

Just Transition and Multi-Level Governance

Summary

The PhD position studies the processes and practices of Just Transition in the context of EU's Multi-Level Governance. More specifically, it studies how different Just Transition regions develop local policymaking and innovation capacities to design and implement locally relevant Just Transition strategies, policies, organization, public-private partnerships in the context of EU Green Deal's goals, national strategies, and local governance traditions. The research should provide both international comparative analyses as well as lessons and practical suggestions for the Just Transition processes for the Ida-Virumaa region of Estonia.

Research field:	Public policy and innovation
Supervisors:	Prof. Dr. Erkki Karo Dr. Jaanus Müür
Availability:	This position is available.
Offered by:	School of Business and Governance Ragnar Nurkse Department of Innovation and Governance
Application deadline:	Applications are accepted between June 01, 2023 00:00 and June 30, 2023 23:59 (Europe/Zurich)

Description

The EU's Green Deal sets forth a pathway for rather significant socio-economic transformations. The regions with the most intensive CO2 footprints (in terms of their economic structure and footprint) are set to face the most fundamental transformations and challenges, for which the EU has designed the Just Transition mechanism. This whole process is filled with uncertainties and complexities – while the EU sets out policy goals and guidelines and provides significant financial support, this will not suffice for the desired transformations. Hence, both the EU member states as well as the Just Transition regions will need to design and implement actions, pool resources and build new society-wide visions and partnership to deliver the desired transformations in a just and sustainable manner.

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The candidates are expected to submit a research plan for the topic (2-4 pages), including the overall research and data collection strategy. The candidate can expand on the listed research questions and tasks, and propose theoretical lenses to be used.

Responsibilities and (foreseen) tasks:

- Compile an analytical framework for examining Just Transition processes in the context of EU's Multi-Level governance
- Map possible case studies for comparative analyses and lesson-drawing for the region of Ida-Virumaa
- Collect data and conduct case studies on the selected cases
- Contribute to comparative data collection
- Develop policy proposals and suggestions for practice
- Contribute to the organization of research and practitioner workshops where project findings are presented

Applicants should fulfil the following requirements:

- a master's degree in social sciences (preferably in public administration, public policy, EU studies or innovation studies)
- a clear interest in the topic of the position

- excellent command of English, preferably also Estonian and/or Russian
- strong and demonstrable writing and analytical skills
- capacity to work both as an independent researcher and as part of an international team
- capacity and willingness to provide assistance in organizational tasks relevant to the project

We offer:

- 4-year PhD position in one of the largest, most internationalized and leading social science research centers in Estonia with a large portfolio of ongoing pan-European and national public administration, digital governance and innovation studies and sustainability projects
- Opportunities for conference visits, research stays and networking with globally leading universities and research centers in the fields of public administration, innovation studies and digital government

About the department

The Ragnar Nurkse Department of Innovation and Governance (RND) is an interdisciplinary research center of Tallinn University of Technology that focuses on socially relevant and future-oriented research and teaching issues:

- models and practices of governance and public administration globally
- fiscal governance and fiscal bureaucracies
- e-governance and digital transformation of societies: datafication, public services and state-citizen relations in the digital era, smart cities and digital public services and cross-border collaboration
- P2P technologies, its' governance and potential new production models
- science and innovation policies and its' management
- philosophy and ethics of science and technology.

RND is a highly internationalised department and engages some of the top international thinkers and researchers in its research fields. Next to a fully English taught PhD degree it offers a MA degree in Technology Governance and Digital Transformations, and a unique Erasmus Mundus joint MSc programme in Public Sector Innovation and e-Governance in cooperation with KU Leuven (Belgium) and University of Münster (Germany). RND and its staff have coordinated or been involved in a multitude of international research projects with the EU (INTERREG, COST, FP7, H2020, Horizon Europe), UN (UNDP), OECD (SIGMA), INET, and have participated in various European Commission working groups (the EU's Lisbon Agenda Group, Expert Group on Managing Risks in Public Technology Procurement, Expert Group on Public Sector Innovation). Recently RND initiated a major, 32 MEUR international R&D project on Smart Cities (FinestTwins). RND is also engaged in several international associations, such as the European Master in Public Administration program (EMPA), European Inter-University Association on Society, Science and Technology (ESST), and the European Group for Public Administration (EGPA) where RND coordinates the Permanent Study Group on Public Administration, Technology and Innovation.

Additional information

For further information, please contact Prof Erkki Karo, erkki.karo@taltech.ee or visit <https://www.taltech.ee/en/nurkse>



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