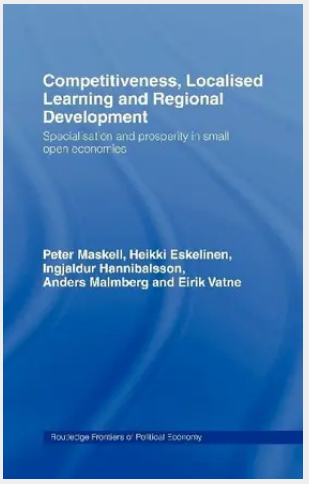
Eskelinen / Hannibalsson / Malmberg

Competitiveness, Localised Learning and Regional Development

Specialization and Prosperity in Small Open Economies



Drawing on a rich literature and case study material from selected industries, and elaborating on key concepts such as firms and competencies, industries and industrial systems, and competitiveness and prosperity, this book sets out to answer three broad research questions: * What is competition about in today's economy? * Why do geographical areas (local milieus, cities, regions, countries) specialize in particular types of economic activity, and why do patterns of specialization, once in place tend to be so tremendously durable? * How can high-cost regions in general and small industrialized countries in particular sustain competitiveness and prosperity in an increasingly globally integrated world economy? This book points the way out of a dilemma created by recent industrial theory and policy: is it possible for countries which are not destined to be leading high-tech powers to take advantage of the current conjuncture of increasingly open-markets.

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231,90 €
231,90 € (zzgl. MwSt.)

Lieferfrist: bis zu 10 Tage

Artikelnummer: 9780415154284
Medium: Buch
ISBN: 978-0-415-15428-4
Verlag: Routledge
Erscheinungstermin: 25.12.1997
Sprache(n): Englisch
Auflage: 1. Auflage 1997
Serie: Routledge Frontiers of Political Economy
Produktform: Gebunden
Gewicht: 581 g
Seiten: 272
Format (B x H): 161 x 240 mm

Kundenservice Verlag Dr. Otto Schmidt KG
Neumannstraße 10, 40235 Düsseldorf | kundenservice@otto-schmidt.de | 0221-93738-997 (Inland)