



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

Early Stage Researcher (ESR 1)

TOD generations in context

Driving forces and environmental effects of regional planning in the long-term

An Innovative Training Network in Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) for Rural-Urban Regions

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 able to meet the challenge of sprawl and implement inclusive and sustainable planning schemes for RURs.

Description of the research project (ESR1)

Scientific objectives

The ESR-project will evaluate how transport-urbanization planning generations were conceived in relation/conflict with different contexts of RURs, comparing rhetoric and plans versus outcomes. The project will focus on the RURs of Paris and Rome, analyzing both historical processes and current transport strategies and planning. Through these two case studies, the aim is, firstly, to put new developments into perspective with respect to previous experiences in order to compare and establish continuities or changes; secondly, to understand how they have or have not effectively reduced sprawl and how in particular the notions of compactness and density have been considered in this framework; thirdly, to see how the intentions behind the discourses and narratives have or have not been effective, and what have been the underlying drivers that have led to these trajectories. This ESR project thus brings a dynamic perspective of path-dependencies and change, as well as shows the specific driving forces and related agendas behind different TOD generations.

Tasks and Responsibilities

- You perform independently scientific research within a collaborative international research consortium.
- You deliver written reports of your research on a regular basis.
- You prepare a doctoral thesis on the topic of long-term driving forces and spatial/environmental effects of transport-urbanization planning strategies.
- You publish scientific articles related to the research project.
- You support the valorization of research results into tangible deliverables.
- You participate in and contribute to scientific meetings and conferences, presenting your research to the scientific community.
- You actively participate in outreach activities aimed at promoting your research to a wider audience.
- You actively contribute to the organization of the Paris Studio and the final symposium which both will be held as scientific events in Paris Est campus (ENPC, Université Gustave Eiffel).
- You collaborate with the other members of the consortium to advance your research and training.
- You participate in the tailored training program.
- The selected candidate will take part in an academic secondment to the Center For Metropolitan Studies at the Technische Universität Berlin (5 months, Germany) for both a focus-analysis on Rome-case and a theoretical approach of long-term environmental and mobility trajectories. Other collaborations on the Paris case study will be organized with Atelier Parisien d'Urbanisme, AREP-SNCF, and Société du Grand Paris to collect data, interviews, archives on Grand Paris regional planning and transport policy and projects; and train in mapping and tracing effects.

About the Ecole des Ponts ParisTech – LATTs - Technologies, Territories and Societies Laboratory

Created in 1986, the [LATTs](#) (Laboratory Technologies, Territories and Societies) is a joint research unit resulting from the partnership between the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), [Ecole des Ponts ParisTech](#) (ENPC), and University Gustave Eiffel. A multidisciplinary center for research, teaching and expertise in the human and social sciences, LATTs explores the challenges facing cities and territories, as well as the public action of organizations today and in history. In particular, it seeks to understand how infrastructures and technical devices are shaped by the different social worlds into which they fit and, conversely, how they contribute to transforming them.



Profile and requirements

- You hold a master's degree in history, planning, geography, urban studies, mobility studies, or other master's degree with relevant expertise in long-term relations between transport and urbanization. Master students in their final year may apply. Final selection under the condition of showing transcripts of their master's degree in July (15th at the latest).
- You have outstanding academic records.
- You are interested in interdisciplinary, spatial-historical planning research and have strong analytical skills.
- You are quality-oriented, conscientious, creative and a team player.
- You have strong communication skills. Enthusiasm to be a team player is important, as the project includes collaboration with other PhD students using complementary approaches.
- Language proficiency: excellent use of English is essential (C1 level minimum). Knowledge of French (B2 level or more) is required; if necessary, language courses will be offered by the host organization.
- You have experience in managing large datasets (data collections and their long-term integration) as well as experience in integrating data and assessing environmental effects (mainly GIS).
- Applicants must fulfill the general eligibility requirements for enrollment as a PhD student at Ecole des Ponts ParisTech.
- Applicants can be of any nationality but have to comply with the H2020 MSCA eligibility criteria:
H2020 MSCA Mobility Rule: 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.
H2020 MSCA ESR eligibility criteria: 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 (either 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).

Benefits

- The guaranteed PhD funding is for 36 months (i.e., EC funding).
- The start date will be September 1st, 2021. The selected candidate will be employed by Ecole des Ponts.
- A competitive salary, plus allowances. Moreover, funding is available for technical and personal skills training and participation in international research events.
- The selected candidate will benefit from the designed training program offered by the host organization and the TOD-IS-RUR consortium.
- 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.

Application

How to apply:

- The closing date for applications is March 29th, 2021.
- 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 & 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).
- 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.
- 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.

For more detailed information about the selection process and links to the application portal:

<https://www.uantwerpen.be/en/projects/tod-is-rur/jobs/>

Further administrative steps:

- Please note that for this ESR project further administrative and pedagogic steps are needed in order to comply with the HR and doctoral regulations of Ecole des Ponts. In particular, the selected candidate will have to write, in relation with the (co-)supervisors, a thesis project of 6-7 pages, including a short state of the art, research question and



hypotheses, methodology, field studies and calendar of the thesis. The thesis project will be included in the file application that will be submitted to the doctoral school "Ville, Transports et Territoires" (EDVTT) by **July 15th, 2021**. The agreement of the doctoral school's council on the project is required before finalizing registration in the doctoral program of Ecole des Ponts.

Please find here more information about the requirements for a doctoral degree at EDVTT:

<https://www.paris-est-sup.fr/en/doctoral-schools/ecole-doctorale-ville-transports-et-territoires-vtt/l-ed-vtt/>

For additional information

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