

New position:

Contract Researcher (Postdoc), three years, January 2023-December 2025

Postdoc position on urban logistics

**Theme 3: Public policy, governance, new methods for data collection and modelling in the field of urban logistics**

As part of the Logistics City Chair founded in 2019 with partners Sogaris, Poste Immo and the Île-de-France Region, the University Gustave Eiffel (former IFSTTAR and University of Paris-East Marne la Vallée) based in the Paris region, France, is looking for a Postdoc researcher to conduct scientific research and co-run the Chair on a daily basis. To get familiarized with past and ongoing research activities of the Chair, visit the website (<https://www.lvmt.fr/en/chaires/logistics-city/>), LinkedIn page ([www.linkedin.com/company/chair-logistics-city/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/chair-logistics-city/)) or Twitter ([www.twitter.com/chairlogcityen](https://www.twitter.com/chairlogcityen) and [www.twitter.com/chairlogcityfr](https://www.twitter.com/chairlogcityfr)).

Research activities involved belong to a field, urban logistics, that is rapidly evolving and attracting increasing interest from local public and private actors. This position allows the consolidation of an expertise in logistics, which is still rare in the world of urban research. It provides numerous opportunities for scientific publications. This position is based in Marne la Vallée on the campus of the Cité Descartes, easily accessible by the A train from central Paris.

The Chair research agenda focuses on three topics: 1. Spatial analyses of logistics, logistics sprawl, logistics spatial planning. 2. New trends, new consumption, production and distribution practices that have an impact on urban logistics, on warehousing, and on cities' environment. And 3. Public policy, governance, new methods for data collection and modelling in the field of urban logistics.

This postdoc position focuses on the Chair's third theme: **Public policy (including low and zero emission zones), governance, new methods for data collection and modelling in the field of urban logistics**. Research projects within that topic can take several directions, some examples are provided in the Appendix.

Applicants should have a PhD in social sciences (urban planning, geography, economics, business management, sociology) or in transport engineering, data science, industrial engineering with an interest in social sciences. A good level of quantitative skills (spatial analyses, statistics) is appreciated. A thorough knowledge of urban logistics is not a prerequisite, but the candidate must demonstrate general knowledge and a strong interest in the topic.

Applicants must be able to manage meaningful interaction with the sponsor companies, including contribution to events, field visits, preparation of student workshops, visits abroad. They need to demonstrate good leadership of the internal team (management of research interns, doctoral candidates, colleagues participating in some of the research projects).

Regular management of the Chair's websites and social media as well as supervision of budget issues in cooperation with the university's administration is among the tasks involved in the position.

Some knowledge of French and a willingness to improve speaking/understanding skills are important, as attendance to local meetings and interactions with local stakeholders will be expected. A very good level of English is essential.

The Chair is focused on research. However, teaching opportunities are also available.

Extensive funds are available for the Chair's researchers making sure that team members have a comprehensive research experience: academic visits, field work, acquisition of equipment, data, software,

training in specific skills and software, also French if needed. Participation in international academic conferences is encouraged, promoted and financed.

#### **Scientific content and research directions for theme 3: Public policy, governance, new methods for data collection and modelling in the field of urban logistics**

- The set of research proposed in the post-doc is aimed at **evaluating and analyzing public policies on urban logistics**. It is about analyzing how public authorities and local communities in particular take up urban logistics issues and integrate them into their plans/strategies and how public decisions concerning the environment, climate change as well as air and noise pollution, the reduction of motor vehicles (low emission zones, zero emission zones), urban planning, actions to reduce land consumption ... impact the organization and the strategies of private logistics actors. The tools and policies for evaluating urban logistics policies, including carbon footprints, are part of the field of analysis.
- The work may be based on **existing or future partnerships** with local authorities: the Chair's current partnership with the Ile-de-France region, numerous current exchanges with the City of Paris and other cities (Lyon), relationships that demonstrate the growing appetite and investment of public actors in urban logistics. Our existing cooperation with several international research centers (US, Europe and others) and participation in European research projects in cooperation with European cities can also contribute to the research.
- There is a strong "regulation and governance" dimension to the Chair's work on **instant on-demand deliveries, 'dark stores' and 'dark kitchens'**, particularly in terms of urban planning, road safety, and labor law.
- The work includes "data, tools and new methods to collect logistics data". This is not directly research in data science (which is not the competence of the Chair) but aims at identifying the needs of local authorities for **methods and tools to better understand and model the urban mobility of goods**. On that topic, the Chair is associated with the following new initiatives, which will allow the collection of information and acculturation to the subject: Regional Observatory of Logistics in the Paris region, Urban Logistics Group of ATEC, Fabrique de la Logistique, Ideathon Communauté Territoire, TRB committee on freight data, European networks ALICE and Polis.
- Research directions also depend on the **researcher's own interests and expertise**; specific research proposals can be made for the application as well as throughout the duration of the Postdoc.

Position proposal dated June 30, 2022

For further information and application, please contact Dr. Laetitia Dablanc ([laetitia.dablanc@univ-eiffel.fr](mailto:laetitia.dablanc@univ-eiffel.fr))