



Palgrave Macmillan

1st
edition

1st ed. 2018, XVII, 218 p.
12 illus., 8 illus. in color.

Printed book

Hardcover

Printed book

Hardcover

ISBN 978-3-319-78642-1

\$ 119,99

Available

Discount group

Palgrave Standard US (P5)

Product category

Contributed volume

Series

Palgrave Studies in Global Higher
Education

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Softcover

ISBN 978-3-030-08754-8

Education : Higher Education

Pinheiro, R., Young, M., Šima, K. (Eds.), University of Agder, Kristiansand, Norway

Higher Education and Regional Development

Tales from Northern and Central Europe

- Highlights the wider infrastructure required so that universities can develop relationships with local communities
- Emphasises the importance of building connections outside of academia, especially for institutions which are on the periphery
- Analyses how higher education can develop more regional bonds using the benefits of modern communication and strategies

This book analyses the role of universities as critical actors in the socio-economic development of peripheral regions in Norway and the Czech Republic. Examining the ambiguities of the traditional mission of a university in comparison to contemporary demands, the editors and contributors move past single-case analyses to adopt an integrated conceptual and analytical framework. The authors question whether universities can indeed 'fix' the conditions of any region they operate in, as is a common assumption, by examining peripheral regions, many of which have been devastated by natural or man-made disasters. Simultaneously acknowledging the complexities at the heart of both higher education institutions and regions, this book brings together a set of critical contributions that shed light on how universities can fulfil their role in peripheral regions rather than knowledge-intensive cities and towns. This uniquely researched book will be of interest to students and scholars of higher education, universities and communities, and education policy.

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