

**H.F.R.I.**  
Hellenic Foundation for  
Research & Innovation



**GEOINC  
GREECE**

Geography of Income Inequality in Greece

# The **Geography** of **Income Inequality** in GREECE



Academic Research  
Regional Development Institute  
of Panteion University

🌐 [www.elidek.gr](http://www.elidek.gr) 🌐 <http://geinc.gr/>

## Research Project Synopsis

The distribution of income is a key issue in economic analysis, as well as in social and welfare policy. However, while income inequality reflects the welfare conditions within an economy, its geographical distribution provides insights on its variations across space, which becomes particularly significant in times of economic crisis.

Therefore, **GEOINC aims** at investigating the geographical aspects of income and income inequality in Greece during the period 2000-2015. The **analysis will be based on** individual micro-data allowing for the identification of the geographical location of households, together with demographic, economic and social variables at the sub-national level in Greece.

## Project Originality

**GEOINC** bases its originality on **four pillars**.

01

**Aims at complementing existing knowledge about regional inequality and welfare in Greece.** Although regional economic and income inequalities in Greece have been examined in the existing literature, the geography of income inequality has received less attention, and its investigation using micro-data has not yet been explored in the literature. The GEOINC project will analyze potential asymmetries and polarization phenomena of income distribution in Greece during the pre- and post-crisis period.

02

**Focuses on unveiling polarization and social segregation trends in large Greek metropolitan areas.** Studies on polarization and social segregation are widespread in international literature, given that multi-developmental changes are taking place within urban areas, influencing the evolution of income inequalities. The GEOINC project aims at investigating the impact of the socio-spatial outcomes of development in order to explore income inequalities at an intra-regional level. Special attention will be given on the cases of Athens and Thessaloniki.

03

**Targets the study of the evolution of income inequality and polarization in Greece.** Although income inequality has received substantial attention in the literature, income polarization remains relatively unexplored. Recent studies focusing on Greece use information coming from the EU-SILC dataset and the Household Expenditure Surveys (HES). The GEOINC project aims at contributing to existing studies by using individual declared income data, which are more precise than small-sample survey data.

04

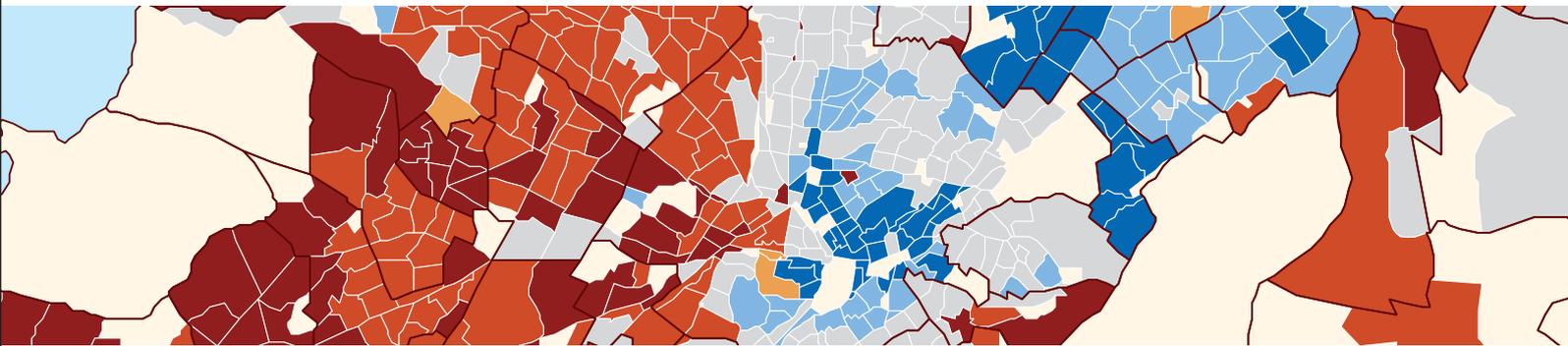
**Focuses on investigating public policy interventions and their assessment.** Studies related to the geography of income inequality provide important information about specific areas and income groups that should be considered for designing social policy. Therefore, the GEOINC project aims at leveraging all derived insights referring to the current distribution of income inequality, poverty and segregation across space, in an effort to provide an evidence-based approach for policy recommendations.

## The Geography of **Income Inequality** in GREECE

**GEOINC aims** at complementing existing knowledge about interregional and intra-regional inequality and welfare in Greece by exploring the evolution and the determinants of income inequality, before and during the economic crisis.

The **spatiotemporal analysis** of income inequalities, including comparisons between pre- and post-crisis periods, will help us to identify patterns and clusters of income inequality, and thus, pave the way for the identification of possible causes of income inequality in Greece. GEOINC will also unveil trends in polarization and social segregation within large metropolitan areas, specifically in Athens.

Finally, it will **focus on** issues of evidence-based public policy recommendations by synthesizing the empirical findings of the project.

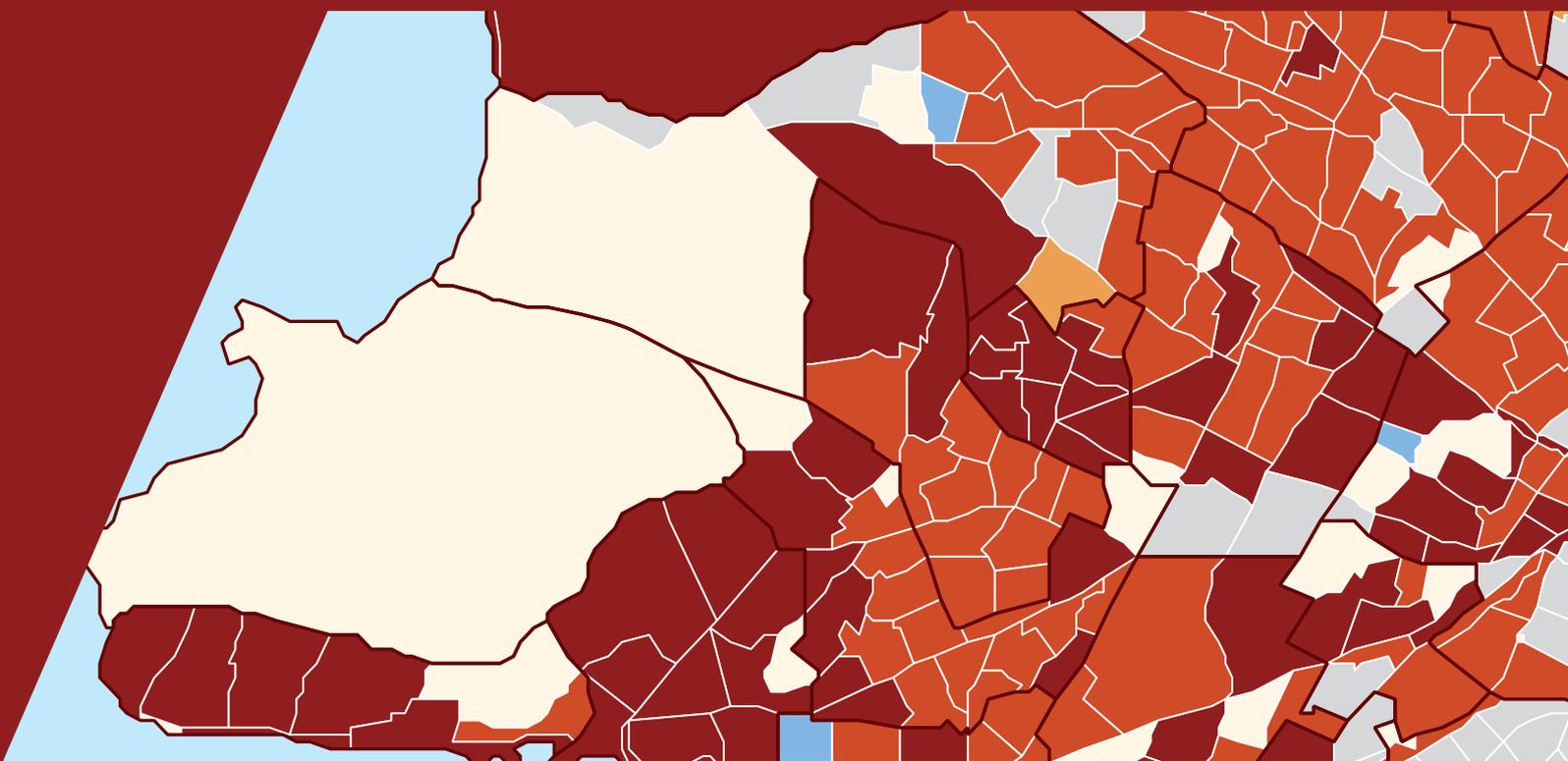


### Anticipated Results and Impact

The project is **anticipated to enhance** our knowledge and understanding of the geography of income and inequality in Greece. The primary aim of this analysis is to provide policymakers and researchers with new input that could be used as a baseline upon which well-targeted social policies could be designed. GEOINC will also cover, at least in part, the existing research gap in the investigation of regional and sub-regional income inequalities in Greece and trigger a discussion on the enhancement of further research on this topic.

First, we aim to provide a concrete state-of-the-art analysis of the methods and studies on income inequality. This includes a review of the literature on regional development studies, containing a collection of literature sources and data that have been used for empirical analyses. Second, expected results also include the measurement of the geography of income inequality in Greece. This consists of the investigation of the evolution of income inequality, as well as the spatial variations of income, not only at a national, but also at a sub-national and metropolitan level. Third, GEOINC expects to provide results related to the determinants of income inequality in Greece. It also focuses on revealing segregation and spatial polarization patterns in Greek cities with an emphasis on Athens. Finally, expected results also include policy recommendations referring to income inequality, income polarization, and the geography of the tax burden at the sub-national level.

The **impact of the project** will be maximized through a dissemination plan, including the publication of scientific papers and participation in conferences as ways in which the knowledge generated can be distributed during and after the lifetime of the project.



## The importance of this funding

The GEOINC project focuses on income inequality, which is one of the most important contemporary issues relevant to economic theory and public policy. At the same time, insights about inter and intra inequalities are essential for society since they feed everyday discussions and public debates. GEOINC lies at the heart of this ongoing socio-economic debate and tries to provide relevant information for more informed, and therefore, efficient policy making processes. Including the spatial dimension in our analysis will further efforts towards providing place-based insights that will enable policymakers to consider territorial specificities when designing social and economic policies. Hence, GEOINC places inclusive growth at the center of attention, instead of pure economic growth perspectives, which can be further empowered through the deeper understanding of the geography of income inequality.

**Budget: 151.140,00 €**

**Duration: 28 months**

**Principal Investigator: Prof. Y. Psycharis**



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