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Francisco Carballo-Cruz holds a DPhil from the University of Oxford with a thesis in the area of Transport Economics. He has an MSc in Industrial Economics from the University of Minho (Portugal) and Bachelors in Economics and in Management from the University of Santiago de Compostela (Spain). He is currently professor of economics at the University of Minho (Portugal) and researcher at the Economic Policies Research Centre (NIPE). He teaches in the areas of Public Economics, Regional Economics and Program Evaluation and Public Policy. He is the former Deputy Director of the Economics Department (two terms) and the former Director of the MSc in International Business (3 terms). Currently, coordinates the Advanced Programme in International Management at the UMinho Exec. His research is focused on Transport Economics, Public Finance and Regional Economics; he has published several scientific and professional articles in those areas. At present, he is the principal investigator of a research project funded by the European Social Fund - Operational Programme of Technical Assistance untitled: "The German System of Dual Vocational Training: Determination of Barriers and Potentialities and Potential Incorporation into the Portuguese Training System". He is also coordinating a European Project of Transference of Good Practices so-called: "DualTrain - Building a Sustainable Approach to the Dual Vocational Training System in Portugal, Spain and Germany". He also co-coordinates a consultancy project on "Entrepreneurship and Economic Development in Low Density Areas in Portugal" for the EDP Foundation. He co-coordinated the evaluation team of the study on the "Economic Impacts of Guimarães 2012 - European Capital of Culture", and the team for evaluating the "Economic and Social Impacts of the European Youth Capital 2012". He will coordinate the evaluation studies of the European Youth Capital in 2015 and 2016. In 2013 and 2014, Francisco participated as a team member in a study on "Territorial Cooperation and Culture", funded by the Portuguese Government. In 2011 and 2012, he co-coordinated a European Project of Technology Transfer so-called EntreExplorer. He also participated in the team that prepared the study for the "Evaluation of the main achievements of Cohesion Policy Programmes and Projects over the Longer Term in 15 Selected Regions" for the DG Regio. He was the principal investigator of a research project funded by the Foundation for Science and Technology (Portugal), entitled "Economic Evaluation of the SCUT program: validation, renegotiation and policy recommendations." In recent years, he participated in several teams and, in some cases, coordinated assessment studies on public policies and programmes for several public bodies in Portugal. He also integrated a number of working groups for policy analysis and formulation of regional strategies. Recently, he participated in some working groups set up by the Portuguese Regional Governments to define investment priorities and carry out ex-ante evaluations of Regional Operational Programmes. He is a member of the Steering and Executive Councils of the Cross-Border EURES Galicia-North of Portugal. He is a member of the Board of the Portuguese Association for Regional Development (APDR) and belongs to the European Organising Committee (EOC) of the European Regional Science Association (ERSA). He is a member of the Board of TecMinho - University-Enterprise Technology Transfer of the University of Minho.