

The role of urban amenities in attracting creativity: lessons from Porto city-centre

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The thriving literature on the “creative cities” has drawn attention to the importance of urban amenities, such as physical identity, social and functional diversity, connectivity and flexibility, in the location of creative activities and the creative class in historic city-centres. The paper analyzes the role of such urban amenities in the location of culturally creative activities in Porto city-centre. Using semistructured interviews with local actors in Porto city-centre, our findings show the differentiated intensity of urban amenities within the area. Urban amenities seem to influence spatial dynamics in diverse ways, according with the characteristics of the activities, locations and clustering processes. Moreover, the same urban amenities that contribute to the attraction of creative activities do not seem to influence creative workers in the same extend, and vice-versa.

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