The relationship between labour mobility and regional economic development is an interdependent one. In principle, migration decisions result from the evaluation of local labour market conditions and location-specific amenities. Economic prosperity and regional growth are thus, on the one hand, supposed to be important determinants of labour mobility. On the other hand, a high share of well-educated workers is a key competitive asset for regions’ economic prospects. Human capital stimulates productivity, innovation, and therefore a region’s economic growth. We observe huge differences in human capital across regions. Moreover, growth or decline of regions populations and the human capital endowment of regions is mainly driven by migration flows (Krabel & Flöther, 2014 Chen and Rosenthal, 2008), with highly qualified workers showing the highest mobility rates among all skill groups. This special session aims at providing new evidence on the interdependent relationship between labour mobility and regional economic development.

References