

Review of: "Differences in Regional Productivity and Imbalance in Regional Growth"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Dear Mr Nino Javakhishvili-Larsen, and Jie Zhang, thank you for your consideration.

My comments on your research on Differences in Regional Productivity and Imbalance in Regional Growth are the following: Having divided into three groups of municipalities Urban, rural and peripheral, it was found that the urban ones had a higher concentration of socioeconomic activities and greater relationship with the peripheral municipalities, however, it would be interesting to know, correlate, how much of this is based on the public sector, both R&D (universities, research institutions, etc.) and medicine, in relation to the other groups of municipalities, which could derive in asymmetries in the coverage of these services in these regions, and therefore would retard growth in these.

Another important aspect is to recognize that even though the model may establish some municipal autonomy, many economic policies are determined centrally, and since there are no restrictions on migration and adoption between regions, especially of R&D within the country, this difference in labor force mobility may be a weak argument to support the differences in the results found.

Finally, in addition to congratulating you on your contribution, I believe that it would be very useful to know the impact of your findings in the medium and long term, which I understand is not part of your research.