

University Gustave Eiffel, Laboratory City, Mobility, Transportation (<https://www.lvmt.fr/en/>)

Logistics City Chair

New position:

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

Postdoc position on urban logistics

**Theme 2: New trends, new consumption, production and distribution practices that have an impact on urban logistics, on warehousing, and on cities' environment**

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/chaieres/logistics-city/>), LinkedIn page ([www.linkedin.com/company/chair-logistics-city](http://www.linkedin.com/company/chair-logistics-city)) or Twitter ([www.twitter.com/chairlogcityen](http://www.twitter.com/chairlogcityen) and [www.twitter.com/chairlogcityfr](http://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 second theme: New trends, new consumption, production and distribution practices that have an impact on urban logistics, on warehousing, and on cities' environment.**

Research projects within that topic can take several directions, some examples are provided below.

Applicants should have a PhD in social sciences (urban planning, geography, economics, business management, sociology) or in transport engineering or 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 2: New trends, new consumption, production and distribution practices that have an impact on urban logistics, on warehousing, and on cities' environment**

- The research field aims at improving knowledge of urban practices such as e-commerce and estimating their potential impact on urban delivery (including labor, service provision, innovations), on logistics real estate development, and on cities' environment.
- The work can take several directions. The collection of data and indicators for case studies of large cities (including Paris) relating to the flows generated by new forms of e-commerce (e.g., 'instant deliveries') is among them. The analysis of their potential economic and environmental impacts can be another. Quantitative as well as qualitative analyses are encouraged, including interviews with e-commerce and logistics stakeholders and the observation of case studies. The objective is to highlight the short-to medium-term impacts e-commerce can have on urban logistics services, retail and mobility in cities (modes of transport, types of operators, real estate), and to develop assessments of environmental impacts (e.g. carbon footprints).
- 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.
- One of the tools available to the researcher, as well as one of the key deliverables of the Chair, is the E-commerce Mobilities Observatory ([www.ecommercemobilities.com](http://www.ecommercemobilities.com)), which discusses the state-of-the-art on business-to-consumer e-commerce developments, its stakeholders, mobilities and warehousing. Updating the Observatory is a key part of the work to be carried out.

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)).