Call for papers - Special Session on Spatial Econometric Interaction Modelling

We are pleased to invite you to contribute papers for a Special Session on **Spatial Econometric Interaction Modelling**, which we will organize at the 11th RSAI World Congress on April 25-28, 2016. The RSAI World Congress will take place in in Istanbul (Turkey) and will be a major international event.

Motivation and aim

Spatial interaction models (or *gravity models*) are widely used analytical tools for the study of interactions between agents in space. Despite having been established several decades ago, spatial interaction models are currently experiencing a new push from practitioners and researchers. New progress is generally being made in the econometrics of spatial interaction (e.g., with regard to the problem of excess-zeros, panel estimators, or quantile regression approaches). Moreover, a new 'family' of spatial interaction models has emerged in particular since 2008, making use of spatial econometrics.

Such new awareness regarding the relevance of spatial effects led to the development of what can be referred to as *spatial econometric interaction models*. These models use the tools typical of spatial statistics and econometrics to take spatial and network autocorrelation into account, and adapt parameter interpretation. Critical contributions by Fischer and Griffith, LeSage and Pace (both 2008, *Journal of Regional Science*), Behrens et al. (2012, *Journal of Applied Econometrics*), LeSage and Thomas-Agnan (2015, *Journal of Regional Science*) pushed the debate on spatial autocorrelation and spatial interaction, as they provided in-depth analytical treatment of spatial econometric interaction models.

This special session aims to further disseminate knowledge about spatial econometric interaction models and stimulate further development in this field. Contributions are welcome that deal with spatial interaction data and cross-sectional, spatial and network dependence from all perspectives.

Potential topics:

- Treatment of spatial weights matrices for flow data
- Measurement of spatial and network autocorrelation for flow data
- Data quality issues in spatial interaction modelling
- Linear (log-linearized) spatial interaction models
- Non-linear spatial interaction models
- Spatial filtering models
- Bayesian models
- Microeconometric models of spatial interaction

Session Organizers:
Roberto Patuelli, University of Bologna, Italy
Giuseppe Arbia, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy

Submitting an abstract
Please submit an abstract (400-500 words) indicating title; authors(s), affiliations and emails (indicate the corresponding author); three keywords; and two potential topics to the session Organizers, by sending an e-mail to roberto.patuelli@unibo.it and giuseppe.arbia@rm.unicatt.it.

Abstract submission deadline: December 15, 2015

Details about the Conference: http://2016worldcongress.regionalscience.org/