

RESEARCH THEME

XXXVIII cycle – a.y. 2022/2023

Title of the doctoral research

Cultural and Creative communities:
the impact of design for social innovation in small and remote places.

Proponent professor

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Abstract

Culture has the potential to play an important role in making the European Union (EU) stronger and more democratic, bonding European citizens by providing a sense of identity, while contributing to individual well-being, social cohesion and inclusion.” (Eurostat 2019)

This research proposal aims to investigate this potential by contributing to developing new knowledge in the field of design for social innovation. The specific context of the research will be small and remote areas in Europe and potentially expanding into non- Eu contexts, building on previous and ongoing research within EU funded projects developed by the Human Cities research network (humancities.eu/).

The projects developed by the network have focused on exploring how citizens (re)invent contemporary cities through design experiments in the urban space and have evolved into transforming remote places into more liveable spaces by involving local residents and stakeholders in the development of cultural and creative activities.

The research hence aims to analyze and give evidence to the potential contribution of cultural and creative activities to enhance wellbeing through active citizenship, building common values, enabling social inclusion and the development of intercultural dialogues. The main challenge in this intent is to define a framework for measuring the impact of these interventions tapping into the research gap in this field.

The research will analyze and understand the challenges of small and remote places, positioning them within a framework of European challenges, and defining and assessing specific impact objectives to lead concrete creative actions in such contexts in the future.

Keywords

Cultural and creative industries, social innovation, impact