

Submitted Abstract

ID IMC22-FSAbstr- 156

First Author First Name Last Name	Manfred Perlik
Submitting Author First Name Last Name	Manfred Perlik
Correspondence	manfred.perlik@unibe.ch
Co-Authors >> E-Mails will be not listed	
Organisations	University of Bern, Switzerland
Country	Switzerland
Region	Western Europe
Title	Covid As A Game Changer To Stabilise Mountain Peripheries?
Keywords	Urbanization In Mountain Areas, Urban-To-Rural Migration, Multilocality, Transformative Social Innovation, Spatial Justice
Type	List Of Focus Session
Focus Session ID	70

Abstract

The urbanisation of the mountains accelerated in the 1990s. Globalisation has been accompanied by migration due to poverty and violence as well as selective immigration for leisure and housing, mostly in the form of multilocality. In Europe, regional impoverishment scenarios have not consistently come true; even under liberal-productivist economic regimes, peripheral regions have not been abandoned by the public sector. However, in many peripheries there is a lack of confidence in prosperous development, as the social upheavals e.g. in Eastern Germany, Eastern Europe or Northern England (Brexit majority) show. This is not surprising, as the logic of agglomeration advantages and regional supply-oriented competitive strategies has so far remained unbroken in its increasing.

With the Covid crisis, hope has spread that agglomeration advantages will subside, combined with a more solidarity-based economy and society. Initial changes in social practices were hopeful. The backlash came quickly, initiated by ultra-liberal economists, followed by libertarian anthroposophists. Towards the end of the fourth covid wave, the situation is back to what it was before the crisis: mountain areas are becoming places of consumption for metropolitan middle class. people. With an additional, not entirely new function: as a dispositive of security, as in the times of the plague epidemic. This will be showed at the example of lifestyle mobility in the Turkish Taurus mountains, the multilocal covid strategies of "multi-house families" in France and the extension of alpine value chains in the platform economy.

So nothing new? The situation is not that clear-cut. For the first time, several crises of insecurity are coming together: covid, climate and chains of supply. And all of them are causally linked each with each other. There is a possibility that these single crises mutually will rock up to such an extent that the advantages of metropolitan agglomeration will diminish considerably. This argues for an integral joint development of the metropolitan regions and their hinterlands and a rejection of separatist mountain strategies.