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# Great Expectations?

## The Role of Universities as Civic Anchors in Place-Based Innovation

Recent decades have seen increasing demands from policy makers for publicly funded universities to be proactive drivers of innovation and development in the places in which they are located, particularly in less developed or peripheral regions. This has led to a resurgence of interest in concepts such as the civic university and contributions universities might make to local social and economic development. This talk explores and challenges many of the orthodoxies underpinning the policy rhetoric around the role of universities as civic anchors.



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**April 6**

11am-12pm ET

**Posvar 4217**  
**and Zoom**



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Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union