

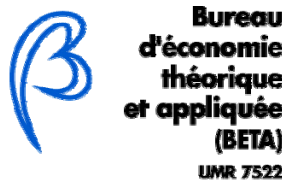
Universities & Business Relationships

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Some international observations and reflections
from the perspective of universities

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Three main perspectives

- Links between universities and regional innovation systems (OECD)
- The phases of the evolution of the role of universities in innovation systems (Charles and Uyarra)
- University funding and financial autonomy (Dominicis et al.)

Source

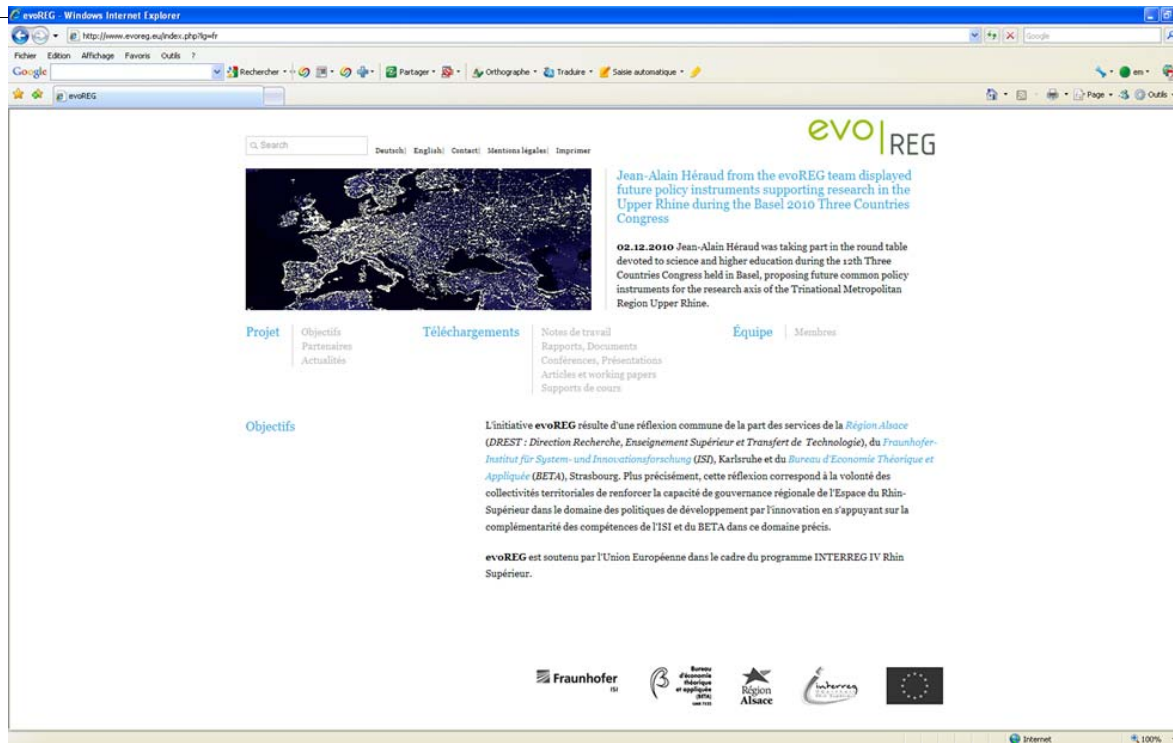
- **evoREG note #20 :**

Le soutien local et régional apporté aux Universités :
quelques réflexions basées sur des observations
internationales

Muller, E. ; Héraud, J-A. ; Zenker, A. ; Bonne, D.-A.
(2011)

http://evoreg.eu/docs/files/shno/Note_evoREG_20.pdf

The evoREG initiative



The evoREG initiative results of a common reflection by the Région Alsace, the Fraunhofer Institute Systems and Innovation Research ISI, Karlsruhe and the Bureau d'Économie Théorique et Appliquée (BETA), Université de Strasbourg.

Think-tank aiming at strengthening the innovation policy governance capacity of the Upper Rhine Area

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The OECD vision

Type of university	Production conditions	Co-ordination conditions	Implications for regional innovation policy
World-class	Global recruitment of academic staff Large share of foreign students. International PhD programmes Industrial collaboration with multi-national corporations on a global basis	Shaping the overall strategy and policy of universities is difficult	Top universities bring wealth to the region by attracting students, staff and industrial collaboration The main goal of regional policy is to maintain a high quality of life and environment (e.g. student facilities, accommodation, services)
Mid-range and generalist	National academic staff Industrial collaboration mixed (national/regional)	Most difficult to co-ordinate: universities need regional funds but want to maintain their autonomy. They consider the regional dimension as a limitation However, they have limited attractiveness outside national boundaries	Need for a clear regional research strategy that identifies areas of common interest without being trapped in funding the overall university budget
Regional model	Applied research focused on regional industry needs Training students in professional and technical areas related to regional interests	Universities funded by regional government Governance deeply influenced by region (e.g. regional representatives may serve on governing boards)	Need for maximising the impact of regional universities across a wide range of innovation activities

OECD (2011, p.103): Regions and Innovation Policy, OECD Reviews of Regional Innovation. OECD Publishing, Paris.

The phases of the evolution of the role of universities in innovation systems (Charles and Uyarra,2010)

- Phase 1: Regional innovation as physical development – silicon landscapes (1970s and early 1980s)
- Phase 2: Supporting technology transfer and enterprise (1980s)
- Phase 3: Regional innovation as networks – regional innovation strategies (1980s and early 1990s)
- Phase 4: Regional science policies (2000s-today)

University funding and financial autonomy (De Dominicis et al.)

- 200 research-active universities from 33 European Research Area (ERA)
- Looking at the general budget, 70 % of the total university income comes from government allocations. **Sources from private companies represent about 6 %**, around 3 % comes from non-profit sectors and approximately 2 % is from abroad. The remaining 19 % belongs to a residual category 'Other'
- Institutions that declare to be completely autonomous are the ones that have the most diversified budget

Short conclusions of the statement

- #1 : Universities are different in “nature” and in (self-assigned) “missions”
- #2 : The (regional) policy landscape impacts university-business relationships
- #3 : The degree of financial autonomy of universities seems to be a crucial explaining factor of the universities ability to cooperate with companies



Danke für Ihre Aufmerksamkeit
Merci pour votre attention



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