

Peer Review

Review of: "The Mediterranean Islands: Demographic Convergences and Divergences, 1995–2021"

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The work started with a relevant research topic, providing rich demographic data and extensive statistical analysis of Mediterranean island regions. Data are accurate and the data sources are reliable. The work provided a basis for future analysis that can use these data for other works on Mediterranean islands.

Nevertheless the paper have many point to be improved.

The research development compares the population of NUTS 2 and NUTS 1 islands, analysing factors that are valid at national level, so some link between population trends and policies or factors at islands level seems to be missed or not analysed in deep. Existing literature probably tries to explain the causes of the demographic features of the Mediterranean islands in comparison to the mainland territories of the respective Countries.

Authors for example could explore the islands economy compositions, the high skill available on the islands, the accessibility of services (high schools and university(-ies) quality, hospitals, transports, remoteness, connection with the mainlands,...)

In analysed cases the population trends in islands are similar to the one at national level, so the analysis does not seems to be relevant. Moreover there no deep comparison among different islands and the description of phenomena related to the population is not followed by a deeper understanding of it. Finally, migration rates are not considered.

Data and Methods are clear explained and robusts, but the conclusion could be improved for example introducing some policy suggestions or concrete use of that to show the relevance of this work.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.