



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

Early Stage Researcher (ESR 3)

The extent of multimodality for Transit-Oriented Development across times: pedestrians, bikes, trains and inclusive development

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

Description of the research project (ESR3)

Scientific Objectives

This project will focus on the integration of active modes of mobility (especially pedestrian and bicycle) and motorized means of public transportation (trains, buses etc.) within the concept of Transport-Oriented-Development. Combining historical and contemporary research, this project will investigate the potential of a multimodal vision for TOD in RURs. The approach will contribute to TOD scholarship by thinking these different modes of transport in conjunction to extend the spatial reach of TOD beyond concentric urban models and also to analyze its socio-ecological impact. Pursuing such a cross-temporal perspective through the specific empirical examples of Berlin and Randstad (the Netherlands) will illuminate the critical role of pedestrian and cycling connections to PT-nodes for inclusive development in RURs. The research will focus on the intermodal mobility, the pedestrian-bike-PT infrastructures in RURs more specifically, and their expression in policy and practice. This could include one or several of the following issues: pedestrian accessibility, bicycle highways, mobility as a service (MaaS), bike-train-bike commuting, hubs, communication/digital/smart, e-bikes for diverse groups of people. Moreover, the environmental and social impact of these developments is of central significance.

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 a relational approach to TOD for RURs.
- 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 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 the following planned secondments: (1) Academic secondment to the Technology, Innovation and Society (TIS) group at the Department of Industrial Engineering & Innovation Sciences at the Technical University of Eindhoven (5 months, Netherlands) for focus on Randstad case study, multimodal issues and transition studies. (2) Association Atelier Parisien d'Urbanisme (2 months, France) for intermodal network planning.

About the TU Berlin – Center for Metropolitan Studies

The TU Berlin is one of Germany's leading universities in the field of urban studies. Located in the heart of Berlin, it brings together the social, environmental and planning fields that investigate the urban in a global context. [The Center for Metropolitan Studies](#) is a special research center at the TU Berlin that focuses on the social scientific and historical examination of the urban. An interdisciplinary team of scholars and students pursues a broad range of research topics, many of them focusing on the empirical example of Berlin in a comparative context.

The collaborating Eindhoven University of Technology (TU/e) specializes in engineering science & technology. The [Technology, Innovation & Society \(TIS\) group](#), part of the Department of Industrial Engineering and Innovation Sciences, specializes in studies of innovation and socio-technical transitions towards a more sustainable society.



Profile and requirements	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ You hold a master's degree in Urban Studies, Mobility Studies, Science & Technology Studies (STS), Sociology, Cultural Studies, Policy Studies, History, Human/Cultural/Historic Geography, Transport Studies, Planning, Environmental, and Sustainability Studies or any other field with expertise relevant to the project. 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, theory-driven research and have strong analytical skills. ▪ You have experience with qualitative methods. ▪ Language proficiency: excellent use of English is essential (C1 level minimum). Knowledge of German or Dutch (B2 level or more) is required; if necessary, language courses will be offered by the project partners. ▪ 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	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The guaranteed PhD funding is for 36 months (i.e., EC funding). ▪ The start date will be September 1st, 2021. ▪ 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	
<p>How to apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The closing date for applications is 29 March 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. <p>For more detailed information about the selection process and links to the application portal: https://www.uantwerpen.be/en/projects/tod-is-rur/jobs/</p>	
For additional information	
<p>Prof. Dorothee Brantz (supervisor) Associate Prof. Frauke Behrendt (co-supervisor)</p>	<p>dorothee.brantz@metropolitanstudies.de f.behrendt@tue.nl</p>