

## ILS Ph.D. programme on the subject of: **Mobility – Migration – City**

The ILS – Institut für Landes- und Stadtentwicklungsforschung gGmbH (Research Institute for Regional and Urban Development gGmbH) – is an excellence-oriented non-university spatial science research institute and associated member of the Leibniz Association. The sole shareholder is the Federal State of North Rhine-Westphalia. The institute examines causes and consequences of new urbanisation processes and concepts for the sustainable structuring of urban areas in an interdisciplinary and internationally comparative perspective.

We are, **as of now**, awarding

### **Ph.D. scholarships**

for a period of two years (+ 1 year extension possibility) on various topics in the area of “**Mobility – Migration – City**” to outstandingly qualified applicants, especially in the specialist domains of **regional planning, geography, social sciences and psychology**.

Within the Ph.D. project, questions of the mobility and residential location behaviour of people with a migratory background in cities, as well as urban districts and urban regions will be analysed, also demonstrating the consequences for the development of urban areas. In addition to new findings on the processes and dynamics in the area of conflict concerning Mobility – Migration – City, the results of the Ph.D. theses will also contribute to the generation of theory.

The scholarships offered will be for an amount of € 1,250 per month. The ILS will provide the Ph.D. students with a workplace at the Dortmund location.

Are you interested?

You can find details of our Ph.D. programme and other relevant information on our homepage at [www.ils-research.de](http://www.ils-research.de).

Please send your application by post to ILS - Institut für Landes- und Stadtentwicklungsforschung gGmbH, Personalwesen, Ms. Michaela Roring, Postfach 10 17 64, 44017 Dortmund, or via email to [bewerbung@ils-research.de](mailto:bewerbung@ils-research.de) **by 30 September 2011**

### **I. Thematic orientation**

One of the distinctive features of the globalised world is an acceleration in the overcoming of time and space. The mobility of people, goods and information is increasing dramatically, with the transportation of them reaching speeds never before imagined. The globalised world is a mobile world. This has consequences for the cities, which are, as “immobile” areas, exposed to a high level of dynamics and substantial change processes. It is precisely the immigration of people that is concentrated on the urban areas worldwide. More than half of all people have been living in cities for some years now – with this trend increasing still further. However, considerable differentiations are becoming clear under this general trend of new urbanisation processes. Demographic change is also giving rise to population decline and shrinking processes in many European countries. At the same time, many

cities are growing on account of the increasing significance of transnational migration, among other things.

The proportion of people with a migratory background is rising in many cities and urban districts, with people from a migration background now even forming a majority in some cases. In this way, the cities take on a central social integration responsibility, with a very thin line between the opportunities and challenges. There has so far been insufficient study in relation to what space-structuring effects the different forms of migration have in cities. There are equally insufficient findings available with regard to the everyday mobility and choice of residential location on the part of people with a migratory background. Transnational and multi-local ways of life and manners of behaviour also need to be researched in more precise terms in this regard.

Our focus concerning the concept of mobility is on spatial mobility in the sense of individual mobility and movement in space, from transport mobility to choice of residential location, and on relating this to social mobility. Migration means, in this context, specific international and transnational, temporary or permanent migration, i.e. shifting of the place of residence and workplace.

The Ph.D. project will also look at questions of behaviour regarding mobility and the choice of residential locations on the part of, in particular, people with a migratory background in cities, urban districts and urban regions and demonstrate consequences for the development of urban areas. The different processes and dynamics in the area of conflict concerning Mobility, Migration, City will also be examined. What developments and changes can be expected? What internal processes (e.g. within particular groups of the population) and what external framework conditions, control processes or forms of governance can be observed and how can these be explained? Who are the central players and what interests do they pursue? What concepts do the cities respond with? An essential aim of the Ph.D. programme will be to contribute towards the generation of theory.

Examples of topics for the Ph.D. project include the following:

- What are the places and destinations for migration and re-migration? Can differences be observed between migration groups and milieus? How important a role do different transnational ways of life and forms of residence or “temporary” migrants (e.g. students/graduates) play? Effects and interactions concerning urban area developments: are new segregated districts emerging? What functions and ways of functioning and what internal dynamics do these districts have?
- Aspects of the migratory background have so far not been included in existing survey methods concerning transport mobility. An international comparison of methods, survey instruments, results, interpretations and explanation approaches, as well as the transport and urban policy action concepts building on these can provide a basis for traffic and political science.
- Findings regarding the behaviour of people with a migratory background in relation to the choice of residential location are of particular interest against the background of the current debate surrounding a supposed new trend away from suburbanisation and towards re-urbanisation. The following questions, among others, arise in this regard: to what extent do households with a background of migration (with due regard for different ethnic groups) differ from other population groups in their decisions concerning migration? What explanatory power does the “migratory background” feature have for possible differences compared with other household characteristics? How do anticipated displacement processes caused by re-urbanisation impact on the migration decisions of people with a migratory background?

## II. Formal organisational agreements

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- Contractual matters**
- The Ph.D. students will receive a study grant.
  - The contract is for a fixed term of two years, with the possibility of extending for one further year.
  - The amount of the study grant is € 1,250 per month.
  - A doctoral student agreement will be concluded.
  - Taking up a part-time job can be consented to following consultation for a maximum of 10 hours per week.
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- Application documents**
- Covering letter
  - Curriculum vitae in table form
  - Copy of diploma/degree certificate with individual grades
  - Outline
    - length: 3-5 pages
    - content: subject of thesis (working title), question and objective, theoretical and methodical approach, relevance, state of preliminary work.
    - project outlines at an early stage of elaboration but which display a high degree of innovation are also welcome.
  - Documentary evidence of university supervision where possible.
  - Application deadline: 30 September 2011
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- Selection procedure**
- 2-stage selection procedure:
    - pre-selection based on the documents submitted in writing.
    - interview, with the applicants having the possibility to present themselves and their Ph.D. projects.
  - Evaluation criteria:
    - thematic orientation,
    - innovative content,
    - scientific quality and
    - feasibility of the project.
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- Doctoral examination procedure**
- Implementation of the doctoral examination procedure and supervision of the thesis following individual consultation at a university/college.
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### Support at ILS

- Support of the Ph.D. students at ILS through tutors.
- Provision of a workplace as well as technical and organisational infrastructure.
- Attendance of further training programmes (including empirical study methods).
- (Part of the) costs for empirical research can be covered following previous individual agreement.
- Following consultation, services provided by the Spatial Science Information and Communication Section (R.I.K.; e.g. in the area of geo-information and cartography) can be availed of.

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### Involvement in ILS

- As a rule, 2 – 3 days compulsory presence per week.
- Each Ph.D. student will be assigned to a research area and take part in research area meetings and exams. However, the Ph.D. students will not be involved in project work or internal research area assignments.
- Attendance of the Ph.D. students' colloquium and ILS research conferences.

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For more information, please contact:

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