
The regional disparities in Southern Europe evidence the limits of the European Regional Policy that has the explicit aim of reducing them. Again the balance between physical and human capital investments has to be reworked. Ann Markusen defends a stereo vision for regional planning, arguing that a balanced mix should be carefully structured in regional policy and policy measures since prioritising physical capital investments (transport infrastructures, among others) has led to very unexpected results of new polarisations and regional disparities. Education is important but not enough, even if differences in human capital investment have been identified as barriers to convergence in the European Union.