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Clustering and Organized Industrial Zones/ Kümelenme ve Organize Sanayi Bölgeleri

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ABSTRACT

The cluster concept, which is most popularly defined as “bringing firms which operate within the same or similar business line, geographically close to each other, cooperating and competing with each other, along with institutions and supporting firms together,” today, has become the basis for having superior competitive power and economic development. While activities for clustering in the world have gained momentum with the study of Porter’s “Competitive Advantage of the Nations” (1990), studies in this field in Turkey have been added to the agenda in 2000s. Today, in Turkey, a system in which firms, the Ministry of Economy and cooperating organizations (exporter associations, chambers of commerce and industry, organized industrial zones, etc.) act together has been established in order to increase the clustering activities. In this context, the Organized Industrial Zones (OIZs) are critical for cluster formation, because they can provide a significant spatial convenience for the common R&D and other technological infrastructure. In this study, clustering will be discussed conceptually and theoretically, and then, the importance of organized industrial zones in Turkey will be analyzed in terms of clustering.

KEYWORDS Clustering; Organized Industrial Zones; Economic Development

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