

# BRIGHT FUTURE

The existing post-industrial paradigms represent neither the final nor the complete point of discussion about future urban development. We believe that they serve as a basis for critical reflection on the role of manufacturing, particularly in small industrial towns since a noteworthy share of small towns in Europe sustains its productive economic base.

The main aim is to find locally embedded social-cultural and spatial specificities in small industrial towns as basis for identifying social and institutional innovations. In the project, we will analyze a set of small industrial towns across Europe as case studies in order to direct urban policies towards respecting the particularities of the small European industrial town and alternative urban development.



## Aim/objective

- To know the socio-cultural qualities of small industrial towns
- To translate their qualities into social innovations in order to adapt, to be resilient, and sustainable
- To discuss a new urban policy and research agenda tailored to small industrial towns

## Approaches/methods

- Interdisciplinary research on hidden socio-cultural qualities within case study towns in Europe
- Participatory transdisciplinary research on social innovations in case study towns and their applicability to other transitional towns

## Expected results and impacts

- Comparative analysis of industrial towns in different developmental contexts
- Social and institutional innovations aimed at supporting positive practices in industrial towns
- Policy & research recommendations to urban governance and practitioners

### **BRIGHT FUTURE – Bright future for black towns: reinventing European industrial towns and challenging dominant post-industrial discourses**

**Duration:** 2017–2020

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## Involved cities

- Velenje
- Fieni
- Kajaani
- Corby
- Heerlen

## About JPI Urban Europe

JPI Urban Europe is a transnational research and innovation programme on urban transition. With the ambition to develop and validate new solutions for sustainable and liveable cities, a cooperation platform and programme is provided to connect urban stakeholders, researchers, cities, business and society

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