

## Urban Safety and Societal Security Research Center (URBSEC)

URBSEC was established in 2011 as a joint strategic initiative by University of Gothenburg and Chalmers University of Technology.

URBSEC has three core missions:

- 1) Increase **research collaboration** within and between the two universities, expand research volume on center topics
- 2) Build **network** with public and private sector actors as well as civil society, establish URBSEC as a **platform** for such collaboration
- 3) Academic research collaboration should be combined with taking-on **practice relevant knowledge**-gaps and challenges

## URBSEC is a 'soft' center....:

Researchers are positioned at their home departments and work together in various constellations for the duration of a particular project.

Collaborating departments:

- Applied Information Technology (Chalmers and GU)
- Architecture (Chalmers)
- Computer Science and Engineering (Chalmers and GU)
- Energy and Environment (Chalmers)
- Global Studies (GU)
- Journalism, Media and Communication (GU)
- Law (GU)
- Occupational and Environmental Medicine (GU)
- Philosophy, Linguistics, and Theory of Science (GU)
- Political Science (GU)
- Psychology (GU)
- Public Administration (GU)
- Social Work (GU)
- Society, Opinion, Media Institute (GU)
- Sociology and Work Science (GU)
- Technology Management and Economics (Chalmers)

URBSEC

## ...a 'soft' center with a small core of activities:

Being a soft center without permanent research staff, URBSEC's core activities are organized with an objective to:

- reflect the center's multi-disciplinary scope
- enable well-rounded strategic decision-making
- optimize capacity to build research projects
- create capacity for fast and flexible response to opportunities

In terms of formal organization, URBSEC has four "functions":

- Steering Committee
- Director
- Priority Area Leaders
- Research Teams

## URBSEC - Steering Committee

The [Steering Committee](#) consists of members from both universities and from the external partner Lindholmen Science Park:

- Maria Stern (Chair), Professor, Global Studies (GU);
- Adrian Hyde-Price, Professor, Political Science (GU);
- Bo Norrhem, Program Manager, TUCAP, Lindholmen Science Park;
- Magnus Almgren, Assistant Professor, Computer Science and Engineering (Chalmers and GU);
- Stefan Forsaeus Nilsson, PhD, EU Coordinator, Operative and Strategic Support (Chalmers);
- Urban Nuldén, Associate Professor, Head of Dept, Applied IT (Chalmers and GU);
- Sara Stendahl, Associate Professor, Dept of Law (GU)

## URBSEC – Priority Research Areas

The Steering Committee has decided on four Priority Research Areas:

- [Politics and Governance](#)
- [Communication and Interaction](#)
- [Infrastructures and Interdependencies](#)
- [Sustainability and Resilience](#)

With an increased budget, the appointment of Priority Area Leaders is ongoing. They will form an operative management team together with the director. The aim is to:

- strengthen strategic focus and URBSEC's profiles
- increase the capacity to build projects and draft applications
- increase the capacity of immediate response to opportunities
- increase the capacity to organize project partnerships

## Appointment of Priority Area Leaders and EU-applications

URBSEC is presently engaged as Swedish partner in two European Union, Horizon 2020-applications, in the area "Secure Societies".

The creation of an operative management team will increase the capacity to participate in EU-calls, which tend to be more time-consuming and labor-intensive than national calls.

Both calls concern Critical Infrastructure Protection:

- [DRS-14](#): Critical Infrastructure resilience indicator - analysis and development of methods for assessing resilience)
- [DRS-15](#): Protecting potentially hazardous and sensitive sites/areas considering multi-sectorial dependencies)

## EU-applications on CIP: Consortium

### Germany

1. University of the Federal Armed Forces (UniBw, Munich)
2. Federal Institute for Materials Research and Testing (BAM, Berlin)
3. CreaLab GmbH (Consulting firm in scenario-analysis and risk

### France

1. The French Institute of Science and technology for Transport, Development and Networks (IFSTTAR)
2. Center for Research and Expertise on Risk, the Environment, Mobility and Land-use Planning (CEREMA)

### The Czech Republic

Czech Technical University in Prague (CVUT)

## Examples of partners in collaboration

- Security Arena Lindholmen
- The County Board of Västra Götaland
- Region Västra Götaland
- The Police Authority of Västra Götaland
- The Greater Gothenburg Rescue Services
- The City of Gothenburg
- Carmenta AB
- Ericsson AB
- The SAAB Group
- Volvo Technology



## Open Activities

- Open [seminars](#) in the Kuggen building, Speakers Corner, Chalmers Lindholmen
- Yearly [research conference](#) with and for URBSEC researchers with invited external participants
- Contact:            Director:  
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...and THANK YOU!