



university of
 groningen

faculty of spatial sciences

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

Graduate Research Day – June 20th, 2024

During the Graduate Research Day pictures will be made.
If you have any objections, please send an e-mail to the organization (grd@rug.nl).

Programme

- 12:00 - 12:30 Walk-in with coffee/ tea (*Duisenberg Plaza*)
12:30 - 12:40 Welcome and opening by **prof. Johan Woltjer**, dean of the faculty (*5419.0015*)
- 12:40 - 12:55 Keynote by **Felix Marseille** (*5419.0015*)
12:55 - 13:10 Keynote by **Ioana Teodorescu** (*5419.0015*)
- 13:15 - 14:30 Thematic presentation sessions – round 1:
- 5412.0025: Transforming real estate in the Netherlands I**
Luuk van Dijk / Fleur Holtkamp / Mathijs van Gelsdorp / Casper Lute
 - 5412.0028: Global perspectives in real estate dynamics I**
Péter Csitkovics / Olaf Welboren / Lucas Breed
 - 5412.0031: Sustainable energy transitions**
Bjorn Fokkens / Sjoerd Duim / Jildert Dijkstra / Alexander Gill
 - 5412.0040: Collaborative innovation**
Marcel Mayimona / David Martin / Sebastiaan Vonk / Giovanni Kiewiet
 - Blauwe Zaal: Minorities and gender norms in modern society**
Bob Langereis / Ilse Sieben / Isabell Schuler / Sverre Veenstra
 - 5419.0003: Cohesion, safety, and diversity in neighborhood well-being**
Ena Peters / Ian Buitenhuis / Tan Wendi / Enya van Drooge
 - 5419.0005: Sustainable mobility**
Aleksander Korzjukov / Rens Vos / Marjon van Trigt / Gijs de Heer
 - 5419.0007: Balancing development and conservation**
Jelmer de Rijke / Emiel de Vries / Philip Andersen
 - 5419.0009: Spatial coherence**
Cameron Ohlson / Wiebren Veenstra / Amber Beernink / Elmeri Niemi
- 14:30 - 15:15 Poster presentations + break with coffee/tea (*Duisenberg Plaza*)
- 15:15 - 16:15 Thematic presentation sessions – round 2:
- 5412.0025: Local strategies for success from Island regions**
Gabriel Araújo Njaim / Vannak Khin / Victor Otokiti / Minh Nguyen Thi Thuy / Meixu Chen
 - 5412.0028: Transforming real estate in the Netherlands II**
Frenk van Stipriaan / Loraine Scholten / Wiebe van der Woerd / Thijs van Soest
 - 5412.0031: Global perspectives in real estate dynamics II**
Lennard Kruger / Patrick Quinn / Joey Levi van Delft / Rens Wientjes
 - 5412.0040: Driving environmental sustainability**
Madeleen Gaemers / Wienke Harms / Bridgit Hebner / Lena Sept
 - Blauwe Zaal: Innovative transportation**
Jeroen Schreiber / Martin Bergmann / Rens Rolink / Rens Waagmeester
 - 5419.0003: Shaping urban development policies**
Gerian Kuiper / Jelle Spikker / Olaf Feenstra / Pablo Durant
 - 5419.0005: Innovative living**
Xiao Bian / Jildou Altenburg / Tineke Kauffmann / Marieke Hutzezon
 - 5419.0007: Balancing rural and urban perspectives**
Maarten Heikens / Kirsten Valkenier / Rick Plegt / Saskia Nauta
 - 5419.0009: Governance and demographics**
Ewoud Jansma / Kasia Szachna / Adrian Kunz / Twan Dimmendaal
- 16:20 - 16:35 Keynote by **Viola Angesti** (*5419.0015*)
16:35 - 16:50 Keynote by **Yulita Muspitasari** (*5419.0015*)
- 16:50 - 17:00 Award ceremony and closing by **prof. Johan Woltjer** (*5419.0015*)
17:00 - 18:00 Festive closure with drinks and snacks (*Duisenberg Plaza*)

Keynotes

Felix Marseille

Modal Shift to Rail in Europe: An analysis of factors relevant to achieving modal shift from road to rail in small and medium sized European nations

In my thesis I look at configurations of conditions which are associated with successful shift from transport of goods on the road network to the rail network. This shift is part of the decarbonization of the European logistics sector. Factors such as (terminal) network quality, regulatory intervention are analyzed through Qualitative comparative analysis to deduce effective configurations of conditions.

Ioana Teodorescu

Challenges and opportunities of digital technologies in facilitating children's participation in urban planning and design: A Swiss case study

Children remain largely excluded from participatory planning and design processes. Yet, their participation is key in achieving sustainable development goals and inclusive cities. This research explored the challenges and opportunities of digital technologies in facilitating children's participation in urban planning and design and in supporting their dynamic capabilities. The findings revealed the potential of digital technologies in supporting children's capabilities, enhancing existing participatory methodologies, and broadening participation.

Viola Angesti

Fishing for answers: Methodologies to assess dredging impacts to small-scale fisheries

Small-scale fisheries face growing threats from climate change and coastal projects like dredging, which can be seen as ocean 'grabbing' if not managed properly. These activities can disrupt fish stocks and restrict fishing access, threatening livelihoods. This study fills a gap in understanding these impacts by exploring methodologies. It uses systematic literature reviews, document analysis, and interviews to identify impact zones as well as proposing a framework to assess impacts for small-scale fisheries across ecological, operational, and spatial starting points.

Yulita Muspitasari

Environmental Assessment (EA) follow-up in energy infrastructures: A comparative study of practice in the Netherlands, Iceland, and Denmark

The increasing energy crisis in Europe has led to a rise in projects requiring EA. This study aims to conduct a comparative analysis of EA Follow-up in the Netherlands, Iceland, and Denmark, focusing on energy infrastructure projects to understand the practices in different contexts. This qualitative research utilizes document analysis and 21 interviews with EA experts. The key findings suggest that EA Follow-up should be integrated into the EA process to "close the loop," foster continuous learning, enhance the understanding of uncertainties, and bridge implementation gaps.

Thematic presentation sessions

Round 1

13:15 – 14:15 hours

1. Transforming real estate in the Netherlands I **Moderated by Mark van Duijn – University of Groningen** **Room 5412.0025**

Luuk van Dijk

Government aid in negatively affected real estate markets: A comprehensive analysis of the “Koopinstrument” in the earthquake-affected area of Groningen

The discovery of a gas field in Groningen spurred extensive extraction, backed by the Dutch government, triggering earthquakes. The 2012 Huizinge earthquake altered perceptions on gas extraction's safety. To assist residents, the government established SWAG, funded by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate, offering the Koopinstrument tool for property sales. Despite a robust housing market, ongoing seismic activity necessitates government aid. This thesis explores the extent and necessity of governmental support to stabilize Groningen's earthquake-affected markets.

Fleur Holtkamp

Innovative housing concepts for the elderly: An investigation into the impact of co-housing on well-being

Co-housing consists of multiple individual homes that come together with shared spaces and facilities. These shared spaces, where residents meet regularly for meals or other activities, help build a close-knit community and strengthen bonds between residents. Hence, the question arises about the impact of co-housing on the well-being of the elderly. Using qualitative research, four characteristics are used to explain this. The study argues that co-housing design, community facilities, complete resident management and a non-hierarchical structure contribute to the well-being of the elderly.

Mathijs van Gelsdorp

Public private partnerships in area development: The challenge of sufficient housing construction and changing policy related to housing and climate adaptation

This thesis originated from a societal issue commonly referred to as the housing crisis. An affordable place to live is no longer a given for everyone. While various developers claim that regulation and changing policies create uncertainty in their business cases, guidelines regarding climate adaptation are becoming increasingly influential in new developments. To what extent do these matters conflict with each other? And how do we ensure both sufficient housing and climate-adaptive development?

Casper Lute

Financial family assistance and housing consumption: Insights from the 2021 Netherlands' Housing Survey

This research examines the relationship between financial family assistance and housing consumption. In the context of rising housing prices, understanding potential drivers is crucial for policy adjustments. Existing literature predicts a positive relationship, linked to theories on the general effect of higher budgets. Empirical analysis supports this hypothesis, revealing a significant relationship. Additionally, the effect is found to be higher for younger age cohorts. These findings can inform policies aimed at providing more equal opportunities in the housing market.

2. Global perspectives in real estate dynamics I

Moderated by Xiaolong Liu – University of Groningen
Room 5412.0028

Péter Csitkovics

The external effects of shopping center openings on residential property prices: Evidence from Budapest, Hungary

My thesis analyses the external effects of shopping mall openings on residential property prices based on aggregate street-level data, using a difference-in-difference methodology.

Olaf Welboren

Proximity to seismic activity and its effect on land values: A case study of Vancouver, BC

This thesis examines the impact of seismic activity on property values in Vancouver, a region in the Pacific Northwest known for both high earthquake risk and high-priced real estate market. Utilizing a time series regression analysis, the study investigates whether the proximity to earthquake zones significantly affects land values. The research aims to provide insights into the relationship between earthquake risk and property market dynamics, offering valuable information for policymakers, real estate professionals, and potential homeowners in seismically active areas.

Lucas Breed

The effect of increasing house prices during COVID-19 pandemic on housing wealth and divorce risk in the United States

This study investigates the impact of rising house prices during the COVID-19 pandemic on housing wealth and divorce risk in the United States. COVID-19 drastically affected socio-economic phenomena and therefore is interesting study material. Results indicate that while housing wealth enhanced for homeowners, it exacerbated economic disparities for renters, leading to heightened financial stress and increased divorce risk for the latter. These findings highlight the complex interplay between economic factors and personal relationships during a period of unprecedented socio-economic upheaval.

3. Sustainable energy transition

Moderated by Martijn Graff – Witteveen+Bos
Room 5412.0031

Bjorn Fokkens

Plugged in and powered up: Navigating spatial stakeholder currents in high voltage institutional governance in the Netherlands

This thesis is about how stakeholders are taken into account in the (institutional) planning of energy infrastructures. Specifically, a case study was held regarding the Eemshaven-Vierverlaten high voltage connection. High voltage connections may be quite visible in the landscape, impact land-use in the area directly around them, but are also necessary for transport of energy from suppliers to consumers. This leads to differing and sometimes conflicting stakeholder opinions, and, in combination with how institutional actors balance these interests, form the main topic of this thesis.

Sjoerd Duim

Dutch district heating: The influence of private interference on municipal goal achievement

The climate agreement (2019) dictates, in the pursuit of becoming natural gas-free, that district heating should become one of the main sources of warmth in the Netherlands. These heating networks are realized through different forms of public-private collaboration. This research investigates the influence of the ratio of public and private interference on the achievement of municipal heating goals. Interviews with public servants seem to conclude that a majority of public interference decreases social costs most, whereas a majority in private interference seems to speed up the process more.

Jildert Dijkstra

Clean industry in the Netherlands: Using ammonia to produce green steel

This thesis explores the potential role of ammonia for industry in the Dutch energy transition. It investigates the technical feasibility of using ammonia as a hydrogen carrier and energy storage medium for Dutch industry, focusing on the case of Tata Steel. Besides studying the technical and economic feasibility, this study takes on the spatial aspect, focusing on external safety and the new environmental act. The study aims to provide insights into the future outlook for ammonia and to clarify its place in the energy transition.

Alexander Gill

Regional missions: Big dreams on a small scale

This thesis examines mission-oriented and place-based policies using the Ruhr Hydrogen Model as a case study. Through high-level, diverse expert interviews analyzed thematically, it explores the effects of geographical proximity, organizational structures, and network dynamics on innovation. Findings indicate that for most entities, proximity is crucial for collaboration. An agile state actor fosters a risk-taking approach, while mission-oriented initiatives spur cross-sector collaboration, showing that tailored policies can address complex challenges effectively.

4. Collaborative innovation

Moderated by Jesse Wermelink – TwynstraGudde

Room 5412.0040

Marcel Mayimona

Smart specialization through collaboration: Complementing missing capacities for everyone?

Limited innovation opportunities can hinder the effectiveness of smart specialization strategies (S3). Nevertheless, interregional linkages have the potential to enable related diversification. However, lagging regions may lack the absorptive capacity to benefit from these collaborations. This study examines how interregional linkages may affect the emergence of new specializations within the region's selected S3 domains and how these effects vary by the regional type. The results indicate that linkages to core regions can compensate for lacking capabilities, particularly in lagging regions.

David Martin

Regional innovation through agglomeration economies and the German Mittelstand: Insights from Baden-Württemberg

This study uses the German state of Baden-Württemberg as a case study to understand the spatially dispersed patterns of regional innovations. While agglomeration economies are often seen as key drivers, their impact in Germany is debated. However, the German Mittelstand, a distinctive type of SME, is considered crucial for innovation. Regression results indicate that large corporations, rather than the Mittelstand, drive regional innovation in influential agglomerations. Effective regions, supported by incoming commuters, excel through extensive cooperation to punch above their weight.

Sebastiaan Vonk

Crossing the border: The Economic Geography of cross-border relations

The economic geography of border regions is a debated topic in the field of economic geography, where cross-border relations are a central theme. Previous research has highlighted challenges in establishing such relations, including inefficiencies in resource utilization, sociocultural barriers, and the presence of proximate but disconnected labour markets. This research examines cross-border relations through hyperlinks and aims to get a better understanding of how these relations are established.

Giovanni Kiewiet

Citizen participation within urban renewal projects: A triangulation study into obstacles, opportunities and the importance of collaboration

This research focuses on the different factors influencing the citizen participation process within urban renewal projects. The research contributes to democratic legitimacy and social cohesion as well as it enriches the literature on participation processes within urban renewal projects, using case studies and methodological triangulation. Key findings emphasize that transparency, communication and stakeholder management are factors influencing integrated citizen participation. Barriers such as differences in expectations, the lack of trust and established policies are also identified.

5. Minorities and gender norms in modern society **Moderated by Hinke Haisma – University of Groningen** **Blauwe Zaal**

Bob Langereis

Broadening the spectrum: Health disparities among contemporary sexual- and gender minorities in Norway

Sexual and Gender Minorities (SGM) face health disparities despite efforts from (inter)national authorities. Research links disparities to minority stress and structural stigma. This thesis uses a nationally representative sample with extensive SGM identities to overcome previous limitations. Descriptive results show discrimination and lower health faced by SGMs. Regression analyses find partly significant associations between lower health and SGM identities. Future research should focus on the intersectionality of SGM identity and social health drivers while preserving representative samples.

Ilse Sieben

Religiosity and fertility intentions in the Netherlands: Exploring gender norms and attitudes

This thesis explores how gender norms mediate the relationship between religiosity and fertility intentions in the Netherlands. Unlike past studies focused on religious denominations and pronatalist views, it focuses on individual religiosity's effect on fertility through gender norms. Using data from the Gender and Generations Survey, it examines how traditional gender roles associated with higher religiosity impact fertility intentions. The findings will enhance understanding of the interplay between religion, gender norms, and demographic behaviour in a secularized, gender-equal context.

Isabell Schuler

Marriage and the mental health of sexual orientation minorities

This thesis examines the impact of marriage on the mental health of self-identified sexual minorities (lesbian, gay, and bisexual persons) in the U.K. using a quantitative approach. Longitudinal data from the United Kingdom Household Longitudinal Study (UKHLS - Understanding Society) is analyzed using fixed effects models to assess individual mental health trajectories over the transition into first marriage by sexual orientation. The findings uncover a potential protective source for LGB mental health and reveal persistent disparities between sexual orientations despite equal marital status.

Sverre Veenstra

Unemployment, gender inequalities, and mental health: A comparative analysis of European welfare regimes

The aim of this study is to investigate the relationship between unemployment, welfare states, and mental health in Europe from a gendered perspective. It is argued that gender differences in the impact of unemployment on mental well-being stem from the distinct societal and familial roles available to men and women, which are in turn shaped by a country's family policy or welfare regime. Utilizing data from the European Social Survey (ESS) rounds 6 and 7, the analysis focuses on individuals aged 25 to 60. The study predicts variations in mental health outcomes between employed and unemployed individuals, especially concerning gender, and expects differences across diverse welfare regimes, ranging from those with more traditional family policies to those with more egalitarian ones. By focusing

on unequal mental health outcomes, the study aims to address gender inequalities and contribute to the development of more equitable mental health and family policies.

6. Cohesion, safety, and diversity in neighborhood well-being **Moderated by Louise Meijering – University of Groningen** **Room 5419.0003**

Ena Peters

The impact of retirement on the health of older adults & how retirement affects social inequality in health

Due to population ageing more people in Europe are transitioning from work to retirement. To understand the impact of retirement on health and health inequalities, this thesis estimates fixed-effects panel regression models analyzing the effect of retirement on older adults' self-rated health before, during and after the event. Further, the statistical analysis investigates how the effect differs between individuals depending on their socioeconomic status. The thesis uses data from the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe and is theoretically based on the life-course approach.

Ian Buitenhuis

To what extent and in what way do digitization and economic welfare affect subjective well-being in European regions?

This quantitative thesis explores the effect that digitization has on GDP and how these affects subjective well-being. Furthermore, the research investigates the effect digitization on the strength of the relation between GDP and subjective well-being.

Tan Wendi

Determinants of neighborhood well-being: The roles of cohesion, safety perceptions, and diversity

This paper examines the determinants of community satisfaction, focusing on the role of trust, shared values, perceived safety, and diversity. Using survey data, we explored how these factors affect residents' satisfaction. The study found that neighborhood trust and shared values significantly increased neighborhood satisfaction, and perceptions of safety were also critical predictors. Control variables such as age showed positive effects, while gender, family size, and income were not significant.

Enya van Drooge

Dutch retirement migration: Exploring tourism effects on adjustment and sense of belonging

Retirement is becoming an increasingly significant subject with populations ageing globally, leading to a growth of international retirement migration. As tourism aspires individuals to migrate, the nexus between these topics is highlighted with mediation linear regressions. This quantitative study not only describes the impact of prior tourism visits on the adjustment after migration of Dutch retirement migrants, but also seeks to understand how this impact relates to their long-term sense of belonging in the destination country. 66% visited the destination previously, but what is the effect?

7. Sustainable mobility **Moderated by Christian Lamker – University of Groningen** **Room 5419.0005**

Aleksander Korzjukov

Integrating Nature-Based Solutions in informal settlements: A case study of climate-resilient urban planning in Philippi

This master's thesis investigates integrating Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) in the informal settlement of Philippi, Cape Town, to enhance climate resilience and urban planning. The study addresses water

management challenges worsened by climate change and urbanization. Through socio-economic, environmental, and infrastructural analyses, it proposes tailored NBS designs for Philippi. Key findings show NBS can significantly improve flood management, water quality, and community well-being, offering sustainable and cost-effective solutions for urban resilience in informal settlements.

Rens Vos

Voices from the city: Strategies for inclusive participation in urban redevelopment

In the Netherlands citizens have the feeling of being unheard. With the implementation of the 'Omgevingswet' participation is a mandatory part of the process. Within this participation process typically the same group of citizens are attending, which are often referred to as the 'usual suspects'. This study investigates what municipalities can do to involve underrepresented groups more in the participation process within urban redevelopment projects. Thus, how can municipalities ensure more inclusivity within redevelopment projects. This has been done by investigating 3 cases in the Netherlands.

Marjon van Trigt

Citizen participation in spatial planning. Early involvement as a means of dealing with conflicts under the new Dutch Environment and Planning Act

Spatial planning often leads to conflicts between government and citizens. The Environment and Planning Act, obliges municipalities to 'early involvement' of citizens in spatial policy. This qualitative research provides insights into what 'early involvement' entails, and how this principle is integrated in local participation policy. The data gathered from local participation regulations, policies and websites, and semi-structured interviews show that the principle of 'early involvement' is hardly addressed to. Suggestions are made for improving local participation policies.

Gijs de Heer

Bridging perspectives: Exploring the discussion landscape around Groningen airport Eelde

This thesis examines the debate surrounding regional airports' future, paying specific attention to how different stakeholders see and evaluate the implications. Socially, it attempts to outline obstacles and agreements among stakeholders for the future of regional airports. Scientifically, it uses Groningen airport Eelde as a case study to examine infrastructure, considering the trade-off between economic growth and broad welfare, and livability.

8. Balancing development and conversation

**Moderated by Lindsey van 't Klooster and Elna Minderman – Jelmer Talent Lab
Room 5419.0007**

Jelmer de Rijke

Measuring and enhancing the social license to operate in infrastructure projects, a case study of the southern ring road in Groningen

Infrastructure projects can be contested by the public, resulting in delays and/or cost overruns. In extractive industries the concept of the social license to operate is used to monitor and enhance social acceptance, however limited research exists on how the social license can be used in road infrastructure projects. Several groups of stakeholders seem to be in the position to withdraw the social license to operate. The likeliness of a withdrawal of the license to operate, is dependent on several factors.

Emiel de Vries

Dealing with the trade-off between safety and accessibility of regional infrastructure by means of spatial planning approaches: The case of the N34 road section in the municipality of Aa & Hunze

This research will demonstrate how a spatial planning approach can help deal with the trade-off between safety and accessibility of the N34 road section in the municipality of Aa & Hunze. These insights will be provided by comparing the N34 project, including its spatial planning approach, with

other national and international infrastructure projects that have been successful in improving both safety and accessibility. This is relevant because the safety and accessibility of this N34 road section are deficient and the planning process to improve these factors is laborious.

Philip Andersen

Public participation in environmental impact assessment follow-up of metro infrastructure projects: A comparative study between Noord-Zuidlijn in Amsterdam and Cityringen in Copenhagen

This research explores the new set of best practice principles for public participation in EIA follow-up, by examining current practice through existing urban metro projects. It investigates the extent of public participation in follow-up and follow-up to public participation and how it facilitates adaptive management. In both the case of Cityringen and the Noord-Zuidlijn, a large-scale issue resulted in significant change in communication strategy and the involvement of the public.

9. Spatial coherence

Moderated by Annet Kempenaar – University of Groningen

Room 5419.0009

Cameron Ohlson

Making space for skateboarding in Groningen: Assessing the needs of Groningen's skateboarding community and the municipality's efforts to meet them

The recognition and attempted formalization of urban sports such as skateboarding has become a common trend in municipal-level governance, but success has proven to be difficult. The municipality of Groningen has claimed to embrace the urban sport of skateboarding but its programmed spaces, new nuisance legislation, and hostile architecture may tell a different story. This research seeks to understand, using field observations and semi-structured interviews, what the skateboarding community in Groningen needs from the municipality and how effective the municipality's approach has been so far.

Wiebren Veenstra

Unveiling neighborhood fragmentation: A strategic approach for integrating socio-spatial coherence in the Valeriuskwartier, Leeuwarden

Early post-war neighborhoods often represent vulnerable areas within Dutch cities, disrupting socio-spatial coherence. These weak fragments of the city are frequently characterized by a high percentage of social housing, low quality buildings or weak social cohesion, which signify a lack of urban integrity. Therefore, this research conducts a comparative analysis between Valeriuskwartier, Leeuwarden, and four well-functioning post-war neighborhoods in various Dutch cities. The goal is to identify socio-spatial conditions that contribute to Valeriuskwartier's status as a weak fragment. Results show that resident autonomy, perceived safety and uniformity amongst residents differ substantially from the well-functioning neighborhoods, possibly rendering these conditions contributors to the lack of socio-spatial coherence in Valeriuskwartier.

Amber Beernink

50 Shades of adaptation: Matching climate adaptation to the city

Climate change effects are becoming more prominent in Dutch cities. To deal with this, Dutch cities have been developing climate adaptation policies. Here, they opt for a place-based approach to fully address the complexities that come with climate adaptation. This study explores the best practices for doing so. Through a comparative case study analysis of six Dutch cities, it was found that integral problem framing, supportive municipal and national structures, multi-stakeholder collaboration, and seizing linking opportunities are deemed best practices.

Elmeri Niemi*Modelling indoor movement patterns in campus environments using privacy-aware agent-based simulation*

This research models indoor movement patterns in campus environments using a privacy-aware agent-based simulation (ABS) framework. Traditional tracking methods raise privacy concerns and often fail to capture human behaviors. By leveraging the Geographical PageRank algorithm and non-invasive data sources, the study predicts movement behaviors while protecting privacy. The model considers room attractiveness and spatial factors to improve space management and planning. This approach optimizes indoor movement patterns, enhancing space utilization and campus management practices.

Thematic presentation sessions

Round 2

15:15 – 16:15 hours

10. Local strategies for success from Island regions **Moderated by Louise Meijering – University of Groningen** **Room 5412.0025**

Gabriel Araujo Njaim

Negotiating identity in Limbo: Exploring the impact of waiting periods through the life stories of young adult asylum seekers in Lesvos, Greece

This thesis explores the identity negotiation of young adult refugees on Lesvos, Greece, during prolonged asylum waits. Utilizing phenomenological perspectives and dialogical self-theory, it investigates how waiting impact's identity through interactions with and in the insular environment. Key findings highlight the transformative effects of liminality on refugees' identities and advocate for policies to reduce waiting times and enhance support structures.

Vannak Khin

Contesting the "eternal student:" A mixed-methods study of educational persistence among Greek University students in Lesvos, Greece

This research explores transformational experiences of Greek students studying at the University of the Aegean in Lesvos. In Greece, national panhellenic exam results determine what universities students can attend; social pressures and educational expectations factor in the ultimate selection process, leading students to study in Lesvos under tenuous conceptions of "choice." The concept of choice is explored through mixed methods: semi-structured interviews and survival analysis. Persistence factors are studied to reveal how islandness can shape student experiences and outcomes.

Victor Otokiti

Grassroots sustainability innovations in Mauritius Island: Challenges and opportunities

Islands, despite their unique sustainability challenges owing to their isolation and climate vulnerability, serve as crucial laboratories for innovative solutions. This qualitative study explored barriers and opportunities to accelerate grassroots sustainability innovations towards more resilient, sustainable pathways in Mauritius. The findings identify experimentation, localized production, multistakeholder and regional cooperation, blue ocean economy, community empowerment, policy reforms and cultural mindset shift as pathways for accelerating grassroots sustainability innovations.

Minh Nguyen Thi Thuy

Support networks and satisfaction in academia: An empirical study in an Island University setting

This study investigated the relationship between support networks and satisfaction levels among university members in an island setting. A survey gathered data on demographics, commute, living location, satisfaction with life, social networks, academic life, stress, resources, and advice-seeking behaviors. Participants listed individuals from whom they seek academic and emotional support, detailing roles, support types, and interaction frequency. Qualitative interviews explored unique island experiences in advice-seeking and network-building compared to mainland settings. Findings revealed robust support networks enhance satisfaction across domains, with accessibility to mentors, peers, and institutional resources as key influencers. The island context presented challenges like isolation and advantages like tighter communities facilitating informal advice. This research highlights cultivating supportive ecosystems tailored to island-based academic institutions.

Meixu Chen

How did the falcon cross the ocean? Analyzing how Eleonora's falcons use seasonal winds and insular stepping-stones to avoid drowning in the Indian Ocean.

This study highlights seasonal differences in how birds cross the ocean by using islands. In spring, falcons take longer routes, using islands as stepping-stones and benefitting from strong tailwinds. Conversely, in autumn, they face headwinds and opt for shorter, more direct routes with minimal island use. The study emphasizes how falcons strategically navigate ecological barriers by balancing wind conditions, geographic features, and daylight to optimize their migration.

11. Transforming real estate in the Netherlands II **Moderated by Mark van Duijn – University of Groningen** **Room 5412.0028**

Loraine Scholten

The relationship between resident satisfaction and housing sustainability across tenants and homeowners in the Netherlands

This research investigates the relationship between housing sustainability and resident satisfaction in the Netherlands, with a focus on demographic factors. Using data from the Housing Survey Netherlands (WoON 2021) dataset, it is analyzed how age groups, income levels, household size, and homeowner status influence this relationship. The study employs logistic regression models to examine the associations between sustainability indicators, demographic variables, and resident satisfaction. The study contributes to the understanding of sustainability in residential settings and provides insights for policymakers and housing providers. By addressing gaps in the literature and employing analytical methods, this research offers valuable implications for the Dutch housing sector.

Wiebe van der Woerd

The influence of hybrid working on the Dutch office market

This study examines the impact of working from home (WFH) on the Dutch office real estate market, driven by the surge in WFH since Covid-19. The theory highlights reduced demand, increased vacancy, and devaluation. Using panel data from 21 cities (1992-2023) and a random error panel regression model, results show significant negative impacts of WFH on office space availability. Secondary cities are more affected than the G5 cities. Future research should focus on WFH's effect on office prices and study countries with higher WFH adoption.

Joey Levi van Delft

Evaluating urban connectivity and its impact on residential property values in Allegheny County

This thesis investigates the relationship between urban connectivity and residential property values in Allegheny County. As urban areas evolve, understanding the effects of connectivity, consisting of transportation infrastructure and digital networks, on real estate prices becomes crucial. This study uses a multivariate regression analysis and GIS mapping to examine how roads and intersections affect property prices and provides insights into urban planning and real estate valuation within the context of this unique region.

Thijs van Soest

Assessing the impact of recent legislation on the connectedness of new Dutch housing developments to public transportation, a Groningen case study

In the Dutch 2022 coalition agreement, 7.5 billion euros were allocated to improving the connectedness of new Dutch housing developments. Eight interviews with legislators, developers, and other stakeholders were conducted to analyze the effect of this and other recent legislation. The main findings are that there is no common definition of connectedness, that the municipality of Groningen is the primary orchestrator of housing developments, and that the likely construction of a new station along the Suikerzijde area development is only possible due to the enlarged national mobility fund.

12. Global perspectives in real estate dynamics II

Moderated by Niels Kuiper – University of Groningen
Room 5412.0031

Frenk van Stipriaan

The retail dynamics of Business Improvement Districts: A quantitative analysis of the relationship between Dutch BIDs and retail mix

Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) are a form of place-based policies that target underdeveloped business areas by enhancing spatial quality and real estate values. This research analyses the relationship between Dutch BIDs and their retail mix versus shopping areas using DiD-methods and the HHI. Dutch BIDs are unique as they're entrepreneur-driven and reduce free-rider behaviour. Preliminary findings conclude that these zones cause shopping areas to become more homogenous, indicating a decreasing amount of diversity in the Dutch retail landscape, with large brands dominating smaller shops.

Lennard Krüger

The impact of merger & acquisition announcements on real estate investment trust returns in the United States

This study examines the effect of merger and acquisition announcements on real estate investment trust returns in the United States, analyzing a sample of 464 announcements dating from 1999 to 2024. The findings indicate that merger and acquisition announcements are associated with an average abnormal return of -0.18% for the acquiring party one day before the announcement. Cumulative average abnormal returns are statistically not significant over the entire event window. The findings indicate that merger and acquisition announcements are not associated with abnormal REIT returns.

Patrick Quinn

Is radon risk capitalized in residential house prices in Ireland?

Radon gas is the cause of over three hundred and fifty cases of lung cancer in Ireland every year and currently affects over one hundred and seventy thousand Irish homes. This study examines the extent to which radon risk affects house prices in Ireland using a hedonic analysis of over fifty-five thousand homes across Ireland and finds that the impact of radon risk is significant and negative looking at house prices in highly rural locations, however, it finds the opposite is true for urban locations, suggesting that other factors mitigate the impact of radon risk where land values are high.

Rens Wientjes

Personalized interior designs

My study investigates the impact of personalized AI-generated interior designs on the perceived market value and ratings of residential properties. Employing a hedonic pricing model, it highlights the influence of design personalization on buyer perceptions across eight distinct properties. Results indicate that personalized designs significantly enhance both property ratings and market values, suggesting that tailored aesthetics significantly influence real estate valuations. This underscores the potential of AI in optimizing real estate marketing and customization strategies.

13. Driving environmental sustainability

Moderated by Jort de Vries - Deltares
Room 5412.0040

Madeleen Gaemers

Floating Living in the Netherlands: A study of social values of Dutch floating communities

Dutch water management cannot cope with future climate uncertainties. Floating living offers a resilient and adaptable solution to sea level rise, with examples worldwide. However, little is known about the social values of floating communities. This study explored perceptions of water living and the

importance of hedonic, egoistic, biospheric, and altruistic values within these communities. The findings will inform further research into expanding floating living.

Wienke Harms

Operationalising coastal resilience: Developing indicators for assessing climate adaptation in Lower Saxony's Wadden Sea

The purpose of this research is to develop a framework for operationalizing coastal resilience using place-based indicators and to evaluate the effectiveness of climate adaptation measures specifically tailored for the German Wadden Sea coast in Lower Saxony. By identifying and analyzing relevant indicators within the coastal context, this study aims to provide actionable insights for enhancing resilience to climate-related challenges in coastal regions, assisting in future evaluations of the effectiveness of climate adaptation measures.

Bridgit Hebner

A case study analysis of drought management strategies: Striving for climate resilience in Denver and Cape Town

Climate change is contributing to an increase in droughts. Denver, USA and Cape Town, South Africa, have had longstanding or extreme water shortages. This paper uses Qualitative Comparative Analysis to investigate the strategies that Denver and Cape Town use to cope with drought. There are three possibilities of strategy combinations to contribute to successful drought management. Interventions alone are not enough. Climate resilience strategies were found in all successful cases. Participation contributes to successful drought management when combined with resilience strategies.

Lena Sept

Sponge City Oldenburg: Enabling the transition to the Sponge City Concept (SCC) via governance arrangements

Rapid urbanization, inadequate planning and climate change result in conventional urban water management to fail. The SCC is designed to deal with these challenges by combining different best-management practices of water management, while considering the entire hydrological urban cycle. Integrated and comprehensive management ensure that urban water management becomes sustainable and resilient. Putting the SCC into practice is a governance challenge. This thesis explores how governance arrangements can be tailored to enable the implementation of the SCC and draw lessons from Oldenburg.

14. Innovative transportation

Moderated by Carol Masingi – University of Groningen

Blauwe Zaal

Jeroen Schreiber

What is the potential of interregional coach travel for user substitution from less sustainable modes? A case study in Groningen, the Netherlands

Following a wave of market liberalizations in the interregional coach market in Europe over the past few decades, companies like FlixBus became increasingly present in the mobility landscape. With the growing importance of sustainable mobility, perhaps there's a role to play for these bus services – given their environmental benefits and modest infrastructure requirements relative to other modes. Using a survey distributed among travelers at the interregional bus stop at the main station of Groningen, light is shed on these travelers, their modal choice, and possible modal substitution.

Martin Bergmann

Urban cable cars as public transport: Comparing existing cable cars to Bonn's developing project

Urban cable cars are seen as an alternative to other modes of transport with their promise of being sustainable and able to traverse challenging terrain. Most research has been done on successfully implemented systems in South America. The city of Bonn, Germany plans to implement an urban cable

car line in order to solve its traffic congestion problems. With the help of multiple case studies of European cable cars, the question is answered what lessons can be learned from the existing systems and how those lessons might apply to the case of Bonn and European urban cable cars generally.

Rens Rolink

Go along with pioneers: Shared bicycle experiences in the case of Arriva bike&go

Rural areas often struggle with car dependency and limited public transit. Arriva bike&go is an initiative that aims to improve mobility with sustainable transport options by providing electric foldable bikes at train stations for travelers. This research uses bike-along interviews to understand user experiences, applying Rogers' innovation and diffusion model to emphasize the role of direct experience in adopting new mobility options. Conducting go-along interviews with pioneer users highlights the complexities and relative advantages in the early stages of mobility innovation.

Rens Waagmeester

Optimizing 'Compromise Roundabouts': Lessons learned from redesigning the Aweg roundabout

This study uses the case of redesigning a 'compromise roundabout' in Groningen in a research-by-design methodology to create generic guidelines for designing safer roundabouts with more optimal functionality and safety. The research begins with a comprehensive literature review, followed by data collection, including traffic data and on-site observations. With this information, alternative designs are created, analyzed, and validated by experts, to eventually come to generic design rules for compromise roundabouts.

15. Shaping urban development policies **Moderated by Christian Lamker – University of Groningen** **Room 5419.0003**

Gerian Kuiper

The Revival of military Keynesianism

With the emergence of military conflicts on European soil, the economic implications of military expenditures have become increasingly relevant to study in the context of Europe. Using multiple specifications of spatial econometric models, this study analyses to which extent military expenditure has sparked economic growth across European countries. The results indicate that whereas total government spending negatively affects economic growth rates across countries over time, increased military expenditure seems to be positively affecting economic growth rates across countries over time.

Jelle Spikker

Geography of discontent and refugee migration: The role of far-right support in asylum rejection rates across the European Union

This research investigates the relationship between Geography of Discontent (GoD) and refugee migration in the European Union (EU) from 2014 until 2019. GoD refers to rising discontent within a region, often enhancing Far-Right support. The study explores how GoD might influence refugee immigration flows. The research design employs a quantitative approach using panel data analysis. Data on Far-Right party support and refugee asylum rejection rates will be used as proxies for GoD and refugee immigration respectively. In addition, unemployment rates and GDP growth rates per capita are identified as interaction variables to help explain the relation. All data has been collected from publicly available sources. The analysis will involve correlation and regression methods to examine the relationships between these variables. The study hypothesizes that: Refugee migration flows fluctuate significantly across the EU, with peaks during periods of intense conflict outside the EU itself. There is a positive relationship between GoD and Far-Right party support. Rising unemployment and economic underperformance are expected to correlate with a decrease in refugee immigration. The preliminary findings acknowledge challenges in merging datasets but showcase progress in descriptive statistics for the GoD proxy variable. Further analysis will be conducted once data integration is complete. This research contributes to a better understanding of how factors like GoD might influence refugee

migration patterns within the EU. In turn a more proactive approach is advised to be better prepared for significant external effects. The findings can inform policy decisions regarding refugee resettlement and strategies to address regional discontent.

Olaf Feenstra

The spatial econometrics of voting patterns in Sweden

This thesis aims to investigate the spatial relationships of voting patterns in the general election of 2022 in Sweden. The focus on the blue-bloc parties of Sweden in this paper is grounded in the rise of the Sweden democrats. A spatial-econometric approach is used whereby the analysis is performed with the Spatial Durbin Model (SDM) to research the impact of three variables on electoral outcomes. Municipalities proximate to areas with a higher percentage of foreign-born inhabitants tend to have a larger share of votes for blue bloc parties.

Pablo Durant

Exploring the potential of SIA in fostering degrowth values

This research proposal aims to address the challenge of integrating degrowth principles into Social Impact Assessment (SIA) methodologies to promote sustainable and equitable development. The proposed research seeks to explore the potential synergies and contributions of degrowth and SIA methodologies to more sustainable and equitable development practices.

16. Innovative living

Moderated by Annet Kempenaar – University of Groningen

Room 5419.0005

Jildou Altenburg

Exploring Ecolonie: In search for a new paradigm of sustainable living

I aim to share the story of world's first Gaia collective, Ecolonie, a Dutch community in France that seeks to embody a new paradigm of living. I spent six weeks living in this community to conduct an ethnographic study its vision, lifestyle, and experiences. The methods include participant observation, focus groups with the residents, and an in-depth interview with the founder. The findings aim to provide an understanding of how Ecolonie strives to embody a new paradigm of sustainable living, and to identify elements or provide insights that can be transferred to broader society.

Xiao Bian

Empirical insights into how seaports contribute to sustainability of local community: Comparison of European, Asian and African ports

This study investigates how seaports contribute to the sustainability of local communities by comparing initiatives from European, Asian, and African ports documented in the World Port Sustainability Program (WPSP) database. Utilizing Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA), the research identifies key conditions and strategies that lead to successful sustainability outcomes. The analysis reveals the interplay of social, economic, and environmental factors, offering practical recommendations for policymakers and port authorities to enhance sustainable development and community building. Findings aim to support global efforts in advancing port sustainability practices.

Tineke Kauffmann

The family-friendly city: How to create more inclusive urban living environments?

This thesis investigates the needs and preferences of millennial families in the urban context. Based on interviews with parents in Groningen, important elements include housing that accommodates all family members, in central locations near facilities and a green and physically and socially safe environment. Although the city of Groningen is considered family-friendly, concerns relating to traffic safety, accessibility of the inner city and health issues remain. The findings contribute to an updated definition of the 'family-friendly city' through the concept of affordances.

Marieke Hutzezon

Designing against loneliness: The role of physical design in Dutch 'ouderenhofjes'

Like many European countries, the Netherlands is facing an aging population, which leads to additional challenges like loneliness among old people. To address this, new collective housing initiatives, such as 'ouderenhofjes', have emerged. An 'ouderenhofje' is a modern version of the traditional Dutch hofje, with a garden surrounded by small houses for seniors. Research shows these 'ouderenhofjes' reduce loneliness, but little is known about how their physical design contributes to this effect. This research aims to understand that connection.

17. Balancing rural and urban perspectives **Moderated by Ferry Van Kann – University of Groningen** **Room 5419.0007**

Maarten Heikens

Nature development in peatlands: Developing a framework to assist making better informed decisions

Almost all of the peatlands in the Netherlands have been significantly altered in their function over the past centuries. Peatlands are complex and fragile ecosystems, highly susceptible to rapid change due to human intervention. Restoring or enhancing biodiversity in these areas involves navigating multiple interests and interrelations, making the decision-making complex. This thesis aims to develop a framework to support decision-making by conducting a literature review, interviews, and analyses of relevant documentation. One of the key findings is that context plays a crucial role.

Kirsten Valkenier

Beyond the Barn: Exploring motivations for farm diversification into Agritourism

Amidst the Dutch agricultural transition, Agritourism, as part of multifunctional agriculture, gained attention for its economic and socio-cultural benefits to both farmers and society. This research explores motivations and barriers Dutch farmers face when diversifying into agritourism, through interviews with farmers in the provinces of Overijssel, Drenthe and Groningen. Results show the diversification decision is influenced by economic, environmental, social and policy factors. Results offer a basis for policies related to agritourism and can inform farmers who are considering agritourism.

Rick Plegt

How local policy impacts the supply and price of short-term rentals: A case study on the municipality of Groningen

The municipality of Groningen implemented a policy in 2023 limiting landlords to rent their properties on platforms like Airbnb for a maximum of 30 days annually, aiming to mitigate the negative impact on the housing supply. The research analyzes this policy's impact using Airbnb rental data and compares it to regions like Eindhoven through a difference-in-difference analysis. Results indicate minimal impact, as few landlords complied despite fines. This research aims to address the Dutch housing crisis by enhancing the academic field on short-term rentals and informing policymakers.

Saskia Nauta

Governance structures for prosperity in Dutch housing cooperatives

This research delves into what provides prosperity in Dutch housing cooperatives. With cooperatives becoming a trendy policy topic, examining their current success is relevant. By analyzing case studies and conducting interviews, this study explores governance structures and identifies social capital, trust, and size as keys to success. The findings offer insights for enhancing governance and fostering thriving cooperative communities.

18. Governance and demographics
Moderated by
Daniël Herbers – CBS / Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy
Room 5419.0009

Ewoud Jansma

Population projection of Stad & Lande: A disquisition of demographic scenarios to 2053

This thesis is a population projection of the province of Groningen. The province is divided into two parts: the urban municipality of Groningen and the other rural municipalities. Separate population projections were performed for both regions using the cohort component method. The results show that the unique population structure (many young adults) of the municipality of Groningen will be maintained in the future. The dependency ratios will increase but only modestly. The opposite is the case in the other municipalities, where there will be a strong ageing population.

Kasia Szachna

Politicians, priests, prosecutors: Who governs pregnancy in Poland?

This study investigates the political, social, and cultural dynamics influencing abortion law-making in Poland, a nation with some of the most restrictive abortion laws in Europe. Through discourse analysis of the Polish parliamentary debate held on April 11, 2024, the research uncovers the arguments and strategies employed by both pro-choice and anti-abortion advocates. The analysis identifies fourteen key discourses and strategies, including human rights, emotional appeals, legal arguments, and whataboutism, highlighting the nuanced rhetorical landscape. The findings reveal a notable shift from religious to secular arguments and an increase in logical fallacies, reflecting the evolving nature of the debate. Additionally, the study situates the Polish debate within the broader European context, drawing comparisons with Ireland and Finland to underscore unique and shared elements in abortion discourse. The research contributes to a deeper understanding of how biopower, political ideologies, and socio-cultural factors shape reproductive rights discussions and policy-making in Poland.

Adrian Kunz

Investigating differences in healthy life expectancy (HLE) between migrants and natives in Germany using multistate lifetables

A well-established finding is that migrants tend to enjoy longer life expectancies (LE) than natives but have a health disadvantage resulting in a shorter healthy life expectancy (HLE). Previous studies using the potentially biased Sullivan Method confirmed this. To prevent the biases, I apply multistate models to investigate: to what extent do LE and HLE at age 50 differ between migrants and natives and how do the different transitions between health states and death contribute to this difference? My first results show that migrants in Germany enjoy a higher LE but suffer from a shorter HLE.

Twan Dimmendaal

A spatial analysis on tipping points in Eindhoven and physical disorder reports

A known aspect of neighborhood change in the USA is the 'tipping point,' where a minority group grows rapidly after reaching a certain threshold, eventually becoming the majority. This thesis investigates whether such a tipping point exists in Eindhoven, based on CBS income data for 500x500 meter squares. No tipping points were identified, even when expanding to 1000x1000 or 2500x2500 meters. Physical disorder reports were found to be more prevalent in low-income areas. But the hypothesis that there is a causal relationship between reports and socioeconomic change could not be identified.

Poster presentations

Albert Kayser

Sustainable heat: Transforming Budapest's district heating (factors influencing the advancement towards 4GDH in the Hungarian capital)

This thesis investigates the advancement towards Fourth Generation District Heating (4GDH) systems in Budapest, analyzing technological, policy, and societal factors through interviews and document reviews. It explores how local policies, public-private partnerships, and societal responses impact the adoption of 4GDH, offering insights into sustainable urban heating solutions and policy recommendations for enhanced energy efficiency and reduced emissions.

Arieke Miklós

Gender inequality and migration decision-making in Colombia

This study investigates how gender inequality affects migration decisions in Colombian households, aiming to clarify the complex dynamics involved. It involves a literature review and interviews with Colombian women who migrated with their families. Despite potential data challenges, the research promises to guide policy in Colombia and expand knowledge of gender dynamics in migration. Additionally, it aims to enrich migration studies by examining the relationship between gender inequality and migration decisions in the Colombian context.

Bart Telkamp

Discovering the driving factors: Understanding the socio-demographic, spatial, and behavioural factors of electric vehicle adoption in the Netherlands

Electric cars (BEVs) are an important instrument in sustainable transport. Often the focus in scientific literature on BEV adoption in the Netherlands has been solely on one or simply a few of aforementioned factors, having a focus on either for example financial, or technical aspects. The aim of this quantitative research is to investigate which, and how, several distinct factors correlate with the actual adoption of a BEV in the Netherlands, drawing from separate streams of research correlated with three distinct dimensions.

Bauke van der Kooij

Coastal or ghostal? Drivers of migration in rural Icelandic communities

Many rural Icelandic villages have been struggling with retaining inhabitants for decades. While many residents leave due to a lack of labour opportunities, more factors contribute to their intentions to move. Furthermore, factors may differ among types of moves: long-distance moves, rural-to-urban moves and moves abroad may have unique drivers compared to short-distance moves. Analyzing villages with up to 2000 inhabitants, the use of logistic regression analysis will uncover migration intentions and preferences, to find out why people move 'beyond work'.

Carla Martinez Harms

Surviving the waves of sustainable development: A case study on local perceptions of NGO activities in Northern Peru

The thesis deals with the activities of NGOs in a rural coastal area in Peru, influenced by artisanal fishing and tourism development. This is viewed through Social Impact Assessment literature and uses concepts such as a Social License to Operate and Free, Prior and Informed Consent. The relevance lies in looking at potential "do-good" organizations from a critical perspective and highlighting the possible impacts. The results show that NGOs can have a major influence on the society in which they operate and that building a healthy and close relationship with the local community is important.

Charlotte Breunis

Who owns this place? A case study on negative emotions in the Eekerpolder, Groningen

This study explores the causes and prevention of negative emotions in renewable energy projects, focusing on Groningen Province and the Windpark N33. Alongside, a solar farm with local resident ownership was built. Using event sequence analysis and participant observations, the research examines perspectives from Provincie Groningen and Coöperatie Eekerpolder. Findings highlight the roles of path dependency, institutional capacity, and feminist political ecology in understanding these emotions, stressing the need for a critical perspective on equality in renewable energy projects.

Chenhui Chang

Enhancing green seaport development in the era of climate change under the UN SDGs framework: Case study and lessons from the seaports of Rotterdam, Hamburg and Shanghai

Seaports are the 'barometer' of the economic development and an important infrastructure for supporting the development of the international trade. In the meantime, seaports also cause huge energy consumption and pollutant emissions. At present, the issue of sustainable seaport development has received extensive attention from the international community. This study is expected to achieve good practices at the ports of Rotterdam and Hamburg, comparing them with those at the Port of Shanghai and to gain lessons from Rotterdam and Hamburg to enhance green seaport development in Shanghai.

Ciara McFadden

Decomposing internal migration rates from 2002 to 2011 in Ireland

This research adds to the gap in literature on internal migration in Ireland by investigating the determinants of internal migration in 2002 and 2011 using census data and how these have changed over time using the Oaxaca-Blinder decomposition. The findings indicate that while the determinants indeed changed, the slight increase in internal migration was driven by changes in the composition of the population. Consistent with patterns observed in other countries, there is in fact an underlying trend of reduced internal migration propensity in Ireland.

Daan Bosman

Proximity to public schools within school districts and housing prices: Insights from Allegheny County, Pennsylvania

This study uses data from the Western Pennsylvania regional data to explore the relationship between proximity to public schools and housing prices in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. Analyzing 38,266 property assessments from 2010 to 2022, findings reveal a significant negative relationship: each kilometer further from a public school decreases housing prices by 2.9%. Urban areas show the most substantial decrease (14.0%), suburban areas show a modest decrease (1.2%), and results for semi-rural areas are insignificant (0.8%). This study underscores the importance of local context.

Daan du Croix Timmermans

The impact of transport infrastructure tunneling on residential attractiveness: A study of property price effects in the Netherlands

Urban areas face increasing pressure on public space due to population growth and urbanization. Sustainable urban planning is crucial to enhancing residents' quality of life by efficiently utilizing existing spaces. This study explores the impact of relocating transport infrastructure into tunnels and creating new green amenities on residential attractiveness. Focusing on six Dutch tunnelling projects, a difference-in-difference approach quantifies the effects. Results show significant property price increases post-construction, underscoring the value residents place on improved liveability.

Daphne Dontje

Dynamic adaptive pathways as the solution for salinization

Due to changing climate patterns and sea level rise, the Netherlands is more susceptible to periods of droughts. These droughts bring issues such as salinization. Climate change is surrounded by uncertainty, creating difficulties for planners who have to plan for the prevention of these negative climate outcomes. This thesis aims to research dynamic adaptive policy pathways approach as a solution for planning during uncertainty.

David Kruijning

From policy to action: Understanding the role of the new rainwater regulation on water retention on private property in Groningen

The thesis examines the impact of Groningen's rainwater regulation on the willingness of inhabitants to adopt water retention measures. Through a survey and an additional expert interview with policy makers, the research explores which factors influence citizen participation in pluvial flood management. The research focusses on socio-economic, and perceptual factors affecting the willingness to implement water retention measures. Using a non-experimental design, it offers recommendations for improving citizen's willingness and locations in the city that might be problematic in the future.

Demi Linthorst

Children's independent mobility to school in rural areas of the Netherlands

This study aims to provide insights into which factors affect the children's independent mobility to school and what differences there are between the age group 7-9 and 10-12, this all within the context of two rural municipalities in the Netherlands. Therefore, the central question in this research is: What factors affect independent mobility for children in different age groups on their journey to school in rural areas? To come to an answer for this research parents are interviewed.

Emmeline Geurs

Food pantries and food security: Understanding individuals' perceptions and experiences through the capability approach

Food pantries support individuals facing food insecurity. Through the capability approach, their role of facilitating users' ability to be food security was explored by examining barriers, perceptions of support, and cultural influences. In-depth interviews show how food pantries add to one's existing resources; income, health, transportation, and living situation. Individuals' conditions such as education, social support, and cultural factors transform resources into food security. These findings highlight food pantries as a means to enhance individual nutritional capabilities and freedoms.

Eva van der Hulst

Socio-demographic determinants of health goals and support preferences in reducing smoking and drinking in Friesland

This study examines the intentions of Friesland's population to reduce smoking and drinking, exploring socio-demographic differences (education, income, age, gender) in health goals and preferred support. Quantitative analyses are conducted, using Frisian panel data. It is expected that particularly higher SES, younger individuals, and women set health goals, while lower SES, older individuals, and women prefer more support. Findings can help assist the population with reducing health-damaging behaviours and inform targeted policies to reduce health inequalities in Friesland.

Farhia Hasan

Exploring attitudes towards migration from the perspective of Somali pastoral nomads

The research aims to understand the migration behavior of Somali migrants in the Netherlands by using insights from the experiences and attitudes of Somali migrants that were part of the Pastoralist Nomadic society in Somalia. The hope is to understand how growing up in a lifestyle characterized by frequent moves influences the perception towards migration in later life for those who have migrated to the Netherlands.

Gaya Mor

Urban Park on a Brownfield Redevelopment Site in Rotterdam, the Netherlands: A Thermal Comfort Analysis for Greening Ratios

Urban parks on brownfield redevelopment sites are sustainable transformations for cities facing urbanization, the urban heat island effect, and pressures for green spaces. The urban park, Kaappark in Rotterdam was investigated for thermal comfort by increasing greenery (trees and hedges). With Rotterdam's aim for greening and densification, suggestions for similar projects are offered. Using ENVI-met, a microclimate simulation software to assess thermal comfort through the PET and UTCI scales, the results concluded that increasing greenery ratios in Kaappark slightly improves thermal comfort.

Gijs Rodenburg

The correlation between the built environment and unplanned social interactions on the street

This thesis is looking for correlations between the built environment and the frequency and meaningfulness of social interactions on the street. This study is relevant because social interactions improve the well-being of individuals. The data is analyzed by a correlation and a content analysis. The first findings show that the perceived safety of a neighbourhood influences unplanned social interactions on the street the most. Furthermore, the presence and use of street furniture, green, sports and recreational facilities and density are significant towards social interactions.

Gijs Timmerman

The effects of collective housing on ageing in place

The Dutch population is rapidly ageing, in 2050 it is expected that over 40% of the Dutch adult population will be over the age of 65. In the Netherlands, most older adults prefer to grow old in the comfort of their own homes, this is called Ageing in Place. Even though ageing in place policies is cheap and have the potential to provide more accurate and personal care to the elderly, they have also been associated with problems, such as loneliness, social isolation and high levels of dependency on close friends and family for informal care. Collective housing projects could potentially be suitable for ageing in place. Strong communities, which are often seen in cohousing have been known to provide support to their residents. Strong feelings of social cohesion also help older adults feel more included, further decreasing the chances of loneliness and social isolation. In this research, the five key-elements of ageing in place, support, technology, personal characteristics, social networks and place attributes are explained and their workings in Dutch collective housing projects are studied. Providing an overview of the suitability of Dutch cohousing for ageing in place. Furthermore, the happiness of residents was also monitored, as well as potential desire to move out of the projects, providing an insight in whether or not the residents themselves view the projects as suitable places for ageing in place.

Hanneke Wuite

The learning effect in coworking spaces

This master thesis is an empirical case study in which the learning in coworking spaces has been analyzed. The amount of coworking spaces in the world is increasing. However, the way in which the learning takes place in coworking spaces has not been extensively investigated. This case study shows that the management has quite some influence by actively matching users of the coworking space to each other. Besides successful collaborations, this actively matching users to each other also leads to a more active community, which can be seen as an important element in coworking spaces.

Heleen van Grieken

Factors influencing NIMBY in the 'room for the river' projects

The thesis researches nimbyism in the room for the river projects by conducting a QCA. The factors researched are: place disruption, public participation and political preference. By seeing how these different factors interact with each other, possible valuable insights on nimbyism could contribute to climate adaptive planning of the future.

Helena von der Ohe

Art-washing: A case study of the Tacheles, Berlin

This thesis examines art-washing, understanding its mechanisms and stakeholder perceptions. The objective provides a nuanced understanding, demonstrating its reliance on diverse stakeholder views and offering implications for policymakers and cultural scholars. The methodology uses a comprehensive case study, interviews and participatory action research, to gain insights from multiple stakeholders. Findings indicate art-washing is driven by the challenge of imbuing real estate with authenticity for marketability, with stakeholder perceptions varying across cultural, social and economic contexts.

Huub Raspe

The dynamics of project management during Innovation

Urban development requires flexible and innovative approaches. Traditional spatial analyses assume predictable outcomes, but integrating sustainability shifts project management towards social, environmental, and economic impacts. Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) exemplify diverse contract forms fostering varied innovations. This research investigates how PPPs can enhance innovation in infrastructure projects by addressing barriers and optimizing methodologies, aiming to understand differing innovation maturity and promote sustainable development within infrastructural PPP contracts.

Ian Rivera

Heat and Justice: Assessing Urban Vulnerability and Climate Adaptations in Los Angeles

Around the world, extreme heat is a growing threat, particularly in urban environments that now host most of the global population. This thesis examines the impact of this threat on Los Angeles, a wealthy Global North city characterized by stark inequalities. By evaluating government adaptation processes aimed at promoting equity and climate justice, this study assesses the vulnerabilities of two neighborhoods with different socioeconomic backgrounds. Finding that despite legislative frameworks and plans, lived experiences lag due to historic disinvestment and insufficient focus on the issue.

James Clark

Moving towards a healthier, happier Los Angeles: Examining the effects of active travel on perceived mental and physical health

This qualitative study examines how the built environment of three distinct Los Angeles neighborhoods influence residents' travel behavior and perceived health. Semi-structured interviews reveal the intricacy of LA's transportation system, showing that paradoxically, higher-income residents are more likely to engage in active transportation than lower-income residents. People who use active travel modes for either commuting or leisure report higher perceptions of physical and mental health. This study informs the transition to more equitable, healthy cities.

Jan-Philip Marnet

Mapping Mobility: Analyzing the Correlation Between Built Environments and Resident Behavior in Groningen

This thesis examines the relationship between observed mobility behaviour and the built environment of urban residents. By analyzing objective and perceived environments, the study aims to identify how urban planning and spatial design influence mobility behaviour. Initial analysis suggests that integrating motility could improve understanding of mobility behaviour and potentially inform urban planning and policy making. This research aims to improve the understanding of urban mobility and its determinants, with implications for future development.

Jasper Dijkema

Prerequisites to supranationalism for transnational organizations

Supranationalism is a governance system that can be used to address transnational issues such as the energy transition. At the moment, there are only a limited number of supranational organizations. This research aims to uncover which prerequisites are required to form a supranational organization.

Jeroen Peters

Reshaping UK housing markets? Understanding the impact of COVID-19 on housing types, pricing dynamics, and sales patterns

March 2020, the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in the United Kingdom (UK) which led to lockdown measures imposed by the government to minimize the impact of the pandemic. A lot of businesses and industries have felt the ramifications of the pandemic and had to change their manner of operations to stay afloat. Research will be conducted to measure the effect of the COVID pandemic on house prices, sales volume and housing preference to see what these variables were influenced.

Jesse Luimes

The effect of a new train line on housing prices in rural areas: Evidence from Dronten

I tried to model the effects of a new train station (light rail) on a new train line (light + heavy rail) in the rural municipality of Dronten. This provides a way of testing differences in the effect of a train station in urban vs. rural areas. I found that for homes within a 2000m perimeter from the station, the effect of a new train station is a negative significant effect of 7%. Furthermore, it was found that people use a train line because it is fun and they feel independent, yet demand for a trainline increase when functioning well.

Jiageng Wang

Aestheticization of infrastructural power: How is the everyday life governed by waterfront infrastructure in Beijing?

Urban transformation in China requires critical analysis on the political and aesthetical functions of infrastructure. The power of the urban state is exercised through urban infrastructure, which is a more implicit but powerful way. Liangma River in Beijing underwent a prominent waterfront renovation project and the workings of waterfront infrastructure made and is making significant impact on urban space and everyday life of citizens. This research finds that with the aesthetical or symbolic function of infrastructure, the state finds its way out to reinforce its legitimacy and power.

Jordi Exel

Evaluating stakeholder perspectives on the feasibility and adoption of high-rise timber construction in Dutch urban development

This research investigates the feasibility of integrating high-rise timber construction into Dutch urban development, focusing on stakeholder perspectives within the real estate sector. Utilizing a modified PESTEL analysis, it examines economic, social, technological, environmental, and legislative factors influencing timber adoption. The study analyzes views from architects, engineers, developers, contractors and regulatory authorities highlighting perceptual disparities. Findings aim to offer actionable insights for decision-making, promoting sustainable and resilient urban development.

Katherine Bryan

Flexible working: Its impacts on health and happiness in the UK and the Netherlands

This research involves the impact of different levels of autonomy in various flexible working practices, comparing the effects on both happiness and health of workers in the UK and the Netherlands. There are little results showing great significant impacts, however there are some significant results for the UK showing negative impacts especially on health, when having less autonomy in flexible working arrangements. There has been some research in the two effects, but little in happiness of employees, which today is finding an added importance in how our new world of working is structured.

Khalid Rahou

Locatie opvangcrises van asielzoekers in Nederland: Welke locatiefactoren bepalen het succes van reguliere opvang voor asielzoekers in Nederland?

In dit onderzoek wordt de focus gelegd op de regulier asielzoekersopvang in Nederland. Er wordt gekeken naar asielzoekerscentra die als succesvol worden beschouwd door het Contact Orgaan opvang Asielzoekers (COA). Het doel is om tot inzicht te komen welke mechanismen en (locatie)factoren een relevante rol spelen bij een succesvolle opvanglocatie keuze voor reguliere opvang van asielzoekers in Nederland. De locatiekeuze wordt door het COA afgewogen, door te onderzoeken welke opvanglocaties succesvol zijn wordt getracht de onderliggende succesfactoren te achterhalen middels kwalitatief onderzoek. Deze succesfactoren kan het COA gebruiken en toepassen als criteriafactoren en opnemen in het afwegingskader voor toekomstig opvanglocaties. Door deze locatiefactoren in acht te nemen kan het COA toekomstige vluchtelingen fluctuaties ondervangen en de gewenste basiskwaliteit opvang en zorg aanbieden op de lange termijn.

Lena van Bolhuis

Reimagining Dutch post-war neighborhoods: Utilizing urban design principles for urban renewal

Urban design in the Netherlands evolved from functionalist approaches to post-war modernization and, later, human-scale urbanism. This thesis explores how Jan Gehl's design principles can revitalize post-war neighborhoods and create sustainable urban environments. Many of these areas face

socioeconomic challenges and physical decline. This research addresses these unique challenges. It highlights opportunities for revitalization and offers insights into creating livable, inclusive, and environmentally conscious urban communities.

Leone Amici

Imagining sustainable futures: The intersection of Solarpunk, Utopian imaginaries, and planning initiatives

This thesis explores how Solarpunk imaginaries can inform and transform planning practices. Solarpunk, an optimistic science fiction genre, envisions sustainable futures through renewable energy, green technologies, and communal living. By examining the intersection of these utopian narratives with initiatives like renewable energy communities (RECs), the study investigates their potential to reshape societal norms and promote sustainability.

Linde Van Wambeke

Parental socio-economic status and intergenerational proximity between young adults and their parents in the Netherlands

In my thesis, I examine how parental socio-economic status (SES) affects the distance between young adults and their parents in the Netherlands. I compare two theories: the socialization theory and the feathered nest theory, from the study field of timing of leaving the parental home. Specifically, I investigate whether young adults with higher parental SES live closer to or farther from their parents. Additionally, I explore how this relationship is influenced by the gender of the young adult and whether the parents live in an urban or rural area.

Lisa Bos

Impact of infectious diseases on life expectancy in the Netherlands, 1890-1920

In the Netherlands, infectious diseases were the leading cause of death until 1945, when cardiovascular diseases took over. Life expectancy rose significantly from the 1870s to 1940 due to better hygiene, nutrition, and public health policies. This research examines regional convergence or divergence in life expectancy from 1890 to 1920, emphasizing the impact of reduced infectious diseases. It explores how these diseases influenced life expectancy changes, the variations in trends across cities, and the factors driving regional convergence or divergence in life expectancy during this period.

Lotte Drost

Burnt out: A qualitative study on the different sources of pressure young adults experience

In recent years, there has been a notable increase in the number of burnout cases in the Netherlands, particularly among young adults. Along with individual implications, this trend can exacerbate labour shortages in essential sectors including healthcare and education in the coming decade. This study aims to explore the sources of pressure that play a role in burnout among young adults by examining internal, external, and societal pressures. This is done by the use of in-depth interviews with young adults who have experienced a burnout, followed by a thematic analysis.

Maarten Voss

Feats in peat, evaluating provincial strategies for restoring Dutch peat

Peatlands cover eight percent of the Netherlands, crucial for carbon storage, climate regulation, and biodiversity. Historical drainage for agriculture has released stored carbon, impacting climate change. This research analyses provincial strategies for peatland restoration, evaluating alignment with national and European policies. Using a qualitative case study approach, including literature review, document analysis, and expert interviews, the thesis identifies best practices and challenges in peatland management, aiming to enhance policy effectiveness and promote sustainable conservation.

Marian Haydn

Overcoming barriers to high-quality cycling infrastructure in planning practice: A path to enhanced urban mobility in Vienna. A study through semi-structured interviews with planning key figures from Austria and the Netherlands

The goal of this thesis is to explore obstacles in developing high-quality cycling infrastructure in Vienna to improve urban mobility. Insights were gained through interviews with politicians and planners from Vienna and the Netherlands, and by analyzing specific bike paths. The study identifies issues such as inadequate rules for bicycle traffic at intersections and inconsistent practices across districts, often favoring cars. Recommendations include adopting CROW principles, altering traffic layouts to benefit cyclists, and possibly limiting car use to make cycling more appealing.

Marly Visser

The impact of high-speed railway connections for urban and rural cores on the accessibility to local labor markets: The case of the Lelylijn

The railway accessibility of Northern Netherlands is lacking. Differences in railway accessibility between the Northern Netherlands and other regions of the country highlight disparities in infrastructure provision. The construction of the Lelylijn railway project can have a significant impact on accessibility in the Northern Netherlands, especially from a labor market perspective. Within this thesis, the local impacts of the project are considered, limited to intra-regional commuting, using isochrone analysis.

Martijn Hoekstra

The neighborhood environment and individual health: A Leeuwarden case study

Mathijs Meijer

Pathway to progress: Commuting by bicycle between Assen and Groningen

This study evaluates the benefits for commuters of a nearly 30-kilometer-long bicycle highway between Assen-Groningen. Bicycle highways are increasingly popular in urban areas however, less is documented about their role beyond urban boundaries. Through ArcGIS analysis, ODiN data, and interviews, the potential benefits are examined. Initial findings suggest that the bicycle highway does not drastically reduce commuters' travel times and distances, but improves the cycle experience. Moreover, this study highlights regional changes in travel patterns since the bicycle highway is operational.

Mauk Sewandono

The different dimension to leadership: Actor's influence in a polycentric governance system

The Nationale Omgevingsvisie Extra (the NOVEX-program) aims to address spatial challenges in the Netherlands via collaborative efforts from central and decentral government. This thesis researches how leadership strategies influence Adaptive Space within the NOVEX-program. Adaptive Space is crucial for creating new knowledge, innovation and learning, contributing to adaptability. Complexity Leadership Theory is used in this study to highlight the role of Enabling Leadership and how strategies of said form of leadership influence actor's Adaptive Space in a polycentric governance system.

Max Striefler

Stakeholder management and public participation in large-scale infrastructure projects: A case study of the A100 highway in Berlin

Large-scale infrastructure projects often face criticism for poor selection and administration, mainly due to insufficient local stakeholder involvement and management. Additionally, there's a growing need to rethink conventional planning and execution methods due to broader societal issues. A case study on an inner-city highway extension in Berlin explores how informal public participation processes evolve and resistance to infrastructure projects emerges. The analysis is based on qualitative data, participatory observation, and stakeholder mapping.

Nathan van Dam

The role of urban greenery in reducing heat stress among vulnerable older adults

This study investigates the role of Urban Green Spaces in reducing heat stress among vulnerable older adults in Groningen. Climate change is causing an increase in hot days in the Netherlands, which can

pose morbidity and mortality risks for certain parts of the population. An especially vulnerable group are older adults living alone in apartments. Using in-depth interviews, this study sheds a light on how this group deals with hot days and which places they visit during such periods. Understanding the experiences and needs of this group is crucial for Dutch urban planners in a warming world.

Olivia Kindt

Integrating Matatus in Nairobi's public transport future: a study investigating how to include matatus informal transport network in Nairobi's Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project

The research question is How to develop an integrative and inclusive public transport design and policies for Nairobi that includes Nairobi's BRT project and the informal transport (matatus) network? Matatus are vital in meeting Nairobi's transport demands and urban culture but are excluded from the BRT, which is limited in capacity. Literature and BRT case studies from other African cities highlight the need for integration to ensure success. The study will also explore current hurdles faced limiting developing a hybrid transport system.

Peter Lesscher

What are the key differences in funding strategies for mixed-use properties?

The thesis examines the unique characteristics and challenges of mixed-use real estate. It investigates what differentiates mixed-use developments and why they are often perceived as complex within the market. Interviews were conducted with key stakeholders, including municipal authorities, investors, developers, and banks, to gain insights into their perspectives on mixed-use projects. The research explores how these parties view mixed-use real estate and identifies strategies to enhance its attractiveness and mitigate associated risks.

Pieter Piet

A sustainable future for agriculture: Governmental interventions to ensure economically and environmentally viable agriculture

Raoul Baas

Daycare proximity and home values: A comprehensive study in the Dutch real estate market

This study investigates the impact of daycare facility proximity on residential real estate prices in the Netherlands, considering recent policy changes and trends in female labor force participation. Using a combination of various datasets (WoON2021, NVM, LRK), the research examines the relationship between daycare facility distance and housing prices in a hedonic framework, as well as the effects of daycare establishment on nearby housing values by the use of a difference-in-difference analysis. These analyses are used to explore heterogeneity and causality in housing price changes.

Remco van Dijk

Making the unsafest roads in Drenthe safe: How to improve traffic safety in the Dutch province of Drenthe

Road safety is a critical issue that affects individuals, communities, and societies worldwide in the Netherlands. Drenthe is one of the Netherlands' smallest provinces in size and population. However, this province also has the highest number of traffic fatalities per inhabitant in 2022, with the number of fatal accidents in 2022 nearly doubling from 2021. This study aims to investigate key traffic safety issues in Drenthe, the Netherlands, and propose effective policy and infrastructural changes to reduce traffic accidents and their severity. The research employs a mixed-methods approach, combining a literature review, statistical analyses, expert interviews, and the development of a conceptual model. Key findings indicate that traffic accidents and fatalities predominantly occur on rural roads and N-roads, and there is a significant correlation between traffic fatalities and the average distance to essential facilities, highlighting rural-urban disparities. Statistical tests, including Pearson correlation and Chi-Square tests, confirm that rural areas experience higher fatality rates and severity of accidents. Existing literature and interviews with traffic experts reveal contributing factors to traffic safety such as (consistency in) road-design, traffic volume, speeding, age, e-bikes, impaired driving, trees near the road and driver behaviour. Based on these findings, this study recommends that road design should include separated cycling lanes, along with decelerating rural 80 km/h roads to 60km/h and installing a median barrier or doubling N-roads which currently have a speed limit of 100km/h can reduce traffic accidents and their

severity. Recommendations to improve traffic safety in Drenthe include lowering speed limits, improving the consistency and believability of road-design, implementing more safe passing havens for cyclists as well as cars on narrow rural roads and implementing tailor-made interventions.

Robin Andonov

Powering progress integrating renewable energy for an efficient transition in Dutch environmental and infrastructure planning

The thesis focuses on optimizing the efficiency of the Netherlands' shift to renewable energy. It evaluates the current state of renewable energy sources, the effectiveness of governmental policies, and the challenges and opportunities in integrating renewables into existing infrastructure. Emphasizing technological innovation, adaptive policy frameworks, and stakeholder engagement, the research aims to develop strategies that maximize cost-effectiveness, speed, and minimal disruption, ensuring a sustainable and efficient energy future for the Netherlands.

Rowin Burhenne

Transforming industrial sites into urban public spaces: Balancing citizen's wellbeing and economic value - A case comparison study of Maastricht and Parkstad Limburg

During the second half of the 20th century and the beginning of the 21st century, the crucial role urban public spaces play in improving liveability, as well as their tremendous economic potential, was increasingly recognized. In this period, many deteriorated industrial sites located in Maastricht and Parkstad Limburg were transformed into spaces intended for the public. This thesis aims to provide insight into how these 'newly transformed' public spaces, navigating economic forces and liveability, are currently perceived by its citizens.

Ruben Kemp

Het ontstaan van natuur: Strategisch conserveren, uitbreiden en beheren van hoogveengebied het Bargerveen

Vergaande vervening heeft geleid tot het onder druk staan van de resterende hoogveengebieden. Dit proces van vervening en de daaropvolgende ontginning en ruilverkavelingen is schadelijk geweest voor klimaat en natuur. Deze scriptie onderzoekt hoe de partij verantwoordelijk voor het beheer, provincie Drenthe, deze problemen aangaat en het hoogveenrestant behoudt. Bij herinrichting van het landschap wordt gehandeld naar het tevreden houden van zo veel mogelijk actoren. De scriptie presenteert drie strategieën, waarin van elk voor- en nadelen worden besproken aan de hand van verzamelde gegevens.

Sam van Nieuwkuijk

Corporate social responsibility in professional sports organizations: An in-depth study of FC Groningen's 'Meer en Beter Bewegen' programme

This research project entails a case study FC Groningen's 'Meer en Beter Bewegen' programme. This programme is a corporate social responsibility initiative that aims to improve local residents' physical activity. The study investigates the decision-making process that leads to project location choices. To this end, a combination of quantitative data analysis and semi-structured interviews with FC Groningen's CSR managers is applied. Preliminary findings indicate that relationships with key stakeholders such as primary schools and amateur sports clubs play a central role in this process.

Shuhan Fan

Adapting to remote work: A study of Chinese remote-workers during and after COVID-19

COVID-19 prompted a global shift to remote work, deeply impacting work dynamics. The thesis explores the geographic distribution, adoption, and impact of remote work in China during and post-pandemic. It examines how Chinese teleworkers adapted to remote work, the changes in their work-life balance, and the efficacy of telecollaboration tools. The thesis uses regional data, questionnaires, and interviews, highlighting China's unique experiences compared to other countries, and analyzing the rapid and forced adoption of remote work and its long-term implications.

Sjoerd Rootliep

Homeownership and student debt: Exploring the impact of student debt on homeownership in the Netherlands

Rising student loan debt has been shown to negatively impact homeownership rates, especially for young adults. This study examines the relationship between student debt and homeownership in the Netherlands, using data from the DNB Household Survey (2002-2022) with 6,824 observations. Logistic regression models reveal that student debt reduces the likelihood of homeownership, particularly for higher debt levels. This research extends the understanding of student debt's influence beyond the U.S. and highlights the need for policy measures to mitigate the financial strain of student loans

Tessa Mei

The influence of demographic factors on the retail vacancy market in the Netherlands

This thesis analyzes the association between the levels of retail vacancy per 1,000 inhabitants and demographic factors in the districts of the Netherlands, with a focus on the ageing population. The findings reveal that a higher proportion of elderly residents (65+) associates with increased retail vacancy per 1,000 inhabitants, while the youngest age group associates with lower levels of vacancy. Additionally, areas with higher populations and incomes exhibit lower levels of vacancy per 1,000 inhabitants. Furthermore, significant rural-urban and temporal differences were observed (2019-2023).

Thomas Rozendal

The impact of living arrangements on quality of life among older adults

The aging population in the Netherlands poses challenges for living arrangements and their impact on quality of life among older adults. This thesis examines the influence of aging in place versus residing in retirement homes on older adults' quality of life using a quantitative analysis of the WoON survey data. The statistical analysis shows a significant difference in life satisfaction between those aging in place and those in retirement homes. However, the results indicate that differences in life satisfaction are primarily due to personal health rather than living arrangements.

Tim van Venrooij

The effect of closing and demolishing stadiums on housing prices in the UK

This paper researches the effect of closing and demolishing of stadiums in the UK has on housing prices. Recently some Stadiums in the UK are being closed, demolished and rebuild on other places. Old stadiums have been built within neighbourhoods or close to housing and vice versa. Since more and more sport teams and stadiums move to the outside of cities, the abandoned or demolished stadiums effect housing prices. This paper shows a negative effect on housing prices when a stadium is demolished and an even greater negative effect on housing prices when a team leaves the stadium.

Yannick Kops

Facilitating knowledge creation: The role and the impact of network brokers in Dutch quadruple helix innovation clusters

The EC underscores the significance of knowledge clusters for EU states' competitiveness in today's information-rich world. To synthesize niche knowledge, individual firms are increasingly turning to collaborative helix networks. These networks, crucial for European competitiveness, rely on cooperative practices facilitated by network brokers. They are undervalued as they play a key role in structuring interactions, bridging structural gaps, and actively contributing to knowledge synthesis. Understanding and optimizing the role of these brokers is essential for enhancing knowledge networks.

Zhouying Chen

Artistic statification: Rural land transformation of creative clusters by the Neoliberal-Authoritarian State in Songzhuang, China

This research investigates the role of state in the urbanization process of rural creative clusters in China. To highlight the role of the state, this paper proposed a new concept of 'statification' to explain the economic, political and social dimensions of the urbanization process. The findings are that

economically the state grab land benefits from informal land users in rural land transformation process, and politically planning is used as a strategy to encompass place into state's hegemonic power space.

Zita Bastmeijer

Spatial inequalities between neighbourhood characteristics and socioeconomic status in six large cities in the Netherlands

This research examines socio-economic status and how this relates to the neighbourhoods in which we live. This is done by looking into the relations between the average SES of a neighbourhood, and demographic and neighbourhood characteristics. Demographic characteristics of a neighbourhood include for instance age composition and migration backgrounds, while neighbourhood characteristics include things like the presence of green spaces and different types of amenities. The study focusses on six large cities throughout the Netherlands, some with higher mean SES, some with lower mean SES.

During the Graduate Research Day pictures will be made.
If you have any objections, please send an e-mail to the organization (grd@rug.nl).