

FULL-TIME POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER ON OPENNESS AND COLLABORATION IN SMART CITIES

HEC Liège Management School, University of Liège (Belgium) / Smart City Institute

JOB DESCRIPTION

The postdoctoral researcher will develop research on **Openness and Collaboration in Smart Cities**.

Smart city projects have emerged as a response to urban crisis conditions with the aim of leveraging digital technologies for urban innovation and sustainable development. However, these projects involve complex organizational challenges (e.g. interorganizational collaborations) that have received little attention in existing smart city research (Mora et al., 2023). Furthermore, today, “openness” (or open organizing) has become an organizational leitmotif that includes different aspects (e.g. open data, open government, open innovation or open strategy) (Splitter et al. 2023). Both openness and collaboration have been identified as a critical feature for smart city transitions (Mora et al., 2023).

The aim of this postdoctoral research is to contribute to literature on these topics with a specific angle, using concepts, frameworks and theories such as Entrepreneurial and Innovation Ecosystems, Boundaryless Organizations, Stakeholders’ Theory, Multistakeholder and Cross-Sector Partnerships, Institutional Logics or Actor Network Theories, for example (TBD).

The researcher will develop a clear research agenda for the duration of the postdoctoral mission (including precise research questions, expected scientific contributions and theoretical underpinnings of the research). The research will rely on existing data (already available/collected in Belgium) and on new data collection (case study).

The researcher will be working in collaboration with [Professor Nathalie Crutzen](#) and will be affiliated at the [HEC Liege Smart City Institute](#). The latest publications of the research team include articles in international scientific journals such as Ecological Economics ; Public Management Review; IEEE Transactions on Engineering Management ; Technological Forecasting and Social Change; Journal of Cleaner Production ; Administration and Society ; The Annals of Regional Science ; Government Information Quarterly ; International Review of Administrative Science; Sustainability Accounting, Management and Policy Journal; Social and Environmental Accountability Journal or Cities.

It is worth mentioning that the researcher will be in an international research environment as formal research collaborations have been set with other international business schools (such as NOVA SBE, UniSA for example) and, in particular, as he/she will

also collaborate proactively with the [Prof Anne-Laure Mention](#), Global Business Innovation Enabling Impact Platform Director, RMIT Melbourne on his/her research projects.

JOB QUALIFICATIONS

- ▶ A **doctoral degree** in a related field (management, economics, etc.) is required
- ▶ The candidate should demonstrate **outstanding research potential** with reference to **HEC Liege Academic Journal Guide** (https://www.hec.uliege.be/cms/c_8631209/fr/hec-liege-academic-journal-guide-december-2022) as well as **previous scientific publications in international peer-reviewed journals** (A or min B publications)
- ▶ Spoken and written English, knowledge of French is appreciated

INFORMATION AND APPLICATION PROCESS

- ▶ Application deadline: **18 December 2023**
- ▶ Starting date: **January 2024**
- ▶ Duration: **Up to 18 months**

The postdoctoral researcher will be hired on a research grant and therefore should comply with the following requirements: (1) to have obtained the PhD degree less than 10 years before the starting date of the contract; (2) to be in a situation of international mobility (that is, not having stayed more than 24 months in Belgium - for work or studies, etc. - over the last 3 years).

Interested candidates should apply electronically by sending their application to Professor Nathalie Crutzen : ncrutzen@uliege.be before 18 December 2023.

Please provide the following:

- (1) A **research proposal** for the postdoctoral research period, of maximum 10,000 characters (spaces included) containing the following sections: A. Context/Problem (B) Research question(s) C. State of the art D. Theoretical perspectives E. Research methodology F. Expected contributions G. Calendar and research outputs;
- (2) A detailed CV;
- (3) A list of publications and working papers ;
- (4) A motivation letter ;
- (5) A recommendation letter of one international expert of the field.

About HEC Liege, University of Liège

HEC Liège is the management school of the University of Liège (ULiège). It is one of Belgium's leading university business schools for graduate and postgraduate programs and the only comprehensive management school in Belgium to hold both AACSB and EQUIS accreditations. It employs more than 115 full-time faculty members and researchers and hosts over 3390 students.

The school's mission is to foster real-life education and research in economics and management for the benefit of our local community and society at large.

HEC Liège is a dynamic institution that promotes an empowering pedagogy that leads students to play a proactive part in their education and offers a dynamic and entrepreneurial research and teaching environment.

HEC Liège's international vision Liège is reflected in its many research activities, numerous partnerships with companies and universities around the world, and the increasing internationalization of its programs and faculty.

Working at HEC Liège means being part of a Business School with a truly European identity. Lying at the heart of a metropolis (3rd largest city in Belgium, 1st in the French-speaking region) – easily accessible by plane and train, within less than an hour's drive from Brussels, Maastricht or Aachen and less than four hours from Paris, Frankfurt, Cologne and London, the School shares the economic and cultural effervescence of this ardent city. Liège is the third inland port in Europe and the seventh cargo airport in Europe.

Like the city's famous friendliness and hospitality, HEC Liège advocates respect, tolerance, diversity and social responsibility and is committed to the well-being of its members. A great place to live and work!

More information on HEC Liège work environment: www.hecliege.be