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at **MMU Business School**
Manchester Metropolitan University
United Kingdom

Special Track

Geographies of Cities: Rescaling International Business

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Globalisation, trade and multinational firm activities all have important spatial dimensions. Many newer frameworks used within economic geography and international business move beyond analysis of activities at the national scale. While study of cities has a long tradition in economic geography, the role of cities is receiving increasing attention from international business scholars. The implications of cities for the investments, strategies and the management systems of multinational firms are however underdeveloped areas of research. This special track will therefore focus on international economic activities in cities and the implications of this for multinational firms. We call for papers that examine international business and economic geography issues at the city scale, especially, but not exclusively, papers that integrate or utilise theories and conceptual frameworks from these two areas of study.

Suitable topics

- FDI flows and cities.
- Strategies and management systems of multinational firms in cities.
- Cities as nodes in the global operations of multinational firms.
- The hierarchy of cities and the strategies of multinational firms.
- Developmental implications of the concentration of the activities of multinational firms in cities.
- The broader theoretical discussion of how we can conceptualise and empirically examine the international business implications of cities.

Theoretical, empirical (quantitative and qualitative), and methodological papers are all encouraged. We also welcome general papers on themes situated in the overlap between economic geography and international business.

The track organisers are currently seeking a special issue of a journal on this topic. The strongest papers from this track will be encouraged to be developed for submission to the special issue.