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Propositions

Belonging to the thesis

Essays in Comparative International Entrepreneurship Research

by Johannes Kleinhempel

1. Entrepreneurship does not take place in a vacuum but is deeply embedded in its context.
2. The effect of contextual influences on entrepreneurship changes over the course of the new venture creation process; conceptualizing entrepreneurship simultaneously as a dynamic process and as contextually embedded extends entrepreneurship theory (Chapter 2).
3. The social makeup of a region has a profound –and changing– influence on the new venture creation process. Regional social capital enables those individuals who want to start a new venture to launch it formally, but it is not associated with initial interest in entrepreneurship or the chances that young ventures survive (Chapter 2).
4. The positive effect of regional social capital on new venture creation is primarily driven by bridging and cross-cutting associational networks, rather than closed inward-looking associations, which is in line with the mechanisms proposed by societal social capital theory (Chapter 2).
5. Focusing on intergenerationally transmitted country-of-ancestry cultural imprints and studying second-generation immigrants provides an avenue to confront the conceptual challenges that arise because economic, institutional, and socio-cultural conditions are inherently interdependent and co-vary across nations such that the role of culture in entrepreneurship can be identified (Chapter 3).
6. Culture influences entrepreneurship in a likely causal manner (Chapter 3).
7. Cultural imprints persist not only for substantial periods within the same locality but also travel across borders, embodied in immigrants, who embark to and settle in new destinations. There, intergenerational cultural transmission occurs under distinct economic, institutional, and cultural regimes such that country-of-origin cultural imprints persist for at least two generations outside of the environment where they were initially formed (Chapter 3).
8. Disentangling the various channels through which culture influences entrepreneurship –by shaping individuals’ values and traits, what is considered to be legitimate behavior, and how easily support can be mobilized– advances cross-cultural entrepreneurship theory (Chapter 4).
9. Culture influences entrepreneurship by shaping individuals’ values and traits (Chapter 4).
10. Different theories of how socio-cultural conditions influence entrepreneurship complement each other (Chapter 2 and Chapter 4) which offers ample room for further research from an interactive or configurational perspective.