

# PhD in URBAN PLANNING, DESIGN, AND POLICY - 39th cycle

PNRR 118 PA Research Field: PRODUCTIVE TERRITORIES AND METROPOLITAN AREAS.

SPATIAL PATTERNS, ECONOMIC CHANGE, AND POLICY TOOLS

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

€ 1195.5

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

## Context of the research activity

From the background of the DAStU research focused on operational geographies in Northern Italy (www.operationalgeographies.polimi.it), this research proposal will investigate productive territories, mainly manufacturing and logistics sectors in Milan Metropolitan City and the major European urban regions undergoing paradigmatic restructuring dynamics of their economies, resulting in very different processes: growth, ageing, decline, fragilisation, and experimentation. These processes have different spatial, social, economic, and ecological consequences representing a challenge for researchers and policymakers which have yet to be studied.

Motivation and objectives of the research in this field

The de-industrialisation phenomena in Global North countries were particularly evident first, in urban areas from the 1970s, and after the 2007-8 financial, and economic crisis, in metropolitan territories too. Until the early 2000s, this massive change was a side effect of a structural shift towards a post-industrial, service-oriented, and knowledge-based economy.

More recently, however, both the EU, national, regional, and urban discourse on this topic changed because of the multifaceted response of industrial and logistics regions to the global crisis of 2007-8 and the vulnerability of global supply chains for goods and raw materials uncovered by the COVID-19 crisis and the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Consequently, industrial and logistics policy in metropolitan territories and urban regions is broadly



debated, even if in a sectoral approach and needs more spatial analysis. This national and regional renewed policy interest in the production sector for metropolitan development is based on the view that its characteristics render it particularly important on the growth path, enabling the environmental, and socio-economic transformation European countries have embarked upon, with the new National Recovery Plans. The research aims to provide evidence-based knowledge regarding the different current spatialities of production sectors in Milan; the main actors (policymakers, industry stakeholders, etc.) and policies of the current spatial and economic change processes in manufacturing and logistics in European urban regions; the manifold consequences of the previous aspects in Milan metropolitan city and other European urban regions; the current and future relationship between the metropolitan city institution, municipalities, and productive territories. Through this study, the candidate applying mixedresearch methods (i.e. quantitative analysis of statistical data, and qualitative analysis of plans, policies, and case studies in Italy and European countries) will develop analytical and interpretative tools and Methods and techniques that will be developed and used to carry out the research/planning/policy methodologies to further research advance urban and metropolitan policy tools and governance, focusing on understanding and integrating the productive territories issues in the planning and policymaking of the metropolitan cities. The educational objective of this research is twofold: firstly, to build new knowledge and critical positioning of the urban and regional studies towards the knowledge of the multi-faceted transition and impact of productive territories, recognising, classifying and addressing **Educational objectives** complex challenges, both in terms of fragility and antifragility; secondly, to identify methods and policy-making support to assess the transformation of productive territories in a diachronic investigation (specialisation of economic sectors, integration of economic sectors, logistics spatial features, etc.).

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	The research program aims to define a profile of a qualified researcher able to recognise, address and argue the complex interplay of productive territories with, on the one hand, public actors, firms, and workers; on the other hand, with local/global economies, mobility and ecology translating all the knowledge acquired in spatial planning methods and policy tools to inform policy-making and spatial analysis and mapping of productive territories. Specifically, the candidate will do an internship of 18 months at the Città Metropolitana di Milano (Direzione Pianificazione territoriale generale e Rigenerazione urbana), to study the activities, observe and participate, in identifying spatial features and critical issues of similar European territories, and operationally support the institution on the main research topics.  The candidate will be visiting for six months at the Université Gustave Eiffel in Paris (Laboratoire Ville Mobilité Transport).  Good command of the Italian language is recommended for the specific content of the applied research.
Job opportunities	According to its international positioning, the PhD program trains highly qualified researchers and professionals in the fields of regional and strategic planning, urban design and management of urban and metropolitan projects and policy, social sciences, urban studies, and urban and metropolitan governance.  Italian and international academic institutions, public administrations, cultural foundations and research centres, public and private development agencies, and private firms may recruit researchers with such profiles.
Composition of the research group	12 Full Professors 13 Associated Professors 1 Assistant Professors 55 PhD Students
Name of the research directors	Prof. Simonetta Armondi

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Further information is available in the Handbook of the PhD Program on: 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)		

Scholarship Increase for a period abroad		
Amount monthly	597.76 €	
By number of months	0	

National Operational Program for Research and Innovation		
Company where the candidate will attend the stage (name and brief description)	Città Metropolitana di Milano (Direzione Pianificazione territoriale generale e Rigenerazione urbana)	
By number of months at the company	18	
Institution or company where the candidate will spend the period abroad (name and brief description)	Université Gustave Eiffel in Paris	
By number of months abroad	6	

Additional information: educational activity, teaching assistantship, computer availability, desk availability, any other information

Each PhD candidate has a research budget available as follows to purchase books and

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materials, and to finance participation in courses, summer schools, workshops and conferences:

1st year: max 1.624,30 euros 2nd year: max 1.624,30 euros 3rd year: max 1.624,30 euros

Total amount: 4.872,90 euros per candidate

There are various forms of financial aid for both research and teaching activities. PhD candidates are encouraged to take part in these activities within the limits allowed by the regulations.