

Review of: "Developments in Regional Inequality in Greece"

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This is an interesting paper, analyzing the developments of income inequalities in Greece from 2017 to 2022; especially the consequences of the COVID crisis on inequalities between regions.

However, taking into account the “disposable monetary household income” as the main indicator has a big drawback. It is then impossible to know whether regional income inequalities are due to differences in productivity and in the capacity to generate primary revenues, or to differences between the various ways by which households from different regions benefit from the redistribution system to obtain a given secondary revenue, paying taxes but benefiting from social insurance contributions. Both sources of inequalities do not have the same significance. In the first case, they represent differences in the relative productivities and economic potentialities of the regions. In the second case, they represent the efficiency of the redistribution system to compensate for productive inequalities.

In Table 1, perhaps you could calculate each region’s contribution to total inequalities IF its population’s share had remained constant, at the level of 2017?

Are there other papers that have studied the impact of the COVID-19 crisis and the post-COVID period on increasing or reducing income inequalities in Greece or perhaps other European countries? It would be interesting to mention them in the paper.