

The Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society 2026 Conference

16 - 17 July 2026

McGrath Centre, St Catharine's College, Cambridge, UK

PROGRAMME

DAY ONE: Thursday, 16 July

9:00-9:30	Delegate Registration - Coffee & Tea
9:30 -9:45	Welcome and Introduction to the 2026 CJRES Conference Professor Ron Martin, University of Cambridge
9:45-10:30	Session 1: Keynote Speaker Chair: Professor Pete Tyler <i>"The Power and Politics of Agglomerationism: what should we learn from Manchester's pursuit of the agglomeration model in pursuit of political devolution, economic growth and densification?"</i> Professor Graham Haughton, University of Manchester
10:30-11:30	Session 2 <i>Lightning/ Quick Fire sessions</i> <i>The Shadow Side of Urban Agglomeration: Siphoning and Multi-Scalar Inequality in the UK, Europe and China</i> Xintong Li & Weimin Li <i>Distributional effects of infrastructure strategies in polycentric agglomerations</i> Frank van Oort <i>Redistributive Preferences in Latin America: A Center-Periphery Approach</i> Sébastien Carrère <i>When Economic Complexity Meets Agglomeration: Unequal Gains across Italian Provinces</i> Eustachio Ferrulli <i>Fortress City, Fragile Markets: Uneven Vulnerability to Conflict in Abuja's Agglomeration</i> Stephen Ajadi <i>How firm location choices shape the uneven geography of innovation: micro-foundations of innovation clustering across industry life cycles</i> Mihyun Seong

11:30-11:45	Tea & Coffee		
11:45-13:15	<p align="center">Session 3: PARALLEL SESSIONS</p> <p align="center">Please choose one of these sessions below to attend</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td> <p align="center">Session 3A (McGrath Centre)</p> <p><i>Who gains from density? Rural-urban R&D gaps and distributional effects in EU regions</i> Tryfonas Christou</p> <p><i>Measuring the strength of urban agglomeration with outward intercity flows</i> Jianfa Shen & Junwei Zhang</p> <p><i>Who Gains from Urban Agglomeration? Accessibility and the Unequal Distribution of Economic Opportunities</i> Álvaro de Juanes</p> </td> <td> <p align="center">Session 3B: (Ramsden Room)</p> <p><i>The Forest from the Trees: When Technocrats Can't See the System</i> Kimberley Mack</p> <p><i>Presentation & Speaker to be confirmed</i></p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p align="center">Session 3A (McGrath Centre)</p> <p><i>Who gains from density? Rural-urban R&D gaps and distributional effects in EU regions</i> Tryfonas Christou</p> <p><i>Measuring the strength of urban agglomeration with outward intercity flows</i> Jianfa Shen & Junwei Zhang</p> <p><i>Who Gains from Urban Agglomeration? Accessibility and the Unequal Distribution of Economic Opportunities</i> Álvaro de Juanes</p>	<p align="center">Session 3B: (Ramsden Room)</p> <p><i>The Forest from the Trees: When Technocrats Can't See the System</i> Kimberley Mack</p> <p><i>Presentation & Speaker to be confirmed</i></p>
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15:45-16:00	Tea & Coffee		

16:00-17:00	<u>Session 5</u>	
	Session 5A (McGrath Centre) <i>The Defence Industry and its Economic Geographies: A Literature Review</i> <i>Robert Hassink</i> <i>The character and prospects of the AUKUS national security partnership as international industrial policy</i> <i>Chris Wallace</i>	Session 5B (Ramsden Room) <i>Agglomeration and Job Quality in the US Tech Economy, 2001-23</i> <i>Teresa Lynch</i> <i>Agglomeration and Urban Growth Shadows: Transport Infrastructure in a System-of-Cities</i> <i>Nicholas Sweeney</i>
17:00-17:30	<u>Session 6</u>	
	<i>Roundtable discussion</i>	
17:30	Conference Programme ends for the day	

CONFERENCE DINNER

19:00 Pre-dinner drinks (in McGrath Foyer)

19:30 Dinner (In the main hall)

DAY TWO: Friday, 17 July

	Morning Coffee & Tea	
9:15-9:30		
9:30-10:15	<p><u>Session 7: Keynote speaker</u></p> <p>Chair: Professor Robert Hassink</p> <p>"The restructuring of the international arms industry" <i>Emeritus Professor J Paul Dunne, University of Cape Town & UWE, Bristol</i></p>	
10:15 – 11:15	<p><u>Session 8</u></p> <p><i>Lightning/ Quick Fire sessions</i></p> <p><i>Digital Territorial Innovation Models: Adapting Agglomeration-Based Concepts to the New Realities in the Platform Economy Era</i> <i>Han Chu & Robert Hassink</i></p> <p><i>Urban Gravity and Platform Work</i> <i>Simona Ciappei & Camilla Lenzi</i></p> <p><i>For whom the bell tolls: Distributional rent effects of an increase in the CBD density</i> <i>Roberta Capello and Andrea Caragliu</i></p> <p><i>Icing on the Cake or Charcoal in the Snow? The Uneven Role of Coworking Spaces in Urban and Rural Entrepreneurship</i> <i>Fangchen (Melanie) Zhang & Nan Liu</i></p>	
11:15-11:30	Tea & Coffee	
11:30-13:00	Session 9: PARALLEL SESSIONS	
	<p>Session 9A (McGrath Centre)</p> <p>Clusters and Technology Spillovers in the UK Defence Sector <i>Adam Brown & Jen Nelles</i></p> <p>The Rise of the Northern Gunbelt: Mapping Canada's Turn to Defence <i>Karen Chapple</i></p>	<p>Session 9B (Ramsden Room)</p> <p><i>Socio-spatial implications of urban touristification</i> <i>Angeliki Vatikioti & Petros Kosmas</i></p> <p>Possibility, institutions, and the price of equality in urban economies <i>Anita De Franco</i></p>

	<p>From Importer to Integrator: Financialisation and Saudi Defence Industrialisation Geographies in the Post- Oil Era Ahmed Alqarout</p>	<p>Do disadvantaged workers benefit from density externalities of urban agglomeration? Darja Reuschke and Donald Houston</p>
13:00-14:00	Lunch	
14:00-15:00	<p>Session 10: <i>Lightning/ Quick Fire sessions</i></p> <p>Regional urbanisation levels: population distribution and regional economic growth Emili Tortosa-Ausina</p> <p>Distributional Effects of Functional Urban Areas in the European Union Lela Tijanić</p> <p>Productivity Pioneers and the Distributional Effects of Urban Agglomeration in Central and Eastern European Regions Pawel Dobrzanski</p> <p>The Participatory Paradox in a Densifying Hill City: Who Gains and Who Loses from Urban Governance in Shimla, India Amisha Thakur</p> <p>Bringing Back (Advanced) Manufacturing: Will Reshoring of Advanced Manufacturing Drive Regional Competitiveness in Australia? Sharif Rasel</p>	
15:00-16:00	<p><u>Session 11:</u></p> <p><i>Roundtable discussion</i></p>	
16:00	Conference Ends	