

Propositions
Attached to the thesis

**Economic Restructuring and Value Chains:
The search for regional competitiveness in Colombia**

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1. The likelihood of having a highly relevant agreement on competitiveness of a value chain at the level of the region increases with the policy process effectiveness. Hence, in terms of quality, an outstanding agreement on competitiveness has both high relevance and effectiveness. That is, a competitiveness agreement which fulfills the goals of the key stakeholders involved in the agreement and consolidates the coordinating capacities of the value chain (*this thesis-chapter 4*).
2. The availability of national and international funds to support alternative farming programs to substitute illegal cultivations such as coca and poppy augments the capabilities of the regional agreements on competitiveness at the level of value chain, in the areas affected by illicit crops and violence, to reach their production and employment goals (*this thesis-chapter 6*).
3. The effectiveness of an agreement on competitiveness at the level of value chain is enhanced by the presence of a leading firm and/or an entrepreneur capable of organizing collective action, mobilizing public action and whose interventions promote the integration and the systemic efficiency of the chain (*this thesis-chapter 7*).
4. Value chain factors are more influential than the regional factors in the implementation and outcomes of value chain-based development policies. Even where the regional policy environment is favorable to improve the conditions of local producers and where a competitiveness agreement of a value chain has been implemented, the governance and economic structure of the value chain can prevent that such goal is achieved (*this thesis-chapter 8*).
5. The Agreements on Competitiveness offer to the public sector a scope of action to deal with regional economic restructuring processes and to promote endogenous development policies with active involvement and contribution of regional stakeholders (*this thesis-chapter 8*).
6. The analytical framework of the Global Commodity Chain approach does not deal with labor issues particularly, those related to Human Resource Development Policies.
7. An Observatory of Employment and Human Resources embodies the approach of local-regional governance for the coordination of the labor market information system, and of policy advice in the formulation, coordination and monitoring of Human Resource Development Policies.
8. Although the Global Commodity Chain framework incorporates the geography category, it has not been developed and operationalized as an analytical category.
9. An academic diploma or specialization program in business administration structured around the value chain framework has great potential to succeed given the growing predominance of firm networks and the need for incorporating systemic efficiency in management of the firms.
10. The potential developmental impact and pertinence of the academic contributions of a contemporary social science researcher are grounded on a solid theoretical foundation, objectivity, creativity, flexibility, persistence, a well-developed sense of the general welfare, an active awareness of the environmental changes and trends, and a high social and political consciousness.
11. Having strong purpose, resilience and optimism, it is possible to conclude a PhD thesis successfully.