




**Prof.dr. Jouke van Dijk,**  
**President ERSA**  
 Professor of Regional Labour Market Analysis,  
 Department of Economic Geography, University  
 of Groningen & Director Waddenacademie  
 Opening Session ERSA Summerschool  
 and University of the Aegean, Mytilini,  
 Lesvos Island, Greece, July 9-15, 2017

### Regional Science Association International (RSAI)



- Founded in 1954 by Walter Isard in US
- Started by economists, with the intention to be a multi- and interdisciplinary organization. Now geographers, planners, sociologists etc. also participate
- > 5.000 international members
- RSAI: organizational structure with four supraregional and country and language sections

### Start of Regional Science in Europe

**Isard's 1960 Tour to Promote Regional Science**



An ideal time to promote regional science and the Regional Science Association:


- Isard's *Methods in Regional Science* published
- North American base was by now well established
- RSA constitution now allowed for the formation of sections




During the summer of 1960, Isard brought his large family to Europe and toured the continent in a VW microbus, stopping off for conferences along the way.

### Isard's tour in 1960 to promote Regional Science in Europe

**Isard's 1960 Tour to Promote Regional Science**



### Main supraregional structure of RSAI



**ERSA** Europe  
**RSAmericas** North and South America  
**PRSCO** The Pacific

New:  
**LACRSA**  
 Latin American  
 and Caribbean  
 Regional  
 Science  
 Association

Regional Science Conferences are all over the World: Most important ERSA (700-1000 participants, NARSC (500-700); next RSAI Worldcongress in Goa, India May 2017

### Country and language sections over the world



Legend:  
 - RSAI Sections Unestablished (light orange)  
 - RSAI Sections Established (orange)  
 - Possible future Sections (yellow)

## 19 ERSA Sections

Baltic	Moroccan
British-Irish	Nordic
Croatian	Polish
Dutch	Portuguese
<b>French-speaking</b>	Romanian
German-speaking	Russian
<b>Greek</b>	Slovak
Hungarian	Spanish
Israeli	Turkish
Italian	<b>Soon 20: Bulgarian</b>

## ERSA main Activities

- Annual ERSA congress
- Summerschools and special sessions for young scientist and the Epainos Prize
- ERSA Prize for Outstanding Distinguished Regional Scientists
- Fully Open Access Journal REGION
- Co-operation with EU DG REGIO: EWRC (October) and Lectures; OECD and European Investment Bank
- Governance: the ERSA Council with representatives of all sections and the EOC and since 2007: ERSA Office at CORE, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium



57th Congress Groningen

Social Progress for Resilient Regions

29 august - 1 September 2017

Groningen  
The Netherlands  
groningen.ersa.org

## ERSA Congresses

- 2019 and later ERSA Congress  
Possible options: Lyon, Bolzano, Azores, Peccs, Warsaw, Greece
- 2018 - 58th ERSA Congress  
Cork, Ireland
- 2017 - 57th ERSA Congress  
Groningen, The Netherlands
- 2016 - 56th ERSA Congress  
Vienna, Austria
- 2015 - 55th ERSA Congress  
Lisbon, Portugal
- 2014 - 54th ERSA Congress  
St Petersburg, Russia



## Summerschools:

1918 – Bratislava, Slovakia  
1918 (winter) – Lille, France,  
1917 - Lesvos, Greece  
1916 - Milano, Italy  
1915 – Vienna, Austria

Places for People: Innovative, Inclusive and Liveable Regions

58th Congress CORK

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## ERSA Journal REGION

- **Fully Open Access**  
**Online Journal of ERSA - powered by the Vienna University (WU) launched in 2014**
- “Stimulate the dialog in the regional science community and make REGION the Open Access medium of discussion of regional issues at a worldwide scale”

Quotation by the President of ERSA - Jouke van Duik (taken from the REGION website)

**Thank You!**

**See you in Groningen or next year in Cork!**

**Send a paper to REGION!**

**Enjoy this Summerschool!**

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