Battles for innovations in Cradles (or ruins) of Industry: A Comparative perspective

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OUTLINE

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- Selection of Case Studies
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- Data
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**Starting Point**

- Preliminary ideas about a paper to be written
- Historical analysis to understand the present
- Continuities VS Changes or revolutions
- Cradles of industrialization in two different settings
- Comparative perspective as a learning process
- Complex relationships among geographical, institutional and individual dynamics
- Low-Tech Industries requires a deep analysis in both cases
- Role of Higher Education Institutions matters, but in which ways?
Tentative Research Questions:

- What is and has been the motivation of the main HEIs to interact with stakeholders (industry & local government)?
- How have the cooperation linkages evolved?
- Can modern concepts/models as ‘Triple Helix’, ‘Clusters’ or ‘Third Mission’ capture the complexity of the phenomena analysed above?
Comparative Research Setting

TRIPLE HELIX - Model

Unit of Analysis

CURRENT ROLE of HEIs

‘Cradle’ DEVELOPMENT

‘Ruins’ CRISES

‘Battle’ RESILIENSE

Similarities / Differences

Alcoy

Tampere

Endogenous explanations

Exogenous explanations
Less attention paid to the university role in low-tech or traditional industries (Plechero, 2007);

Emphasis on renowned High-Tech settings (OECD, 2007);

“From the Ivory Tower to the entrepreneurial university”: Is it really true? (Etzkowitz et al., 2000)

A long-term historical perspective is required (Martin, 2003)

Economic impact of universities overemphasized (Parsons & Platt, 1973)
Selection of Case Study

Early Industrialized cities as a comparative case study analysis:

✓ An Early Industrialization process took place in both settings (Gabinete Sigma, 1974; Haapala 1986)

✓ Areas with a preminence of Low-Tech industries until the 1990s (Masiá, 1999; OCDE, 2001; Kostiainen & Sotarahta 2002)

✓ Traditional industries as textile and paper linked to centennial institutions (including a HEI) (Golf y Ortega, 2012)

✓ Access to the main actors narratives (Coller, 2005)

✓ Extension of preliminary studies on the local history but from an innovation studies perspective (Blanes-Nadal, 1999; e.g. Haapala, 1986)
Spanish setting:
Fábrica de mantas, entremantas y jergas de lana y algodón. — Cordón y lana en todos los colores para jaimería. **ALCOY (España)**
Spanish setting: PASCAL workshop on Cities Learning to Together – June 2014
Finnish setting:
FINNISH SETTING
Research approach and sources of information:

- Historical perspective: evolution of main institutional changes / ruins (emphasis in HEIs role)

- Inductive Analysis that complements literature gaps identified

- Study based on qualitative interviews (Marshall y Rossman, 1999)

- Main official documents revised and compared

- Analysis based on data already collected in other related studies by the authors
Tentative Conclusions

✓ From Ivory Tower towards the Entrepreneurial University?
✓ Are still universities behaving as “Observation Towers”?
✓ There is life beyond Silicon Valley...
✓ HE’s role is crucial despite of the huge changes experienced in society and despite the setting we are talking about
Third Mission?

Are extra-academic activities a novel phenomena?

Are they actually academic activities?

Economic effects of the student body or of the university?

(knowledge VS rent a flat, go to the supermarket, spend their money...)

Tension between the pursue of their respective objectives (University personnel and Business World)
GRACIAS

KIITOS

¿Tienen alguna cuestión?

onko teillä kysyttävää?