

The curse of postgraduate education for Italian Ph.D.

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Ph.D. students and holders are a fistful part of the population in a country, but they represent a cornerstone for human capital. PhDs are the main source of creation and spread of innovation for a country. Their selection and hiring should be relevant for policy makers interested in country growth. To attend a PhD course can be a question of convenience for graduates, but sometimes it can reveal trap where PhD holders cannot reinvest their results out of the academia. We analyse the selection and hiring of Ph.D. in Italy after the graduation. We compare them with their collage mates, and we illustrate different path for those who origin in the South vs in the North part of the Country. Italy presents strongly and rooted regional differences, and this represent a useful cornerstone to understand the brain-drain problem. Our results show different path for PhD holders in the regions and the difficulty of deviating once that the decision of attending a PhD is reached.