**MetroNet. Cross-border Metropolitan Governance in Europe**  
A Network Analysis Approach

A research project funded by the National Research Fund of Luxembourg  
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**Objective**  
The main objective of MetroNet is to better understand how policy networks regulate the spatial construction of cross-border metropolitan region in Europe. More specifically, the project examines the meaning of policy networks dedicated to strategic planning and territorial promotion and evaluates their capacity to promote cross-border governance regimes.

Three main questions are addressed: 1). Who are the actors involved in the policy networks and what are their relations? 2). To what extent spatial features and geographical distance have an effect on the structural properties of the policy networks? 3). To what extent the structure of networks explains differences in policy outcome?

**Methodology**  
The analytical framework developed in MetroNet is based on the comparative analysis of policy networks. Social network analysis (SNA) is first used to describe the structural properties of networks and to analyse the relational configurations that are involved in the making of public policies. Seen as complementary to SNA, qualitative approaches focusing on the contents of the interactions are also used.

**Case studies**  
Four case studies are examined: Luxembourg, Basel, Lille and Vienna-Bratislava. Rather than a generalisation on the European scale, these case studies will contribute to a better understanding of the interactions between national borders and metropolitan centres.

**Partners**  
MetroNet is coordinated by the Department of Geography at the Centre for Population, Poverty and Public Policy Studies (CEPS/INSTEAD) in Luxembourg. Other partners include: the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, the University of Upper Alsace, the Vienna University of Technology, the University of the West of England, and the University of Luxembourg.

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