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“The evolution of specialization in the EU knowledge space”  

November 21, 2016, 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm  
Building D2, Ground Floor, Room 038, Welthandelsplatz 1, 1020 Vienna  

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**Abstract:** Significant attention has been directed to processes of knowledge production, but little consideration has been given to the type of technological knowledge produced within specific places. Patent co-classification data are employed to measure the distance between all pairs of International Patent Classification categories in order to visualize and to trace the evolution of the EU15 knowledge space from 1981 to 2005. Technological relatedness measures specify the degree of specialization of knowledge produced within each NUTS2 region. Knowledge specialization has increased significantly across regions since 1981. Changes in the average relatedness of regional knowledge cores are decomposed to reveal the contributions of technological entry, exit and selection processes over space and time. In a final section of the paper, technological diversification and abandonment at the regional level are modeled as a function of proximity to the knowledge core of the region and to knowledge spillovers from neighboring regions.  

**Biography:** Jürgen holds a PhD in Geography from the University of California, Los Angeles. He worked as economic geographer at the Universities of Southampton and UCL in the UK and Temple University in the U.S. He is interested in questions of and relations between uneven regional development and social inequality. While the first question requires the analysis of regional differences in the trajectories of technological and industrial change, the second question is concerned with the unequal distribution of resources generated through this process.