

Open Call: CrAft Core Group of Students

Application deadline: 11 February

Are you passionate about climate action and institutional change? Do you have the ambition to increase your knowledge and skills in interdisciplinary, international collaborative work? Do you believe that artistic and participatory methods are essential for a just transition? Do you want to be involved in a Europe-wide project, collaborate with many local and international stakeholders?

Join the CrAft Core Group of students and be at the forefront of the transition towards climate-neutral and inclusive cities by 2030.

If you are a student based in one of the CrAft pilot cities Amsterdam, Prague, Bologna or Trondheim, this is your chance to impact city transformation in your own city and across Europe. By being part of the interdisciplinary and international Core Group of Students you will work collectively on proposing participatory models for engaging other students across the 70+ CrAft cities.

The work of the Core Group is twofold: it functions as a reference group, working internationally and online, and creates connections with other local student initiatives.. The Core Group also organises its own interdisciplinary student events. Participating in the Core Group is a unique opportunity to share your ideas and get new inspiration.

The CrAft project is part of the New European Bauhaus initiative of the European Commission. It aims to bring together cities and their citizens, policymakers, arts and academia to jointly shape the transition towards climate neutral, beautiful and inclusive futures. CrAft believes that students are essential voices that need to be included in these change-making processes.

There currently are nine open spots in the Core Group for students. For general information about the CrAft project or the Core Group of Students, please consult the **[Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#)**



Why join the CrAft Core Group?

Core Group students have the opportunity to develop useful professional skills, gain international experience and expand their connections. As a Core Group student you would:

- **Co-create impact models and collaborative/participatory governance models** with the CrAft project partners. These models will follow the New European Bauhaus Principles 'beautiful, inclusive and sustainable', and aim to support cities across Europe in their transition to climate-neutrality.
- **Explore the connection between sustainability and artistic and participatory methods.** Contribute to the project-wide discussions on the topic, and pilot your own artistic and participatory ideas in the Core Group's student events.
- **Learn hands-on how to curate student events** and programmes (online/on site). Check out the [webpage](#) and [photogallery](#) of the student Think/do Tank the Core Group organised in Évora, May 2023, as an example. Or, read Core Group's [article](#) looking back at the Think/Do Tank in Manchester, October 2023.
- Take a leading role in **co-creating your own working environment** with your fellow students. Become knowledgeable and skillful in setting-up international governance and collaborative models;
- **Learn to engage students, city stakeholders and international stakeholders** (like industries, politicians, art institutions, municipalities). The Core Group does this, for instance, through events, artistic interventions, or policy recommendations.
- **Act as part of a reference group** for the entire CrAft project, which connects municipalities and stakeholders across Europe and is supported by the European Commission. You would give input for further development of the project and feedback to its processes and results;
- **Expand your international network** and create new connections with students and professionals across Europe;

- **Develop (leadership) skills for international interdisciplinary work.** Learn how to use feedback and reflection as a tool, and develop your confidence and skills for international, and interdisciplinary dialogue and exchange.
- **Research and analyse projects and practices** combining aspects of sustainability, inclusion and aesthetics. Particularly focus on interdisciplinary, co-creative, and participatory student initiatives and university modules;

Who can join the CrAFt Core Group?

CrAFt is recruiting nine students with diverse backgrounds, disciplines and interests to join the Core Group.

Eligibility criteria

- 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 Prague:** Academy of Fine Arts in Prague – AVU, Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague – UMPRUM, Academy of Performing Arts in Prague – HAMU;
 - **In Bologna:** University of Bologna – UNIBO;
 - **In Trondheim:** Norwegian University of Science and Technology – NTNU.
- You are enrolled in a Bachelors, Masters, or pre-Masters programme during the 2023–2024 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 with your study programme. Expected time investment is 1 day (6 to 8 hours) per week.
- Your academic schedule allows you to join a weekly 2,5 hour collective meeting, and work on tasks individually and/or in small groups throughout the week.

How to apply

Application procedure

1. Upload your motivation letter and CV to [this online form](#). **Deadline: 11 February 2024** (Central European Time Zone).

2. Selected students will be invited for online interviews in **the week of 4 March**.
3. We will inform you of the final selection results at the latest **by 11 March**, via email.
4. The first meeting of the Core Group takes place online **15 March**.

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 want to learn from the experience of joining the CrAFt Core Group of students?
- How do you imagine participatory, experiential and/or artistic processes can play a role towards a more sustainable, inclusive and beautiful future for cities? Elaborate on how you and your discipline/field can contribute.
- 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 neighbourhood garden, managing give-away places or initiating reading groups)
- Experience with art and design projects

Additional Practical Information

- **Following the principle of reciprocity**, participating students will receive recognition for their participation in the project in the form of a participation certificate and, depending on the institution they are studying in, either a small expense compensation, or ECTS, or a combination of both.
- The expected **time investment is 1 day a week (6 to 8 hours) for a minimum of 6 months**. Participation can be extended up to 2 years up until the end of the project. (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 **free to request ECTS** for their participation in the Core Group as part of their study programme. ECTS can be requested at the institution they are enrolled in. CrAft will be happy to provide supporting material for the request, but cannot guarantee that ECTS will be awarded, nor 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.

For more information, take a look at the [Frequently Asked Questions about the Core Group](#), or get in touch with irene.garofalo@elia-artschools.org