



**We are looking for a talented and motivated researcher (PhD Student) to advance the following research project:**

<h2>Early Stage Researcher (ESR 4)</h2> <p>For whom? Assessing and improving TOD mechanisms of in/exclusion in RURs</p>
<b>An Innovative Training Network in Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) for Rural-Urban Regions</b>
<p>TOD-IS-RUR is looking for talented and motivated candidates with the skills, knowledge, and enthusiasm to help the Innovative Training Network (ITN) make significant research contributions to the scientific and societal challenge of countering sprawl in Europe. The 9 Beneficiaries and 12 Partner Organizations create a unique platform for 10 Early Stage Researchers (ESRs), providing interdisciplinary and intersectoral training to analyze rural-urban placemaking and develop novel, context-based planning schemes for rural-urban regions (RURs). The network aims to extend the concept of Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) to RURs with a context-based approach, in which interactions between mobility and urbanization are studied in relation to social and environmental qualities. Drawing on a wide range of European RURs and bringing in expertise from urban studies, research and training prepare a new generation of highly-skilled professionals to meet the challenge of sprawl and implement inclusive and sustainable planning schemes for RURs.</p>
<b>Description of the research project (ESR4)</b>
<p><b>Scientific objectives</b></p> <p>The ESR project aims to contribute to novel understandings of the interaction between generic TOD models and the pre-existing socio-spatial contexts in which TOD projects are undertaken, particularly concerned with (i) who is developing specific TOD projects for which reasons and with which socio-spatial impacts for which groups (age, gender, income), and (ii) frictions between pre-existing relations and the embedded imaginaries of TOD development plans. The project will therefore start with identifying and mapping the pre-existing socio-spatial relations in the TOD development contexts, then assess the different actors that are pushing, resisting, or otherwise shaping the TOD projects and their rationalities/imaginaries for it and finally look at which social goods and bads are generated through the TOD project and how they are distributed across space and social groups. In so doing, influential models of TOD are confronted and complemented with concerns on social inclusion, so as to enable TOD to become a policy method for producing socially inclusive RURs. The empirical work will focus on TODs in the RURs of Stockholm (southern periphery) and Antwerp (Campine).</p>
<p><b>Tasks and Responsibilities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ You perform independently scientific research within a collaborative international research consortium.</li><li>▪ You deliver written reports of your research on a regular basis.</li><li>▪ You prepare a doctoral thesis on the topic of mechanisms and patterns of inclusion and exclusion in relation to TOD-development in RURs.</li><li>▪ You publish scientific articles related to the research project.</li><li>▪ You support the valorization of research results into tangible deliverables.</li><li>▪ You participate in and contribute to scientific meetings and conferences, presenting your research to the scientific community.</li><li>▪ You actively participate in outreach activities aimed at promoting your research to a wider audience.</li><li>▪ You collaborate with the other members of the consortium to advance your research and training.</li><li>▪ You participate in the tailored training program.</li><li>▪ The selected candidate will take part in the following planned secondments: Placement at the Swedish urban development platform IQS (2 months, Sweden) and consultancy WSP (1 month, Sweden) for introduction to Swedish urban development and TOD practice and data collection on Swedish case. Placement at Flemish planning platform VRP (1 month, Belgium) for data collection on Belgian case. Academic secondment to the University of Antwerpen (5 months, Belgium) for collaboration with S. Oosterlyncx on Campine case and train in social innovation methods and policy.</li></ul>
<b>About the KTH Royal Institute of Technology – Department of Urban Planning and Environment Urban Studies Institute and CRESC at the University of Antwerp</b>
<p>The <a href="#">Department of Urban Planning and Environment</a> at the KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm constitutes Sweden's leading research environment in planning studies and has a long tradition of multidisciplinary research in the subject area. The department is recognized for its excellent contacts with national industry partners and governmental actors on the local, regional and national levels, as well as strong international contacts and networks within the international planning research community. The <a href="#">Urban Studies Institute</a> is an interdisciplinary platform for urban studies at the University of Antwerp. The <a href="#">Centre for Research on Environmental and Social Change</a> focuses on sociological research on environmental and social change, in an urban context and the wider living environment and with a specific focus on dynamics of social inclusion and exclusion.</p>



Profile and requirements	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>You hold a master's degree in Urban Studies, Planning, Sociology, Geography, or another master's degree with relevant expertise in critical qualitative analysis of urban/transport policy-making. Master students in their final year may apply. Final selection under the condition of showing transcripts of the master's degree in July (15<sup>th</sup> the latest).</li><li>You have outstanding academic records.</li><li>You are interested in interdisciplinary field studies-based qualitative research and have strong analytical skills and an interest in conducting theory-developing empirical research.</li><li>You are quality-oriented, conscientious, creative, and a team player.</li><li>You are able to work autonomously as well as cooperatively, you have a mature personality and a strong problem-solving analytical ability.</li><li>You have strong communication skills.</li><li>Language proficiency: excellent use of English is essential (C1 level minimum). Knowledge of Swedish, Danish or Norwegian (B2 level or more) is required. Dutch or Flemish language skills are considered an additional merit.</li><li>Applicants must fulfill <a href="#">the general eligibility requirements for enrollment as a PhD student at KTH</a>.</li><li>Applicants can be of any nationality but have to comply with the H2020 MSCA eligibility criteria: <b>H2020 MSCA Mobility Rule:</b> researchers must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the host organization for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the recruitment date. Compulsory national service, short stays such as holidays, and time spent as part of a procedure for obtaining refugee status under the Geneva Convention are not taken into account. <b>H2020 MSCA ESR eligibility criteria:</b> Early Stage Researchers (ESRs) must be, at the date of recruitment by the host organization, in the first four years (full-time equivalent research experience) of their research careers and have not been awarded a doctoral degree. Full-Time Equivalent Research Experience is measured from the date when the researcher obtained the degree entitling him/her to embark on a doctorate (in the country in which the degree was obtained or in the country in which the researcher is recruited, even if a doctorate was never started or envisaged).</li></ul>	
Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The guaranteed PhD funding is for 36 months (i.e., EC funding). In line with university regulations and following a positive evaluation, the host institution can provide additional funding for a maximum of 12 months to complete a doctoral degree.</li><li>The start date will be September 1st, 2021</li><li>A competitive salary, plus allowances. Moreover, funding is available for technical and personal skills training and participation in international research events.</li><li>The selected candidate will benefit from the designed training program offered by the host organization and the TOD-IS-RUR consortium.</li><li>The selected candidate will participate in international secondments to other organizations within the TOD-IS-RUR network and in outreach activities targeted at a wide audience.</li></ul>	
Application	
<p><b>How to apply:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The closing date for applications is March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021.</li><li>Please apply through the University of Antwerp's online job application platform. First, complete the eligibility check form. Secondly, complete the online application form and be sure to include the following attachments: Motivation letter (max. 2 pages); CV (Europass format, including a list of all countries of residence in the last 4 years); Details of at least two referees or two reference letters; Copies of certificates (Bachelor &amp; Master's degrees with the list of completed modules, English and other language certificates); Work samples (e.g., publications; Master's thesis summary); List of publications (if any).</li><li>The selection committee will review all of the applications as soon as possible after the application deadline. As soon as a decision has been made, we will inform you about the next steps in the selection procedure. The online recruitment event with the shortlisted candidates will be organized in the first week of May.</li><li>The recruitment process of ESRs within TOD-IS-RUR is in line with the principles set out in the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers.</li></ul> <p>For more detailed information about the selection process and links to the application portal: <a href="https://www.uantwerpen.be/en/projects/tod-is-rur/jobs/">https://www.uantwerpen.be/en/projects/tod-is-rur/jobs/</a></p>	
For additional information	
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