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The **Oxford Handbook of Industrial Hubs and Economic Development** [Oxford University Press, USA](#) Industrialization supported by industrial hubs has been widely associated with structural transformation and catch-up. But while the direct economic benefits of industrial hubs are significant, their value lies first and foremost in their contribution as incubators of industrialization, production and technological capability, and innovation. The **Oxford Handbook of Industrial Hubs and Economic Development** adopts an interdisciplinary approach to examine the conceptual underpinnings, review empirical evidence of regions and economies, and extract pertinent lessons for policy reasearchers and practitioners on the key drivers of success and failure for industrial hubs. This Handbook illustrates the diverse and complex nature of industrial hubs and shows how they promote industrialization, economic structural transformation, and technological catch-up. It explores the implications of emerging issues and trends such as environmental protection and sustainability, technological advancement, shifts in the global economy, and urbanization. **Growing Urban Economies Innovation, Creativity, and Governance in Canadian City-Regions** [University of Toronto Press](#) A rich and nuanced analysis of the interplay of social, political, and economic factors in thirteen Canadian city-regions, large and small, this collection integrates research focusing on innovation, creativity and talent-retention, and governance in order to understand the distinctive experience of each region. **Digital Economy Innovations and Impacts on Society** [IGI Global](#) Right now is the time for new opinions and new ideas to be generated and be presented as a solution. With the ever changing economic status of society, prosperity depends on the ability to run and maintain an active equilibrium between society and individuals. Therefore, it is essential for both parties to promote innovation and creativity in order to enable a proper and valuable lifestyle. **Digital Economy Innovations and Impacts on Society** provides theoretical and practical approaches about digital economy, increasing people's awareness on what the digital economy is and exactly what competitive advantages exist to provide information technology and innovation as its main resources. This publication focuses on rethinking the classical economic theory in the context of new technology, information, and innovation, making it a publication that brings the best research to the forefront for economics and social researchers, academicians, professionals and practitioners. **Understanding the Active Economy and Emerging Research on the Value of Sports, Recreation, and Wellness** [IGI Global](#) The active economy incorporates several disciplines that include sport performance, sport business, recreation, tourism, physical activity, urban planning, leisure, and health and wellness, among others. From an academic and policy perspective, these disciplines are typically viewed as distinct, with only limited spillover, and consequently, limited research explores the interaction between them. However, each individual sector can be studied as interdependent rather than autonomous. By viewing the various sectors as part of a complex active ecosystem, policymakers and practitioners are better positioned to shape broad opportunities while maximizing the community value of sports, recreation, and wellness. **Understanding the Active Economy and Emerging Research on the Value of Sports, Recreation, and Wellness** provides a new view on the fields of sport, recreation, and health and wellness by exploring the interaction between these traditional separate disciplines. It includes sub-groups of the active economy such as health and wellness, active apparel and accessories, active equipment and sports betting but also ties in sub-groups from the ancillary sector such as tourism, design and infrastructure, media and content, and professional services. This book is intended for professionals, educators, and researchers working in the fields of sports, recreation, and health and wellness, as well as economists, executives, managers, practitioners, stakeholders, researchers, academicians, and students interested in how sports, recreation, and wellness operate in the active economy. **Politics In The American States: A Comparative Analysis** [CQ Press](#) Fully updated—and with new coeditor Thad Kousser—the tenth edition brings together the high caliber research you expect from this trusted text, with comprehensive and comparative analysis of the fifty states. Students will appreciate the book's glossary, the fully up-todate tables and figures, and the maps showcasing comparative data. A companion website includes downloadable graphics and data. **Handbook of Research on the Facilitation of Civic Engagement through Community Art** [IGI Global](#) Outreach and engagement initiatives are crucial in promoting community development. This can be achieved through a number of methods, including avenues in the fine arts. The **Handbook of Research on the Facilitation of Civic Engagement through Community Art** is a comprehensive reference source for emerging perspectives on the incorporation of artistic works to facilitate improved civic engagement and social justice. Featuring innovative coverage across relevant topics, such as art education, service learning, and student engagement, this handbook is ideally designed for practitioners, artists, professionals, academics, and students interested in active citizen participation via artistic channels. **The Future for Older Workers New Perspectives** [Policy Press](#) Dealing directly and exclusively with the issue of older workers, this book brings together up-to-the minute research findings by many of the leading researchers and writers in the field exploring key issues that will influence public policy in the UK and beyond. **Measurement and Assessment in Teaching For Classroom Assessment and Test and Measurement courses in Education Departments** The market-leader, this outstanding volume introduces prospective teachers to all of the elements of assessment that are essential to good teaching. Through direct, clear writing and a presentation that assumes no previous knowledge of measurement, it provides students with an understanding of the role of assessment in the instructional process. With step-by-step instruction, the book helps students learn how to construct effective test questions that are aligned with learning objectives. It also helps students evaluate published tests and properly interpret scores of standardized tests. **Who Gets What? The New Politics of Insecurity** [Cambridge University Press](#) The authors of this timely book, **Who Gets What?**, harness the expertise from across the social sciences to show how skyrocketing inequality and social dislocation are fracturing the stable political identities and alliances of the postwar era across advanced democracies. Drawing on extensive evidence from the United States and Europe, with a focus especially on the United States, the authors examine how economics and politics are closely entwined. Chapters demonstrate how the new divisions that separate people and places-and fragment political parties-hinder a fairer distribution of resources and opportunities. They show how employment, education, sex and gender, and race and ethnicity affect the way people experience and interpret inequality and economic anxieties. Populist politics have addressed these emerging insecurities by deepening social and political divisions, rather than promoting broad and inclusive policies. **Rethinking the Economics of Land and Housing** [Zed Books Ltd.](#) Why are house prices in many advanced economies rising faster than incomes? Why isn't land and location taught or seen as important in modern economics? What is the relationship between the financial system and land? In this accessible but provocative guide to the economics of land and housing, the authors reveal how many of the key challenges facing modern economies - including housing crises, financial instability and growing inequalities - are intimately tied to the land economy. Looking at the ways in which discussions of land have been routinely excluded from both housing policy and economic theory, the authors show that in order to tackle these increasingly pressing issues a major rethink by both politicians and economists is required. **Florida Civics, Economics & Geography Sociology of Economic Innovation** [Routledge](#) This book offers a sociological overview of the theories and research on economic innovation. Over the past few decades, the economics of innovation has given rise to a lively flow of studies, and innovation studies continues to develop as an interdisciplinary field of research. Sociology in general, and economic sociology in particular, have already made a significant contribution to innovation and continue to play a crucial role in this emerging field. This book presents an integrated sociological approach to the study of economic innovation. It explores the key theories and sociological research on innovation, as well as other contributions to the field of Innovation Studies from economists, geographers, and psychologists. Ramella argues that in order to understand the processes of innovation, it is necessary to look at the actors of innovation, at the relations that exist between them and at the sectoral and territorial contexts in which they operate. For students, this book includes international case studies throughout, as well as further study questions at the end of each chapter. **Clusters in Urban and Regional Development** [Routledge](#) Going beyond the celebrated 'hot-spots' of economic development, this book draws upon evidence from a broader range of cities and regions to help fill some important gaps in our knowledge of how clusters operate within the contemporary global economy. This book was previously published as a special issue of the journal **Urban Studies**. **Saskatchewan Geographic Perspectives** [University of Regina Press](#) Saskatchewan: Geographic Perspectives is Saskatchewan's first comprehensive geography textbook. Its major sections cover these themes: Physical Geography, Historical and Cultural Geography, Population and Settlement, and Economic Geography. Eighteen chapters provide an excellent overview of the province from a variety of geographic perspectives, while twenty-nine focus studies explore specific topics in depth ... presents the work of forty-three scholars and is well-illustrated, with more than 150 figures, 70 tables, and over 60 full-colour plates. It also includes full reference lists and a comprehensive index. Although prepared specifically for use in post-secondary geography programs, this book is also appropriate for high school research projects and for anyone interested in the many facets of this vast and varied province."--Googlebooks. **The Creative Class Goes Global** [Routledge](#) The whole landscape of research in urban studies was revolutionized by the publication of Richard Florida's **The Rise of the Creative Class** in 2002, and his subsequent book entitled **The Flight of the Creative Class** has helped to maintain a decade-long explosion of interest in the field. While these two books examine the creative class in the context of the United States, research has emerged which investigates the creative class worldwide. This book brings together detailed studies of the creative class in cities across the globe, examining the impact of the creative class on growth and development. The countries covered include the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Germany, Australia, China, Japan and Canada, in addition to the United States. Taken together, the contributions deepen our understanding of the creative class and the various factors that affect regional

development, highlighting the similarities and differences between the creative class and economic development across countries. This book will be of great interest to scholars of economic geography, regional economics, urban sociology and cultural policy, as well as policy makers involved in urban development. Early Implementation of Generation I of the Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development (WIRED) Initiative 2007 Interim Evaluation Report Social Studies Content for Elementary and Middle School Teachers [Pearson College Division](#) Are you feeling a little rusty with your social studies content knowledge? This brief primer, *Social Studies Content for Elementary and Middle School Teachers, Second Edition*, is just what you need. It provides a helpful overview of both U.S. and world history, in addition to basic knowledge in geography, economics, and civics. The wide history coverage will allow you to see historical events in overall context, provides an overview for planning, and will help you answer student questions confidently. Geography, economics, and civics concepts are clearly explained, so the book will be helpful when used in writing lesson plans. Check out the resources lists that include relevant Websites, . major subject area organizations, museums, and U.S. government sites. Finally, an extensive index allows you to look up subjects and answers at a glance. *New Economic Spaces in Asian Cities From Industrial Restructuring to the Cultural Turn* [Routledge](#) The East and Southeast Asia region constitutes the world's most compelling theatre of accelerated globalization and industrial restructuring. Following a spectacular realization of the 'industrialization paradigm' and a period of services-led growth, the early twenty-first century economic landscape among leading Asian states now comprises a burgeoning 'New Economy' spectrum of the most advanced industrial trajectories, including finance, the knowledge economy and the 'new cultural economy'. In an agenda-setting volume, *New Economic Spaces in Asian Cities* draws on stimulating research conducted by a new generation of urban scholars to generate critical analysis and theoretical insights on the New Economy phenomenon within Asia. New industry formation and the transformation of older economic practices constitute instruments of development, as well as signifiers of larger processes of change, expressed in the reproduction of space in the city. Asia's major cities become the key staging areas for the New Economy, driven by the growing wealth of an urban middle and professional class, higher education institutions, city-based inter-regional movements and urban mega-projects. *New Economic Spaces in Asian Cities* animates this New Economy discourse by means of vibrant storylines of instructive cities and sites, including cases studies situated in cities such as Tokyo, Seoul, Shanghai, Beijing, Shenzhen, and Singapore. Theoretical and normative issues associated with the emergence of the new cultural economy are the subject of the book's context-setting chapters, and each case study presents an evocative narrative of development interdependencies and exemplary outcomes on the ground. *New Economic Spaces in Asian Cities* offers a vivid contribution to our understanding of the ongoing transformation of Asia's urban system, including the critical intersections of global and local-regional dynamics in processes of new industry formation and the relayering of space in the Asian metropolis. The synthesis of empirical profiles, normative insights, and theoretical reference points enhances the book's interest for scholars and students in fields of Asian studies, urban and cultural studies, and urban and economic geography, as well as for policy specialists and urban/community planners. *The Wealth and Poverty of Nations Why Nations Matter* [Oxford University Press, USA](#) That some cities are vibrant while others are in decline is starkly apparent. In *The Wealth and Poverty of Nations*, Mario Polèse argues that focusing on city attributes is too narrow. Cities do not control the basic conditions that determine their success or failure as sources of economic growth and well-being. Nations matter because successful metropolitan economies do not spring forth spontaneously. The values, norms, and institutions that shape social relationships are national attributes. The preconditions for the creation of wealth—the rule of law, public education, and sound macroeconomic management among the most fundamental—are the responsibility of the state. By considering national fiscal and monetary policies and state policies governing the organization of cities, this book disentangles two processes: the mechanics of creating wealth and the mechanics of agglomeration or capturing wealth. Polèse explains the two-stage process in which the proper conditions must first be in place for the benefits of agglomeration to fully flower. Polèse interweaves evocative descriptions of various cities, contrasting cities that have been helped or hurt by local and national policies wise or ill-advised. From New York to Vienna, Buenos Aires to Port au Prince, the cities come to life. Throughout the book Polèse highlights four factors that help explain strengths and weaknesses of cities as foci of economic opportunity and social cohesion: institutions, people, centrality, and chance. The result is a nuanced and accessible introduction to the economy of cities and an original perspective on what needs to improve. Cities that have managed to produce livable urban environments for the majority of their citizens mirror the societies that spawned them. Similarly, cities that have failed are almost always signs of more deep-rooted failures. If the nation does not work, neither will its cities. *Asia 2050 Realizing the Asian Century* [SAGE Publishing India](#) Asia is in the midst of a truly historic transformation. If it continues to grow on its recent trajectory, it could, by 2050, account for more than half of global GDP, trade and investment, and enjoy widespread affluence. Its per capita income could rise sixfold. It thus holds the promise of making some 4 billion Asians, hitherto commonly associated with poverty and deprivation, affluent by today's standards. This study, *Asia 2050: Realizing the Asian Century*, is aimed at key opinion makers to foster debate on a vision of and strategy for Asia's potentially historic rise among the global community of nations between now and 2050. It offers a long-term perspective of the Asia region as a whole as opposed to the more common approach that delivers a short- to medium-term perspective of selected countries, subregions or issues. *Running the Numbers: A Practical Guide to Regional Economic and Social Analysis: 2014 A Practical Guide to Regional Economic and Social Analysis* [Routledge](#) Through use of practical examples and a plainspoken narrative style that minimises the use of maths, this book demystifies data concepts, sources, and methods for public service professionals interested in understanding economic and social issues at the regional level. By blending elements of a general interest book, a textbook, and a reference book, it equips civic leaders, public administrators, urban planners, nonprofit executives, philanthropists, journalists, and graduate students in various public affairs disciplines to wield social and economic data for the benefit of their communities. While numerous books about quantitative research exist, few focus specifically on the public sector. *Running the Numbers*, in contrast, explores a wide array of topics of regional importance, including economic output, demographics, business structure, labour markets, and income, among many others. To that end, the book stresses practical applications, minimises the use of maths, and employs extended, chapter-length examples that demonstrate how analytical tools can illuminate the social and economic workings of actual American regions. *Creative Industries and Urban Development Creative Cities in the 21st Century* [Routledge](#) The concept of creative industries has developed considerable academic and policy momentum in the 21st century. There has been a connection identified between the rise of creative industries and the urbanisation of the world's population, particularly in relation to the significance of cities as sites of cultural production and consumption. Much of the work on creative industries and cities, however, has drawn upon 'imagined geographies' about the relationship between creativity and place. This collection draws together contributions that critically appraise recent urban cultural policy discourses, as well as reflecting on the role of culture and creative industries in the future development of cities. This book is based on a special issue of *The Information Society: An International Journal*. *Drivers of Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Regional Dynamics* [Springer Science & Business Media](#) The need for informed and effective insights into key concepts and models of regional development and growth, from an endogenous growth perspective, has risen over the past decade. These recent advances address in particular local and regional assets and characteristics comprising inter alia creativity, knowledge, innovation forces and entrepreneurship. Access to and exploitation of these modern forms of human and social capital are of paramount importance for the dynamic regional economic environment in a city or region. This volume offers an overview and critical treatment of the spatial-economic roots, opportunities and impacts of new growth strategies, mainly from an evidence-based perspective. In the various contributions to this volume, relevant findings and strategic options are interpreted and discussed from both an analytical and a policy perspective to help cultivate creativity, human capital development and innovation as well as entrepreneurial activity, with a view to exploit the drivers of economic development, in order to strengthen the competitive edge of cities and regions. *Controversies in Local Economic Development Stories, Strategies, Solutions* [Routledge](#) Efforts to promote the economic development of individual localities engage the attention of academics, students and professionals. Many such analysts argue that competitive advantage can be fostered within local economies, complimenting the advent of a more globalised economy. Intensified efforts to build new economic foundations show no sign of abating despite the apparent increase in the international mobility of businesses and employment. Unpicking the arguments supporting different strategies for promoting local economic development, *Controversies in Local Economic Development* is an introductory guide to some of the major ideas and policy tools that have influenced academic debate and development practice. Taking the view that economic processes are mechanisms that promote desired outcomes only in particular contexts, the book asks questions of both academic debates and the prescriptions of policy experts. *The Handbook of Global Trade Policy* [John Wiley & Sons](#) Provides a state-of-the-art overview of international trade policy research *The Handbook of Global Trade Policy* offers readers a comprehensive resource for the study of international trade policy, governance, and financing. This timely and authoritative work presents contributions from a team of prominent experts that assess the policy implications of recent academic research on the subject. Discussions of contemporary research in fields such as economics, international business, international relations, law, and global politics help readers develop an expansive, interdisciplinary knowledge of 21st century foreign trade. Accessible for students, yet relevant for practitioners and researchers, this book expertly guides readers through essential literature in the field while highlighting new connections between social science research and global policy-making. Authoritative chapters address new realities of the global trade environment, global governance and international institutions, multilateral trade agreements, regional trade in developing countries, value chains in the Pacific Rim, and more. Designed to provide a well-rounded survey of the subject, this book covers financing trade such as export credit arrangements in developing economies, export insurance markets, climate finance, and recent initiatives of the World Trade Organization (WTO). This state-of-the-art overview: Integrates new data and up-to-date research in the field Offers an interdisciplinary approach to examining global trade policy Introduces fundamental concepts of global trade in an understandable style Combines contemporary economic, legal, financial, and policy topics Presents a wide range of perspectives on current issues surrounding trade practices and policies *The Handbook of Global Trade Policy* is a valuable resource for students, professionals, academics, researchers, and policy-makers in all areas of international trade, economics, business, and finance. *America, the Owner's Manual You Can Fight City Hall—and Win* [CQ Press](#) In 2016, Americans fed up with the political process vented that frustration with their votes. Republicans nominated for president a wealthy businessman and former reality show host best known on the campaign trail for his sharp rhetoric against immigration and foreign trade. Democrats nearly selected a self-described socialist who ran on a populist platform against the influence of big money in politics. While it is not surprising that Americans would channel their frustrations into votes for contenders who pledge to end business as usual, the truth is that we don't have to pin our hopes for greater participation on any one candidate. All of us have a say—if we learn, master and practice the skills of effective citizenship. One of the biggest roadblocks to participation in democracy is the perception that privileged citizens and special interests command the levers of power and that everyday Americans can't fight City Hall. That perception is undoubtedly why a 2015 Pew Charitable Trusts survey found that 74 percent of those Americans surveyed believed that most elected officials didn't care what people like them thought. Graham and Hand intend to change that conventional wisdom by showing citizens how to flex their citizenship muscles. They describe effective citizenship skills and provide tips from civic experts. Even more importantly, they offer numerous examples of everyday Americans who have used their skills to make democracy respond. The reader will see themselves in these examples of citizens who chose to be victorious participants rather than tranquil spectators in the arena of democracy. By the end of the book, you will have new confidence that citizen participation is the lifeblood of America -- and will be ready to make governments work for you, not the other way around. *Development Studies in Regional Science Essays in Honor of Kingsley E. Haynes* [Springer Nature](#) This book examines major policy and planning issues in development studies from the regional science perspective. It investigates questions such as: "How are communities able to deal with uncertainties raised by conflicts, technology, and external shocks in the

process of development?"; "How can nations achieve sustainable development in terms of resource allocation and management?"; and "How can developing countries improve their economic competitiveness while maintaining the objectives of equitable and coordinated growth among different regions?" using case studies that focus on different subfields, like infrastructure, environment, data science, sustainability and resilience. The book is organized in three parts. Part I clarifies fundamental issues regarding development studies and regional science in general, while Part II includes several case studies that address development-related opportunities and challenges with a focus on Asian countries. Lastly, Part III offers a global perspective and explores development experiences from countries throughout the world. Featuring contributions by leading academics and practitioners working at various organizations linked to international development, and including multidisciplinary analyses, the book appeals to students who are interested in development studies and regional science. It also offers planners and policymakers fresh insights into regional economic development. State & Local Government Review Higher Education Management and Policy, Volume 17 Issue 3 Special Issue on Entrepreneurship Special Issue on Entrepreneurship [OECD Publishing](#) This special issue of Higher Education Management and Policy features seven articles on entrepreneurship in universities. The UK Regional-National Economic Problem Geography, globalisation and governance [Routledge](#) In recent years, the United Kingdom has become a more and more divided society with inequality between the regions as marked as it has ever been. In a landmark analysis of the current state of Britain's regional development, Philip McCann utilises current statistics, examines historical trends and makes pertinent international comparisons to assess the state of the nation. The UK Regional-National Economic Problem brings attention to the highly centralised, top down governance structure that the UK deploys, and demonstrates that it is less than ideally placed to rectify these inequalities. The 'North-South' divide in the UK has never been greater and the rising inequalities are evident in almost all aspects of the economy including productivity, incomes, employment status and wealth. Whilst the traditional economic dominance of London and its hinterland has continued along with relative resilience in the South West of England and Scotland, in contrast the Midlands, the North of England, Northern Ireland and Wales lag behind by most measures of prosperity. This inequality is greatly limiting national economic performance and the fact that Britain has a below average standard of living by European and OECD terms has been ignored. The UK's economic and governance inequality is unlikely to be fundamentally rebalanced by the current governance and connectivity trends, although this definitive study suggests that some areas of improvement are possible if they are well implemented. This pivotal analysis is essential reading for postgraduate students in economics and urban studies as well as researchers and policy makers in local and central government. Tablets in K-12 Education: Integrated Experiences and Implications [IGI Global](#) "This book explores the use of hand-held mobile devices in primary and secondary classrooms to assist in learning, sharing, and communication among students and teachers"--Provided by publisher. Cities in Transition Social Innovation for Europe's Urban Sustainability [Routledge](#) Cities in Transition focuses on the sustainability transitions initiated in 40 European cities. The book presents the incredible wealth of insights gathered through hundreds of interviews and questionnaires. Four key domains—local energy systems, local green spaces, local water systems and local labour markets—have been the focus of the field research investigating local potentials for social innovation and new forms of civil society self-organisation. Examining the potential of new organizational frameworks like co-operatives, multi-stakeholder constructions, local-regional partnerships and networks for the success of such transitions, this book presents the key ingredients of a sustainable urban community as a viable concept to address current global financial, environmental and social challenges. Crucial reading for academics and practitioners of urban planning and sustainability in Europe, Cities in Transition is an innovative roadmap for sustainability in changing cities. Examining the Role of Entrepreneurial Universities in Regional Development [IGI Global](#) Universities are becoming more entrepreneurial, and for local communities and companies, this has increased their economic standings tenfold. However, the competitiveness of developing economies thanks to these financially focused institutions has likewise increased. Examining the Role of Entrepreneurial Universities in Regional Development provides emerging research exploring how universities foster and support entrepreneurship and the development of a more entrepreneurial organization and highlights the importance of this process for local communities and companies. Featuring coverage on a broad range of topics such as institutional entrepreneurship, public management, and economic contribution, this book is ideally designed for university presidents, provosts, rectors, chancellors, board members, managers, business professionals, policymakers, academicians, students, and researchers. The Economics of Cultural Diversity [Edward Elgar Publishing](#) The populations of many countries in the world are becoming more culturally diverse. This spurs a growing need for an informed debate on the socio-economic implications of cultural diversity. This book offers a solid statistical and econometric perspective Land Economics and Policy in Developing Countries [SAGE Publishing India](#) This book deals with the neglected aspects of urban land, including location and land use in urban development strategy; drawing lessons from economics to guide Indian land and urban policies Cloud Computing Service and Deployment Models: Layers and Management Layers and Management [IGI Global](#) "This book presents a collection of diverse perspectives on cloud computing and its vital role in all components of organizations, improving the understanding of cloud computing and tackling related concerns such as change management, security, processing approaches, and much more"--Provided by publisher. Creating Economic Growth Lessons for Europe [Springer](#) As national leaders struggle to revive their economies, the people of Europe face a stark reality, which has created an opportunity for local leaders and citizen movers and shakers to rise to the occasion to spur revitalization from the bottom up. The author offers a six-point plan to prosperity. OECD Territorial Reviews Competitive Cities in the Global Economy [OECD Publishing](#) A synthesis report drawing from OECD metropolitan reviews, this book shows large cities' performance within their countries and addresses key dilemmas including competitiveness and social cohesion, intergovernmental relationships and urban finance. Creative Approaches to Planning and Local Development Insights from Small and Medium-Sized Towns in Europe [Routledge](#) This book project highlights creative approaches to planning and local development. The dynamic complexity, diversity and fluidity which characterize contemporary society represent challenges for planning and development endeavours. While research and policy work has extensively focused on large cities and on metropolitan regions, there has been relatively little work on 'smaller places'. This book shows that if these new challenges affect all places and regions, small and medium-sized towns (SMSTs) are suffering many specific problems that call imperatively for the design and implementation of very imaginative, creative approaches to planning and local development. What could enhance creativity in local development and planning? Is it possible to talk about creative capacity building at the level of a town that might release imaginative and innovative activities? Under what local and non-local conditions is creativity being initiated and flourishing? What are the major obstacles and in what way can these be contained in order to safeguard pockets of creative action? Interdisciplinary and with case studies from France, Norway and other European countries, this volume presents a wide range of approaches and territorial contexts of small cities and towns in which spatial dynamics and the consequences of the city-region for urban planning theory and practice in Europe are highlighted, with a special focus on the challenges for - and understanding of - planning and development of SMSTs. It provides a significant body of critical, comparative and contextual perspectives on the quest for urban sustainability and resilience in SMSTs, therefore emphasizing collaborative and potentially innovative approaches that can be detected, but also the shortcomings, pitfalls and 'traps' that can lie behind the approaches aimed at concerting ecological, economic, and socio-cultural concerns, and the discourses promoting them. Cities and the Creative Class [Psychology Press](#) Richard Florida outlines how certain cities succeed in attracting members of the 'creative class' - the key economic growth asset - and argues that, in order to prosper, cities must harness this creative potential.