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**Constructing Jurisdictional Advantage: How Places Compete in the
Global Economy**

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Abstract: As the barriers to trade and costs of transportation have decreased and the speed of communication has increased, paradoxically, geographically defined clusters of related firms have become fundamental cornerstones of regional economic growth and national competitiveness. Substantial changes in the nature and sources of industrial competition have yielded advantages to jurisdictions that build up public goods and infrastructure and provide incentives for innovative activity. Introduce the term jurisdictional advantage – the deliberately constructed political will to promote economic competitiveness and prosperity. This talk describes the new economics of competition, the prominent role that local governments play and the ways in which jurisdiction advantage is created and sustained.