



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

**INTERDISCIPLINARY Research Field: THE IMPACT OF NEW DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES ON URBAN SPACES: PRIVACY ISSUES IN AN ETHICAL AND POLICY PERSPECTIVE**

<b>Monthly net income of PhDscholarship (max 36 months)</b>
<b>€ 1195.5</b>
In case of a change of the welfare rates during the three-year period, the amount could be modified.

<b>Context of the research activity</b>	
<b>Motivation and objectives of the research in this field</b>	<p>Interdisciplinary PhD Grant</p> <p>The PhD research will be carried out in collaboration with research groups of the PhD programme in "<b>SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND POLICY FOR SUSTAINABLE CHANGE</b>".</p> <p>See <a href="https://www.dottorato.polimi.it/?id=422&amp;L=1">https://www.dottorato.polimi.it/?id=422&amp;L=1</a> for further information.</p> <p>Due especially to new digital technologies, the issue of privacy arises today not only in the case of "private spaces", but also (and often above all) in that of "public spaces". Two crucial privacy issues related to public spaces raised by new technologies are the following.</p> <p>Firstly, the possibility of detecting and controlling access and activities by individuals in urban spaces (for example, via cameras; the use of technologies based on Artificial Intelligence techniques, such as facial recognition, makes the problem even more disruptive). Secondly, the possibility of collecting data on the location and movements of individuals (for example, as a consequence of the use of digital mobile devices).</p> <p>New digital technologies therefore create problems for the issue of privacy which also involve risks of unfairness and discrimination. These issues require a critically rethinking of the application of new digital technologies in urban contexts that goes beyond the rhetoric of "smart cities" that has influenced the public debate so much in recent years. All this raises new problems, particularly regarding</p>



	(i) the regulation of the use of new technologies, (ii) the responsibilities of those who can collect and manage data (both private and public subjects) and (iii) the policy and planning choices concerning the organization of public spaces. In this context, many of the traditional tools used to manage these problems are no longer applicable: think, for example, of informed consent and its inapplicability in the context of surveillance in urban spaces. New approaches in the direction of so-called "post-consensual privacy", typical of "Internet of Things" applications, need to be conceived.
<b>Methods and techniques that will be developed and used to carry out the research</b>	The research is expected to be developed through systematic literature review; conceptual analysis; qualitative empirical research.
<b>Educational objectives</b>	Improve the capacity of the PhD candidate to deal with complex problems thanks to interdisciplinary approaches and methods.
<b>Job opportunities</b>	According to its international orientation, the PhD program trains highly qualified researchers and professionals in the fields of spatial planning, design and management of urban projects and policy, social sciences, urban studies, and urban governance. Researchers with such profile may be employed by Italian and international academic institutions, public bodies, cultural foundations and research centres, public and private development agencies, and private firms.
<b>Composition of the research group</b>	12 Full Professors 13 Associated Professors 1 Assistant Professors 55 PhD Students
<b>Name of the research directors</b>	Proff. Stefano Moroni, Viola Schiaffonati

<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)	--

**Scholarship Increase for a period abroad**

Amount monthly	597.76 €
By number of months	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 materials, and to finance the 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 student**

There are various forms of financial aid for both research and teaching assistantship.

PhD candidates are encouraged to take part in these activities within the limits allowed by the



regulations.