## Dipartimento di Scienze Economiche ed Aziendali



### Seminari di Economia

#### Martedì 22 Marzo 2016

Ore 12:20 - Aula 10

Facoltà di Scienze Economiche Giuridiche e Sociali - Viale S. Ignazio 74, primo piano

#### Ignazio Cabras, Newcastle Business School

# A pint of happiness: the impact of pubs on community cohesion and economic development in Britain and Ireland

Abstract In Britain and Ireland, "public houses" or *pubs* represent important meeting places for entire communities. Particularly in rural areas, pubs are essential hubs which facilitate social gatherings and community engagement, and play a leading role in terms of economic development. *Rural pubs* are often complementary to other activities such as sporting events, volunteering and charitable initiatives, and provide services as well as job opportunities work to local residents. The objective of this seminar is to discuss and illustrate the significant impact that pubs have on many social and economic activities at the local level. The studies presented use data and information on facilities and services available in rural areas to develop a range of community cohesion indexes. The results gathered from these studies identify a strong association between the presence of pubs and the level of social and community cohesion within in the areas examined, indicating how this relationship is maintained over time. These results are discussed in light of the significant decrease in the recorded number of pubs in Britain and Ireland over the last three decades.

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