



QUALITY  
RECOGNITION  
**AESOP**

AESOP CERTIFICATE OF QUALITY

After a thorough examination of its contents and methods, the

## **Master Programme in Spatial Planning**

offered by the

**Graduate School of Geosciences**

**Utrecht University**

has been highly distinguished with the

# **AESOP CERTIFICATE OF QUALITY**

We certify that:

This programme fulfils the European quality standards of planning programmes according to the AESOP Charter, complemented by an effective internationalization of teaching and learning processes.

The AESOP Certificate of Quality is valid for a period of six years (2019-2025).

Venice, Italy  
10 July 2019

**Daniel Galland**  
*AESOP EEB Chair*  
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## **Master Programme in Spatial Planning**

Graduate School of Geosciences

**Utrecht University**

### **Evaluation Report**

After an in-depth examination of its academic curriculum and teaching pedagogy as well as a detailed review and identification of its elements of distinctiveness, the Master Programme in Spatial Planning offered in the Graduate School of Geosciences at Utrecht University has been conferred the AESOP Certificate of Quality.

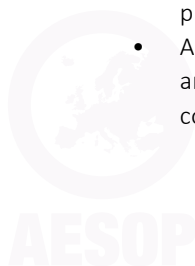
The Master Programme in Spatial Planning delivered at Utrecht University has been assessed by an *ad hoc* committee comprised of three members of the Excellence in Education Board of the Association of European Schools of Planning. The committee certifies that the above programme fulfils the European quality standards of planning programmes according to AESOP's Core Requirements for a High Quality European Planning Education defined in 1995 and ratified at the AESOP Heads of Schools meeting in Leuven in 2007.

### **Quality in Planning Education**

The Master Programme in Spatial Planning delivered at Utrecht University brings together the following aspects of quality in planning education:

— Academic curriculum:

- A comprehensive, research-oriented master study programme in spatial planning with a strong emphasis on knowledge-integrated coursework and academic research skills in planning.
- A balance between planning knowledge, professional skills and planning practice reflected in and acquired through the delivery of high-level theoretical and methodological planning courses, and the provision of skills and abilities to address real-life planning cases.





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— Teaching pedagogy:

- An assortment of teaching and learning approaches combining interactive classroom settings and digital platforms workshops.
- A progression from combined individual and group work in theoretical courses towards a focus on internships and workshops alongside planning practitioners.

— Elements of distinctiveness:

- A programme with a demarcated emphasis on the relationship between scientific knowledge production in planning and the practical, problem-oriented dimension of the field.
- An international, research-oriented planning programme aimed at facilitating both the Dutch and broader European spatial planning labour markets.

The AESOP Certificate of Quality and this Evaluation Report are valid for a period of six years (2019-2025).

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