

Urban and Regional Laboratory research team, based at Charles University, Faculty of Science, offers a PhD position.

The PhD project will be an integral part of the research project on housing estates in post-socialist cities funded by the Grant Agency of the Czech Republic. The project is carried out by a multidisciplinary research team consisting of urban geographers and sociologist at the Faculty of Science (Charles University) and Institute of Sociology (Czech Academy of Sciences) in Prague.

### Project description

Post-war housing estates (HEs) represent an important part of the housing stock in postsocialist countries and their development over the past decades is often discussed. Yet, in spite of relatively rich research evidence based on case studies, systematic and comprehensive research on housing estates in specific countries or regions is lacking. This project aims to bring new empirical knowledge about HEs in Czech cities using a comparative perspective and a combination of qualitative and quantitative research methods. The project has three main interrelated aims: (1) to identify development trajectories of HEs in Czech cities; (2) to assess residential satisfaction of inhabitants and their attitudes towards residential mobility; (3) to understand everyday life in today's HEs, residents' attachment to place, and their relation to the material environment and social environment of HEs. The results will also contribute to developing theories in urban studies and are useful for planning and creating interventions in HEs.

The project is led by two co-principal investigators: Petra Špačková (PhD supervisor) and Slavomíra Ferenčuhová. Besides the PhD supervisor, the successful applicant is expected to collaborate also with other members of the research team which is composed of experienced researchers, post-docs and PhD students.

For more information about the research project, see <http://urrlab.cz/en/project/history-and-future-housing-estates-quality-residential-environment-and-residential>

The applicants are expected to show their interest in urban studies and to be willing to deepen their knowledge of the transformation of post-socialist cities. The project is based on a variety of research methods (both qualitative and quantitative) and applicants from various related disciplines are cordially invited to apply. The applicants are encouraged to get in touch with the PhD supervisor to discuss the details of their PhD project based on their personal interests and research skills.

The successful applicant is expected to carry out research independently and to contribute to publication results of the project (both single-authored and co-authored). In addition, he/she will contribute to other necessary activities during the project (organization of everyday activities of the research team, surveys, workshops etc.).

The STARS program guarantees that the student will receive at least 20500 CZK/month (the equivalent of approximately 800 EUR/month) for a period of a maximum of 4 years. The actual income may exceed this amount, depending on the actual availability of other sources of funding. Project's funding will cover travel expenses to conferences and other necessary expenditures.

Further information on the PhD position is available here: <https://stars-natur.cz/phd-positions/geography/history-and-future-of-housing-estates-quality-of-residential-environment-and-residential-satisfaction?back=4apqc>

### How to apply

The application should be submitted not later than 13 March 2020 and include these documents:

- CV with indication of education (B.Sc./M.Sc. grades and projects)
- list of publications
- current research interests (motivation)
- technical skills, languages, awards
- references (e-mail, phone and affiliation of at least two academic referees, who can recommend you for the PhD program application)

### Selection process

Shortlisted candidates will be required to prepare a preliminary research proposal and invited for Skype or on-site interviews where they will be asked to discuss their research proposals with the PhD supervisor and other team members. It is anticipated that the interviews will be held between 30 March and 8 April 2020.

The decision will be announced on 13 April 2020.  
The successful applicant will start working on 1 October 2020.

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