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Thesis title: A Case-study on the European Impact Assessment aiming to innovate the Regione Lombardia decisional procedure through an extrapolative perspective

The research project I'm committed to concerns the analysis of the Impact Assessment procedure introduced in recent years by the European Union. This innovation aims to improve the quality of decisions by structuring an inter-organizational consultation among the various DGs - General Directorates, for all the policy proposals of the Commission. This innovation has been considered, by various privileged witnesses, a "best practice" because of the good results achieved.

The scope of the research is to analyze which factors and processes have been contributing to the alleged success of the European innovation; secondary, the possibility to transfer (i.e., obtain a similar impact) in other administrations' decisional processes (in particular, in the Regional Administration of Lombardy decisional process).

The methodology of research refers to the use of an extrapolative approach in order to 1) comprehend what, in the source case, has been working, and why; 2) analyze the opportunities and tides in order to obtain the same results in a different context -the target site. This approach has been proposed by Eugene Bardach (in his 2004 Presidential Address to the Association for Public Analysis and Management) and after developed by Micheal Barzelay (mainly in his 2007 contribute "Learning from a Second-Hand Experience").