

LABORATOIRE TECHNIQUES, TERRITOIRES ET SOCIÉTÉS

Founded in 1986 as a multidisciplinary centre for social science research, education and expertise, LATTS specialises in the study of the dynamics of cities and territories, organised action and work.

LATTS is a joint research unit (UMR) that brings together researchers from the CNRS (French National Centre for Scientific Research), École des Ponts ParisTech and Université Gustave Eiffel. Its research straddles a number of different disciplines, including planning, geography, history, political science and sociology.

Through a focus on technical worlds, instruments and infrastructures, the centre's work seeks to analyse some of the major ongoing changes to society, including urban transformations, environmental crises, energy transitions and digital evolutions.

LATTS' research has a threefold objective: to pursue a rigorous multidisciplinary approach in its work, to assert the value of solid empirical research, and to facilitate theoretical debate and innovation.

RESEARCH AXES

LATTS TEAM

28 researchers
7 administrative personnel
34 PhD candidates
10 post-doctoral
researchers

LATTS IS STRUCTURED AROUND FOUR RESEARCH AXES

→ **Governance, Organisation, Work** deals with how public policy and action, organisations and work are changing, by focusing on the underlying socio-technical instruments (e.g. digital applications, management tools, public policy instruments). Research focuses for example on smart cities, the energy transition, telemedicine, the digital transformation of organisations and institutional changes (at inter-municipal or metropolitan level).

→ **Politics, Markets and Urban Worlds** explores the production, management and regulation of urban systems. It analyses the role of urban processes in wealth distribution, the reconfiguration of public action and goods, and power relationships in the production of the built environment. Objects of study here include energy networks, real estate programmes, planning tools, and the use and re-use of urban space.

→ **Urban and Environmental Risks** focuses on professional expertise and technical approaches to defining social practices and groups deemed to be “at risk” in the urban environment. Its members harness and combine different disciplinary approaches to tackle notions of vulnerability and resilience, as well as the ostensibly “obvious” boundaries of risk, by addressing in particular the theme of socio-technical controversies.

→ **Knowledge, Technical Cultures, Territories** is devoted to understanding technological trajectories over the last three centuries by analysing city and regional planning, infrastructures and networks, and their professional communities. Research harnesses historical and transnational perspectives to tackle a diverse range of objects (e.g. information systems, technical utopias, metropolitan projects) and the relation between “abstract” thought and transformation of the material world.



PROJECTS AND PUBLICATIONS

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Approximately **50 individual or collective research projects are carried out each year**. Often adopting a multidisciplinary perspective, they focus on a diverse range of themes (urban transformation, energy and digital transitions, changes in work practices and organisation, etc.) and geographic regions (Northern and Southern countries), and mobilise various scientific approaches (“critical”, “research-action”, etc.).

Projects vary widely in duration and **benefit from different modes of funding**, both public and private: ANR (French National Research Agency), ERC and H2020 projects, LabEx and I-Site, funding from French government ministries, ADEME, EDF, Caisse des dépôts, RATP, associations, think-tanks, Orange, Renault, Vinci, Véolia, Bouygues Immobilier, etc.

PUBLICATIONS

LATTS produces around **80 scientific publications every year** (books, academic articles, book chapters, journal special issues) and this work reflects two broad traits in its profile. First, its **multidisciplinary focus** as its publications may broadly be divided into two groups: planning and geography on the one hand, and sociology and political science on the other, as well as work by historians. Second, its **international dimension**, as over half of its publications appear in English language journals. LATTS members regularly publish in journals such as *Urban Studies*, *Revue française d'administration publique*, *Sociologie du travail* and *Métropoles*. LATTS also publishes **two in-house academic journals: Flux and Réseaux**.



TEACHING AND NETWORKS

LATTS IN FIGURES

80 members
4 research axes
50 research projects
34 PhD theses in progress
80 publications per year

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY

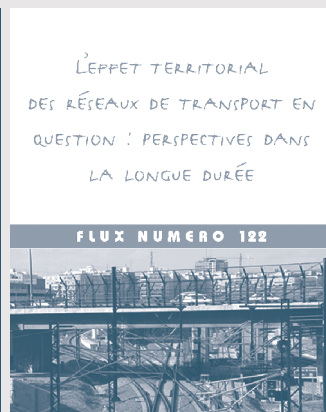
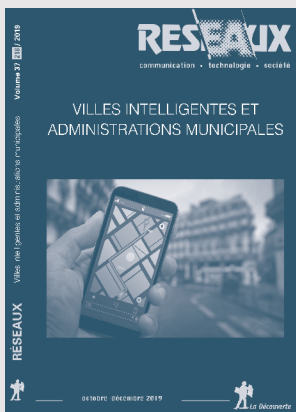
LATTS' presence in the international scientific community is ensured by participation of its researchers in a number of renowned scientific networks. It is particularly active in the **field of urban studies** where it contributes to scientific debates through journal special issues and seminar organisation and participation, and through **numerous European and international research projects** funded by ANR, ERC and H2020 programmes.

LATTS researchers are regularly invited to **teach abroad**, while every year the centre hosts a number of invited researchers for both short- and longer-term periods.

TEACHING AND DOCTORAL PROGRAMMES

Teaching and research both complement and enrich each other in LATTS. Its members have responsibility for various teaching **programmes at different levels** (Bachelors, Masters) and contribute in particular to teaching in sociology, political science, planning and urban studies at the École des Ponts ParisTech and Université Gustave Eiffel (Social sciences department, Paris School of Urban Planning).

Special attention is given to **doctoral research** through the active involvement of PhD students in the research axes, and the organisation of seminars and annual doctoral meetings. LATTS is closely involved in the Paris-Est "Cities, Transport and Territories" and "Organisations, Markets and Institutions" **doctoral schools**, and the centre's researchers are regularly asked to participate in PhD and habilitation vivas on various topics across a range of disciplines.



Contextes/ENPC/DR/2017

LATTS

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