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FROM CITIZENSHIP TO CIT(Y)ZENSHIP WHY ARE CITIES BECOMING MORE IMPORTANT?

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ABSTRACT

The territorial dimension of social citizenship as well as the role of cities as building blocks of social inclusion strategies have for long been neglected perspectives in comparative social policy analysis. Conversely in urban studies the importance of national regulatory systems has been underplayed and the nested nature of cities has been for long disregarded.

In this contribution, I will investigate the implications of changing scalar configurations and new governance arrangements occurred since the end of the 1970s, providing a territorialized overview of citizenship regimes in some European countries. The hypothesis is that despite converging trends, we witness diverging impacts. This influences also the role of cities in the different contexts, the available resources and the capacities of cities as social laboratories.