

ROUTLEDGE STUDIES IN GLOBAL COMPETITION

# Innovation, Technology and Knowledge

Edited by  
Charlie Karlsson, Börje Johansson and  
Roger R. Stough



# **Innovation, Knowledge**



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**Edited by Charlie Karlsson,  
Börje Johansson and Roger R. Stough**

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# Innovation, Technology and Knowledge

This book examines the evolution of the Swedish economy over the past two centuries. Focusing on growth and transformation, it strives to provide a long-term perspective on the historical contexts and forces that have shaped 21st century Sweden.

*Rodney Edvinsson*, Associate Professor in Economic History,  
Stockholm University, Sweden

In the past four decades the developed economies have developed into veritable knowledge economies at the same time as more and more economies have entered the road to economic development. Typical for the developments during this time has been substantially increased investments in research and development (R&D) to generate new knowledge and new technologies and increased investments in diffusing existing knowledge by means of education, and thereby raising the volume of human capital.

However, many member states and regions within the EU are struggling with their economic development. This book explores the uneven patterns of development within the EU, discusses the relative effect of investments on innovation and productivity growth and looks at the mechanisms involved in economic development and policy.

Broad and comprehensive, this book will be of great value to academics and researchers alike.

**Charlie Karlsson** is Professor of the Economics of Technological Change at Jönköping International Business School, Sweden.

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## Preface

The contributions forming the different chapters in this book were first presented and discussed at the Twelfth Uddevalla Symposium on *The Geography of Innovation and Entrepreneurship*, held at the Polytechnic Institute of Bari, Bari, Italy, 11–13 June 2009.

The purpose of this international conference was to contribute to an increased understanding of the role of geographical space in innovation and entrepreneurship. In recent decades we have witnessed a renewed interest in the spatial aspects of innovation and entrepreneurship, including the role of the centripetal and centrifugal forces influencing the location of firms and households. The contributions cover a focused range of topics within the role of systems of innovation, innovation and regions, and social capital and innovation.

The Twelfth Uddevalla Symposium 2009, organized by the University West, Department of Economics and IT, Trollhättan, Sweden, was hosted by the Polytechnic Institute of Bari, Italy. The School of Public Policy, George Mason University, USA, and Jönköping International Business School, Jönköping, Sweden were also parts of the organizing committee.

The symposium was co-financed by CESIS (Centre of Excellence for Science and Innovations Studies), Stockholm & Jönköping, Sweden; Centre for Innovation Systems, Entrepreneurship and Growth, (CISEG), Jönköping International Business School, Sweden; Media Management and Transformation Center (MMTC), Jönköping International Business School, Sweden; Nordic Section of Regional Science Association (NS-RSA), Polytechnic Institute of Bari, Bari, Italy; Research Unit for Rural Entrepreneurship and Growth (RUREG), Jönköping International Business School, Sweden; The School of Public Policy, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, USA; and the University West, Trollhättan, Sweden. Supporting local partners were the Banca Popolare di Bari, the Association of Industrial Manufacturers of the Province of Bari – Confindustria Bari – and the Regional Agency of Technology and Innovation of Apulia (ARTI Puglia), Italy.

The organizers of the symposium thank Uddevalla Municipality, Uddevalla, Sweden for sponsoring the Best Paper Awards program. The organizers also

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The authors and the editors thank Ms Iréne Bernhard, University West, Sweden for editorial assistance.

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Charlie Karlsson, Börje Johansson, Roger R. Stough

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