

Introducing RTG 2725 Urban future-making



Anna-Lena Grigo

Anna-Lena Grigo studied sociology in Dresden, Freiburg and Basel. During her bachelor's, she focused on the history of sociology, Luhmann's system theory and Foucault's theory of power. During her master's, she dealt with theories of post-structuralism, discourse analysis as a theory and method, and multivariate statistics. Her research interests are the communication and mediation between science, politics and society, and the societal perception and handling of climate change. She wrote her master's thesis on shared mobilities at the Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research (ISI) in Karlsruhe. For her thesis, she investigated the public's interest in using car- and ridesharing services, and analyzed the potential of shared mobilities for cities.

Since April 2022, she is a PhD candidate at the Research Training Group "Urban future-making: Professional agency across time and scale." In her PhD project, she investigates architecture that is negotiated and discussed under the principle of sustainability based on the "European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture | Mies van der Rohe Awards (EUMies Awards)." The EUMies Awards honor innovative European building and conversion projects, and understand themselves as a platform for the development and implementation of sustainable architecture. In the face of climate change, sustainability is a strongly proclaimed and demanded principle of action in society. Therefore, architects and other professionals involved in planning and building are required to plan and build sustainably. It can be assumed that architects are particularly receptive to the demand for sustainability because creativity, change and innovation are seen as essential to their profession. Her PhD project's basic assumption is that architecture is shaped by discourses and - in turn - shapes discourses such as those on sustainability. Using various qualitative methods, she analyzes the construction and legitimation of sustainability as a pattern of interpretation and action in the context of architecture. In doing so, she investigates the different ideas about what architecture can and should achieve in terms of sustainability, and to what extent these ideas compete with each other.