The Creative Class: Does it Hamper or Support the Regional Economic Resilience in Romania?

Alina Maria PAVELEA
Bogdana NEAMŢU

Abstract

The present study investigates the relationship between the Creative Class and the regional economic resilience in the case of an Eastern European country. More specifically, it examines the relationship between the concentration of the Creative Class jobs in the counties from Romania and their ability to recover after the financial crisis of 2008, in order to determine whether the Creative Class hampers or supports the ability of regions to recover after shocks.

In order to do so, a secondary data analysis was conducted, using multiple measures for resilience and control variables. The results show that the concentration of the Creative Class neither supports nor hampers counties’ resilience. However, what did correlate with the ability of Romanian counties to recover from the crisis of 2008 is the number of faculties, a proxy for the level of education of people. Thus the results suggest that, at least in the case of Romania, communities can increase their resilience to economic shocks through investments in education and the attraction of educated people rather than investing in the attraction of the Creative Class.

Keywords: Creative Class, economic resilience, Romania.