

## GOVERNANCE-21-2020

### Partner Search

- We offer our expertise to participate as a partner in a Horizon 2020 project
- We are planning to coordinate a project in Horizon 2020 and are looking for project partners

#### **Vrije Universiteit Brussel**

#### **Studies in Media, Innovation and Technology**

**Prof. dr. Luciano Morganti**

#### **Potential role**

- Research
- Dissemination, exploitation
- Communication
- Training

#### **Background information**

Already experience as a Coordinator: YES

Already experience as a Partner: YES

Already experience as an Expert Evaluator: YES

#### **Legal Entity: Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB)**

Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) is a competitive, high-quality, socially committed and internationally oriented university located in Brussels, Belgium. It counts 4 campuses in the Brussels Capital Region, 8 faculties and 193 research groups around 9 strategic research clusters: 1) big data, 2) brain & behaviour, 3) city dynamics, 4) environmental issues, 5) fighting diseases, 6) small particles, 7) smart engineering, 8) societal challenges, and 9) the circle of life. In 2018, VUB ranked #47 in Reuters' Most Innovative Universities Top 100 in Europe, it has 127 active patent families and disclosed 40 inventions. VUB accommodates 3 doctoral schools (Human Sciences, Natural Sciences and (Bioscience) Engineering, and Life Sciences and Medicine) that cater to the needs of its more than 1,600 PhD students (2017: 1,677). Additionally, the university provides high-quality education in all academic fields to more than 16,000 BA and MA students (2017: 16,094).

VUB is an active participant in European R&I projects, Horizon 2020 in particular. There are currently about 120 running R&I projects at VUB in all strategic research clusters, and the budget acquired from European funding sources more than doubled from €6 million to €14 million between 2014 and 2019. The increase mainly demonstrates VUB's commitment to promoting European R&I, as well as its internationally renowned position as centre of knowledge in the capital of Europe.

#### **Research Group: Studies in Media, Innovation and Technology (SMIT)**

SMIT was established in 1990 and is located at VUB's Humanities, Sciences and Engineering Campus. With a staff of over 80 researchers, and an annual turnover of well over 5 M€, SMIT has been a pivotal player in fundamental, applied and contract research, including European research and innovation actions with 22 projects under Horizon 2020 amounting to €3.797.000. The research center has a recognized track record in social-scientific research on media and ICT, with an emphasis on innovation,

policy and socio-economic questions. To understand the mutual shaping of technological, societal and individual processes, SMIT's research combines user, policy and business analysis with both quantitative and qualitative research methodologies. Additionally, SMIT is affiliated to imec - Europe's leading research institute on nano-technology and digital innovation - as core research group.

SMIT's research particularly focuses on three action domains:

- 1) Smart Media
- 2) Smart Cities
- 3) Smart Health and Work

And on three fields of expertise/areas of research:

- 1) Market Policy & Privacy
- 2) Ethics and Literacy
- 3) Living Labs

#### **Principal Investigator: Prof. dr. Luciano Morganti**

Luciano Morganti is Professor in New Media and Society, and is an active member of the Studies in Media, Innovation and Technology Research Group. His research focuses on the interaction between (new) communication technologies and democratic processes, investigating the social, political and communicative aspects of citizens' participation, citizens' empowerment and participatory democracy.

Morganti L., Ranaivoson H., (2019), MediaRoad Vision Paper Future and Emerging Technologies for the Media Sector, MediaRoad H2020 Project

Morganti L., Ranaivoson H., Mazzoli E.M, (2018), MediaRoad Vision Paper – The Future of Media Innovation - - European Research Agenda Beyond 2020, MediaRoad H2020 Project

Morganti L., Bekemans L. (Eds) (2012), *The European Public Sphere: from critical thinking to responsible action*, P.I.E. Peter Lang, Bern, Brussels, New York

Morganti L., Ranaivoson H. (2018), *European Elections, Media and Disinformation: a Tricky Rebus to Solve! The Intake from EuroPCom 2018*, December 2018, MediaRoad Blog

Morganti L., Ranaivoson H. (2018), *The European Commission and Fake News: Lots of talk, little walk*, Policy Brief #18 SMIT

#### **Call-specific expertise**

Participatory democracy  
Participatory approaches  
Active citizenship  
The notion of the public sphere  
Deliberative element  
Conception of identity

#### **Contact**

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