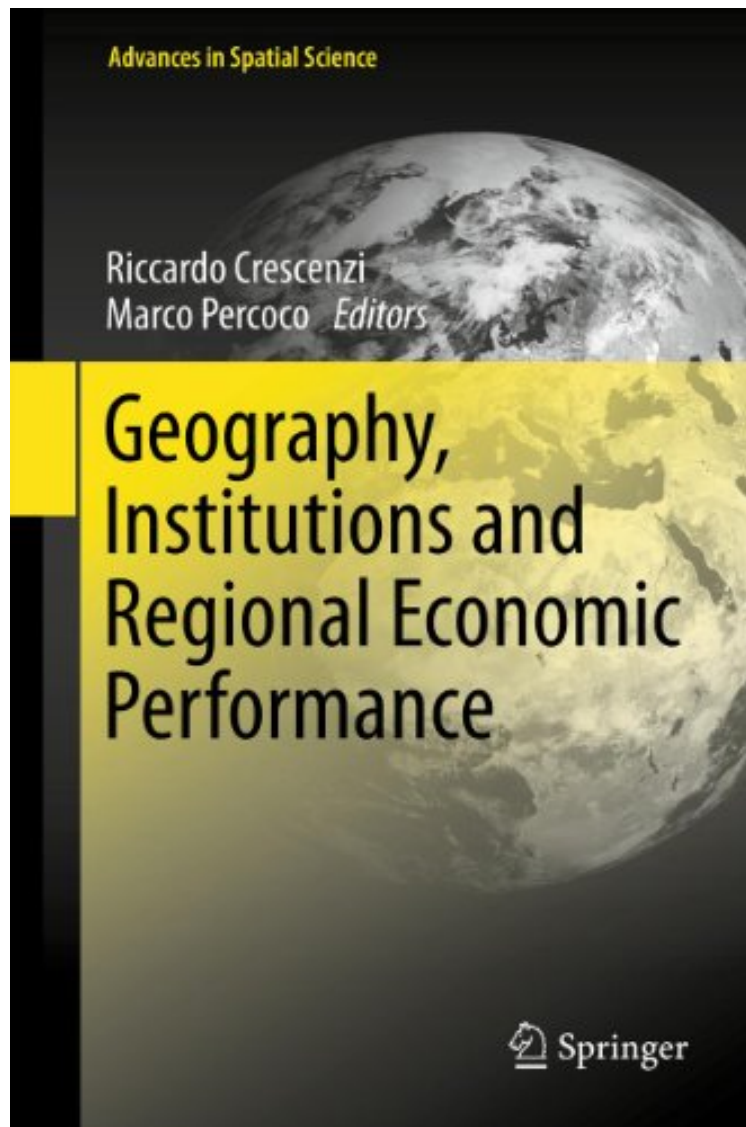


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Geography, Institutions and Regional Economic Performance (Advances in Spatial Science)

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From Springer : Geography, Institutions and Regional Economic Performance (Advances in Spatial Science) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Geography, Institutions and Regional Economic Performance (Advances in Spatial Science):

The book aims to present 'traditional features' of regional science (as geographical concepts and institutions), as well as relatively new topics such as innovation and agglomeration economies. In particular it demonstrates that, contrary to what has been argued by recent economics literature, both geography and institutions (or culture) are relevant for local development. In fact, these phenomena, along with the movement of goods and workers, are among the main reasons for persisting development differentials. These intriguing relationships are at the heart of the analysis presented in this book and form the conceptual basis for a promising institutional approach to economic geography.

From the Back Cover
The book brings together contributions by scholars from several countries and different 'sister' disciplines (Economic Geography, Urban and Regional Economics, Innovation Studies) with different approaches to the same crucial issue: how geography, culture and institutions influence regional economic performance. It includes a number of relevant insights into these complex relations covering different-though complementary-streams of literature in order to emphasize their points of contact and areas of consensus (or disagreement). The role of institutional and cultural factors in shaping regional economic dynamics is analysed together with the impact of clusters, accessibility, urbanization processes and localised inter-firm linkages. The dynamic interactions of economic agents across space are also explored in depth by analysing the geography of trade flows, labour and capital mobility. Empirical analyses cover the whole European Union with some chapters focused on specific European countries but also on non-European and emerging economies. The book effectively demonstrates that regional development is a complex and multifaceted phenomenon, the in-depth understanding of which calls for the simultaneous consideration of a variety of phenomena and the structural characteristics of places and agents. The understanding of regional economic performance hence calls for an explicit consideration of both 'hard' and 'soft' factors of development, especially in terms of geography, culture and institutions.

About the Author
Dr Riccardo Crescenzi is Programme Director of the MSc in Local Economic Development and Lecturer in Economic Geography at the Department of Geography and Environment at the London School of Economics. He is also affiliated to the LSE Spatial Economics Research Centre. Before joining the LSE, Dr Crescenzi was a Jean Monnet Fellow at the European University Institute (Florence). He was also a visiting scholar at the LSE and University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). His research is focused on regional economic development and growth, innovation and EU development policies analysis. He has published in international journals, such as 'Growth and Change', 'Regional Studies', 'The Journal of Economic Geography' and 'The World Economy'. His teaching focuses on the economics of local and regional development.

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