

## Antonio Ignazzi



### Affiliation

CNRS; Géographie-Cités UMR 8504.

### Background

I'm interested in Geography and Urban Economy, (demography, quantitative geography and cartography, analysis of socio-economic policies and related outlook, spatial analysis) as well as in Statistical analysis, (integration, evaluation and improvement of data and metadata quality; management and analysis of statistical data; statistical computing and data modeling, multivariate statistical methods).

### Current Research

During the last four years I collected a huge amount of population and socio-economic data concerning Brazil within a project focusing on BRICS countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) European countries and United States aiming to investigate the connection between population, economic growth and economic specialization in different city systems characterized by a long standing urbanization (Cina, India, Europe), relatively new urbanization (Brazil, United States), different geographical peculiarities, historical paths and exogenous shocks, (such as colonialism for some cited countries).

Concerning this project I would like to examine the Chinese system of cities from a holistic point of view in order to discover which are the main peculiarities of Chinese medium cities, the evolution of their population, their functional specialization by means of the ORBIS database in collaboration with the University of Lausanne reporting the number of national and foreign firms operating within a circumscribed geographical region, their NACE codes (in order to define their statistical classification of economic activities), the number of employees involved in different specific sectors of economic activities focusing importantly on innovative activities such as research and development, real estate, bank, insurance and finance and finally the networks shaped by the interaction among different companies operating in the whole Chinese system. It is also my goal to compare directly the Chinese and the Brazilian system of cities since they are both development economies and members of the BRICS countries highlighting both their differences and similarities.

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### MEDIUM

*New pathways for sustainable urban development in China's medium-sized cities*

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