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Andrés Rodríguez-Pose is a Professor of Economic Geography at the London School of Economics, where he was previously Head of the Department of Geography and Environment. He is the current holder of a European Research Council (ERC) Advanced Grant and the Vice-President of the European Regional Science Association (2012-2017). He is President-Elect of Regional Science Association International, where he will serve as Vice-President of the Association in 2014 and as President in 2015-2016. He has a long track record of research in regional growth and disparities, fiscal and political decentralization, regional innovation, and development policies and strategies. His research is widely cited in academic circles and has also been frequently used by policy- and decision-makers. In his areas of expertise, he has acted as consultant to several Directorates of the European Commission, the European Investment Bank, the World Bank, the Cities Alliance, the OECD, the International Labour Organization, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the Confederación Andina de Fomento, among others. He directed a major World Bank/Cities Alliance report entitled *Understanding your local economy* and frequently acts as advisor to national governments. He has also been visiting professor at a number of universities, including the College of Europe (Belgium), Cambridge (UK), Stavanger (Norway) and Hanover (Germany). He is the only social scientist to have been awarded the Royal Society-Wolfson Research Merit Award. Other past academic awards include a Leverhulme Trust Major Research Fellowship, a Philip Leverhulme Prize, and a Royal Geographical Society Gill Memorial Award, both for his contribution to our understanding of regional disparities and development.