

Understanding Shrinkage in European Regions

Editors: Marco Bontje and Sako Musterd,
University of Amsterdam

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Shrinkage in European regions is a complex phenomenon because of its multi-dimensional, multi-scalar and multi-temporal character; its causes and effects are only partially understood. The contributors to this issue examine the meaning of shrinkage, its causes and effects, and in so doing seek to increase our understanding of the phenomenon. The first three articles discuss the theoretical and conceptual debates on shrinkage. These are followed by a series of case studies: four from post-socialist countries in Central and Eastern Europe and three from Western Europe.

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GUEST EDITORS: MARCO BONTJE AND SAKO MUSTERD



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Alexandrine Press, 1 The Farthings, Marcham, Oxon OX13 6QD

phone : 01865 391518 fax : 01865 391687

e-mail : alexandrine@rudkinassociates.co.uk

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