

FUNDAȚII ȘI MECANISME ALE ECONOMIILOR DE AGLOMERARE

FOUNDATIONS AND MECHANISMS OF AGGLOMERATION ECONOMIES

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Abstract: This paper is intended as a reconciliation of different points of view in terms of micro-foundations of agglomeration economies. After a brief description of the concept of agglomeration economies, we tried grouping the micro-foundations into six types: firstly, the three traditional sources of A. Marshall – knowledge spillovers, linkages between input suppliers and final producers, and labour market interactions –, and continuing with entrepreneurship, the opportunities characteristic of a certain location and the cultural affiliation of individuals. Due to the fact that the study of agglomeration economies has to deal with the identification of those policies capable of amplifying the benefits of agglomeration – issue developed in a future study –, the normative dimension of agglomeration economies cannot be conceived without a deep understanding of the mechanisms causing the effects of agglomeration, or without their empirical identification and dissociation. Our study offers explanations about the three mechanisms through which the agglomeration effects occur: sharing, matching and learning.

Keywords: agglomeration economies, micro-foundations of agglomeration economies, sharing, matching and learning mechanisms.