



# PhD in URBAN PLANNING, DESIGN, AND POLICY - 35th cycle

**Research Field: THE EFFECTS OF COHESION POLICY ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC TERRITORIAL FRAGILITIES. INSTITUTIONS, GOVERNMENT QUALITY AND REGIONAL GROWTH**

**Monthly net income of PhDscholarship (max 36 months)**

**€ 1160.0**

In case of a change of the welfare rates during the three-year period, the amount could be modified.

**Context of the research activity**

**Motivation and objectives of the research in this field**

Starting from the debate about place based development and "places that don't matter" (Rodriguez-Pose, 2018), the research project aims at exploring the economic and territorial development policies, which have been designed and promoted by the European Union in the last 15-20 years, and their effects on depressed areas. Specifically, it is explored the role of institutional quality and governance in enhancing growth in the period before and after policies enforcement.

Over the last 15-20 years, indeed, policies have often focused on the more prosperous and dynamic areas that were supposed to drive disadvantaged areas; instead, these latter have further weakened. Besides, the increase of territorial disparities in western countries seems to have generated an impact on the social and cultural orientation, thus contributing to the reconfiguration of the socio-territorial basis of the political consensus at country level (i.e. Brexit), and to the emergence of "nationalist-populist" phenomena.

Within this context, the quality of institutions plays a key role and it varies enormously across European regions. As the empirical studies have stressed, in regions lagging behind, better institutions have a stronger impact on innovation (higher coefficients than in full sample). Besides, good governance matters; it is a fundamental factor for the economic performance of regions in Europe. Good governance influences the outcomes of other



	<p>policies, and the improvements in governance are powerful driver of growth. The focus of the research in this respect will be on both policies and the institutional contexts.</p>
<p><b>Methods and techniques that will be developed and used to carry out the research</b></p>	<p>The research project is part of the DASTU Excellence Department project "Territorial Fragilities". The theoretical framework will develop from a literature review about the economic and territorial development policies, and the empirical studies carried out on the effects of these policies on depressed areas and it will allow identifying the methodology for the empirical analysis. The second phase will concern the collection of available data about Italy and other European countries, concerning: policy-measures implementation, socio-economic and territorial variables related to depressed areas, institutional quality, governance and growth in the period before and after policies enforcement. Data will be analyzed through descriptive statistics, mapping and econometric analysis (counterfactual) to measure the effects of policies on depressed areas in Italy and, if data are available, in other European countries. Besides, qualitative analysis by case study will be developed to corroborate the results of the quantitative analysis. The results will contribute to identify new policy directions. The candidate will have to step forward with respect to previous studies. A good level of GIS techniques is required together with expertise in quantitative analysis (descriptive statistics and econometric analysis-counterfactual).</p>
<p><b>Educational objectives</b></p>	<p>The PhD program aims at providing analytical and interpretative tools, as well as research methodologies, to generate knowledge advancement in urban studies, urban policies and governance with specific regard to the analysis of the economic and territorial development policies that have been designed and implemented by the European Union in the last 15-20 years, and their effects on depressed areas. <a href="http://www.dastu.polimi.it/index.php?id=1146">http://www.dastu.polimi.it/index.php?id=1146</a></p>



<b>Job opportunities</b>	<p>The UPDP course aims to train highly qualified researchers and professionals in spatial planning, design and management of urban projects and policy, urban studies and urban governance. Doctors with such profile could be employed by Italian, European and International academic institutions, public bodies and research centres, public and private development agencies.</p> <p>In the particular case of the topic offered under this call, doctors with such a degree could be also employed by national and international organisations in research (i.e. European Commission), consultancy and to support a variety of institutions, both public and private, in the assessment of territorial policies and in developing tailored territorial policies to reduce socio-economic territorial fragilities.</p>
<b>Composition of the research group</b>	<p>12 Full Professors  11 Associated Professors  1 Assistant Professors  18 PhD Students</p>
<b>Name of the research directors</b>	Luca Gaeta, Valeria Fedeli, Ilaria Mariotti

<b>Contacts</b>	
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Further information is available at: **Handbook** a.y. 2018/2019 of the PhD Program in Urban Planning, Design and Policy (UPDP) in

<http://www.dastu.polimi.it/index.php?id=1146>

Additional support - Financial aid per PhD student per year (gross amount)	
Housing - Foreign Students	--
Housing - Out-of-town residents (more than 80Km out of Milano)	--

Additional information: educational activity, teaching assistantship, computer availability, desk availability, any other information
<p><b>List of 5 Universities, Companies, Agencies and/or National or International Institutions that are cooperating in the research:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.Katholieke Universiteit Leuven</li> <li>2.HafenCity Universitaet Hamburg</li> <li>3.Bartlett School of Planning, UCL</li> <li>4.Universitat Politecnica de Catalunya, Esc. Tecn. Sup. de Arquitectura</li> <li>5.Sciences Po, Paris</li> </ol> <p><b>Educational activities</b> (purchase of study books and material, funding for participation in courses, summer schools, workshops and conferences):financial aid per PhD student per year ("DOTE"):</p> <p>1st year: max <b>0</b> euros</p> <p>2nd year: max <b>1.534,33</b> euros</p> <p>3rd year: max <b>1.534,33</b> euros</p> <p><b>Computer availability:</b></p> <p>In the PhD candidates room are available workstations for shared use, connected with the printer. All the PhD students can use their own laptop with the wireless connection. Workstations and other equipment are available in the various laboratories linked with the doctoral programme</p>