

Open Call for the Core Group of Students for the CrAFT Next Generation Think/Do Tank

Application deadline: 30 October

Are you passionate about climate action? Do you have the ambition to increase your knowledge and skills in interdisciplinary, international collaborative work? Do you want to be involved in a leading Europe-wide project, collaborate with many stakeholders, and work at the forefront of the transition towards climate-neutral and inclusive cities by 2030? Join the CrAFT Think/Do Tank Core Group of Students.

If you are a student based in one of the CrAFT pilot cities Amsterdam, Bologna, Trondheim or Prague, this is your chance to impact city transformation in your own city and across Europe. CrAFT believes that students are essential voices in change-making processes towards sustainable, inclusive and beautiful cities. As a member of the Core Group of Students, you will set examples of collaborative and participatory models involving or led by students for 60 CrAFT cities across Europe.

What is the Core Group of Students?

The Core Group is the guardian and driving-force of interdisciplinary student engagement in the CrAFT project. Europe-wide, it connects student initiatives (“think/do tanks”) with urban, local and international stakeholders (like industries, policymakers and art institutes). The ten Core Group students are in charge of creating infrastructures for exchange and change-making. The Core Group's thematic focus will include tangible ‘green’ practices, such as sustainable infrastructures, but also move beyond that, looking at the societal and political consciousness that is an essential aspect of the transition towards climate-neutral and inclusive cities.



As part of the Core Group, you will be trained and guided by experts to:

- Organise and develop programmes for student events: the CrAFT Student Think/Do Tanks (online and on location across Europe)
- Research and analyse interdisciplinary, co-creative, and participatory student initiatives
- Engage students, policymakers, citizens and other city stakeholders (for instance through events, artistic interventions, and policy recommendations)
- Co-create impact models and collaborative structures/ governance models that work towards climate-neutral and inclusive cities throughout Europe.

What is CrAFT?

The project [CrAFT – Creating Actionable Futures](#) is bridging the [New European Bauhaus \(NEB\)](#) initiative and the [Cities Mission](#) of the European Union and places the transition to climate neutrality at the heart of urban stakeholders.

The New European Bauhaus is a creative and interdisciplinary initiative that connects the [European Green Deal](#) to our living spaces and experiences. The New European Bauhaus initiative calls on all of us to imagine and build together a sustainable and inclusive future that is beautiful for our eyes, minds, and souls.

Beautiful are the places, practices, and experiences that are **Enriching**, inspired by art and culture, responding to needs beyond functionality; **Sustainable**, in harmony with nature, the environment, and our planet; **Inclusive**, encouraging a dialogue across cultures, disciplines, genders and ages.

Who can join the CrAFT Core Group?

CrAFT is looking for a group of ten students with diverse backgrounds, disciplines and interests. Does the following apply to you?

- You are studying at one of the following higher education institutions:
 - **In Amsterdam:** Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences – AUAS, Amsterdam University of the Arts – AHK, Gerrit Rietveld Academie;
 - **In Bologna:** University of Bologna – UNIBO;

- **In Prague:** Czech Technical University in Prague – CVUT, Academy of Fine Arts in Prague – AVU, Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague – UMPRUM, Academy of Performing Arts in Prague – HAMU, Charles University;
- **In Trondheim:** Norwegian University of Science and Technology – NTNU.
- You are enrolled in a Bachelors, Masters, or pre-Masters programme during the 2022–2023 academic year, all fields of study are welcome.
- You are willing and able to combine participation in the CrAFT Core Group of students for a minimum period of six months next to your study programme. Expected time investment is 1 day (6 to 8 hours) per week.
- You are enthusiastic about interdisciplinary work. You are willing to look beyond your own discipline and keen on exploring diverse models of collaborating.
- You are interested in building infrastructures for exchange, connecting students, internationally acclaimed policy makers, partners from the industry and other urban stakeholders.
- You feel a strong engagement with student-activities, student-projects and organizations, and are looking forward to exchanging with an international group of students.
- You want to be at the forefront of the transition to climate-neutrality and develop your leadership skills.

Why join the CrAFT Core Group?

Upon completion of your work with the Core Group, you will have:

- Expanded your international network, and created new connections with students and professionals across Europe (especially related to academia, cities and urban development, European policy, and environmental sustainability);
- Developed (leadership) skills for international interdisciplinary work;
- Hands-on learned how to curate student events and programmes across Europe and engage different local and international stakeholders like industries, politicians, art-institutions, municipalities;
- Researched and analyzed student projects and practices in the field of sustainability, inclusion and aesthetics;

- Become knowledgeable and skillful in setting-up (international) governance and collaborative models;
- Taken a leading role in co-creating your own working environment with your fellow students. Student agency and participation is at the core of the work.
- Acted as a reference group for the entire CrAFT project, which connects municipalities and stakeholders across Europe and is supported by the European Commission. You will have given input for further development of the project and feedback to its processes and results.

Practical information

- CrAFT foresees an **expense compensation of €96,- per month** for Core Group Students, based on an expected **time investment of 1 day a week (6 to 8 hours) for a minimum of 6 months**. Participation can be extended up to 2 years. (Exact conditions might vary per country.)
- Due to the international nature of the collaboration, most gatherings take place online. All Core Group activities are in English.
- Two or three Core Group students are located in the same city, they will collaborate more closely and occasionally meet in person. Each Core Group student is also assigned a local mentor.
- Each year there will be various opportunities for Core Group students to travel within Europe for project activities (reimbursed by CrAFT). Students participating for a full year are guaranteed at least one international trip.
- Students are encouraged to request ECTS for their participation in the Core Group as part of their study programme (ECTS can be requested at the institution you are enrolled in. CrAFT will provide supporting material for the request, but cannot guarantee that ECTS will be awarded, or how many. It is possible to combine participation in the Core Group with a thesis or course assignment, please mention this in your motivation letter).

How to apply:

Application procedure

1. Upload your motivation letter and CV to [this online form](#). **Deadline: 30 October 2022** (Central European Time Zone).
2. Selected students will be invited to online interviews on **10 and 11 November 2022**.
3. We will inform you of the results on **16 November 2022** via email.
4. The first meeting of the Core Group takes place online on **1 December 2022**.

Motivation letter

The motivation letter should be **max 500 words**. We ask the applicants to answer the following questions in their motivation letter:

- What do you imagine a more sustainable, inclusive and beautiful future for cities to look like?
- How do you think we should work towards this future collaboratively? Elaborate on how you and your discipline/field can contribute.
- What do you want to learn from the experience of joining the CrAFt Core Group of students?
- Feel free to add any other information that you want to share with us.

CV

When applicable, CVs should include:

- Study experience
- Relevant student projects, extracurriculars, or similar experiences
- Relevant volunteering activities or other experiences outside the academia (e.g. involvement in a neighborhood garden, managing give-away places or initiating reading groups)
- Experience with art and design projects

For more information take a look at the [CrAFt website: craft-cities.eu/](#) or get in touch with irene.garofalo@elia-artschools.org