

Masaryk University	
Faculty	Faculty of Science
Procedure field	Social geography and regional development
Applicant	RNDr. Robert Osman, Ph.D.
Applicant's home unit, institution	Faculty of Science, Masaryk University
Habilitation thesis	Crip Cities: Nonlinear temporalities of Post-socialist Cities
<u>Board members</u>	
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Evaluation of the applicant's scholarly/artistic qualifications

Dr. Robert Osman is a well-renowned scholar in the community of urban geographers in both the Czech and the international context. In recent years, he has repeatedly led research projects as a PI with an impact outside the Masaryk University institution and regularly publishes in top journals in the field. Dr. Osman defended his Ph.D. doctoral thesis in Regional Geography and Regional Development at Masaryk University in 2014. Since then, he may be regarded as the founder of the subdiscipline of disability geography in Czechia, having played a key role in introducing and developing this field within the international academic context.

Dr. Robert Osman has participated in twelve research projects to date, in four of them as a principal investigator. He currently leads his second basic research project supported by the Czech Science Foundation, in parallel, he also leads his second applied research project funded by the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic. He has been involved in two international research projects, including the Seventh Framework programme and the Inter-Excellence, Inter-Cost programme in the past. These research activities have resulted in a substantial number of co-authored publications, particularly in collaboration with colleagues from Germany, Italy, and Romania, which were accompanied by five short-term mobilities abroad.

According to submitted materials, Dr. Osman has authored or co-authored more than 50 scholarly publications, 34 of which are indexed in the Web of Science Core Collection. In addition to his publications, he has produced 8 specialized maps and 2 research databases

and has served as an editor of three academic books. According to the Web of Science, his current h-index is 13 with 599 citations on WoS without self-citations.

Dr. Osman has proven through his academic career that he is able to prepare and receive grant projects, produce outstanding publications and manage a team as a principal investigator and as an editor of collective publications. Together with his colleagues, he contributed to the establishment of an independent discipline of disability geography in Czechia.

Theoretical approaches and empirical contributions are consequently used in applied outputs focused primarily on removing barriers in public spaces and other applied research outputs in the form of maps, public databases and certified methodologies. The whole range of Dr. Osman's research could be perceived as scientifically and socially highly relevant.

Conclusion: The applicant's scholarly/artistic capabilities **meet** the requirements expected of applicants participating in a habilitation appointment procedure in the field of Social geography and regional development.

Evaluation of the applicant's pedagogical experience

Dr. Robert Osman has been working as an Assistant Professor at the Department of Geography since 2019 and is highly active in teaching. He has continuously taught seminars for over 15 years as a lecturer. Between 2011 and 2025, he led seminars in 14 different courses and has participated in 12 additional courses. Currently, he holds full responsibility for four courses. In addition, he actively contributes to the delivery of four other courses in Czech and English language at the Faculty of Science, Masaryk university in Brno: Dr. Osman has also taught at the Faculty of Arts, the Faculty of Social Studies of Masaryk University in Brno, and contributes to a course at the Faculty of Architecture, Brno University of Technology.

Dr. Osman has successfully supervised 9 bachelor's theses and 13 master's theses. According to submitted materials he currently supervises another four undergraduate students. As a Ph.D. supervisor, he has successfully supervised one doctoral student, and he currently supervises three Ph.D. candidates. In the role of consultant, he contributed to the successful defence of one doctoral student.

He has edited three academic books used as teaching materials in selected courses, which were published by Karolinum and Munipress publishing houses. He incorporates the original results of his own research into his teaching. To sum up, Dr. Osman's pedagogical experience covers undergraduate and doctoral levels including membership on state examination boards and confirms his qualification as an independent and accomplished lecturer within the procedure subject field.

Conclusion: The applicant's pedagogical capabilities **meet** the requirements expected of applicants participating in a habilitation appointment procedure in the field of Social geography and regional development.

Habilitation thesis evaluation

The habilitation thesis of Dr. Robert Osman titled *Crip Cities: Nonlinear temporalities of Post-socialist Cities* consists of ten papers published in international peer-reviewed journals and the introductory part in form of synthetic theoretical discussion. The collection of papers has been divided into two parts, the first part focuses on time(space) imagination of the city (four papers) and the second part on non-linear times of the (post-socialist) city (six papers). The collection of papers demonstrates applicant's ability to publish in prestigious international journals and his strong position within the international network of scholars focused on post-socialist urban studies. All papers were prepared within teams of authors, with Dr. Osman serving as first author in six of them.

The introductory part of the thesis is structured into three parts. The first part focuses on general perspectives on delimitation and location of post-socialist cities and theoretical inspirations, which were consequently developed into an original theoretical approach. The second part introduces the theoretical perspective of crip temporalities, using three models of disability. In the final part, the two conceptual frameworks are brought into dialogue, illustrating – through selected examples – how the post-socialist city can be reimagined as a crip city, including its potential to serve as a source of inspiration for envisioning alternative urban futures. A key argument of this thesis is that the time of the post-socialist city should not be interpreted through the logic of linear, chronically spatialized time.

The thesis was positively evaluated by three opponents, who prepared written reviews of the thesis: doc. Petr Jehlička (Institute of Ethnology, Czech Academy of Sciences), Dr. Filip Blažek (University of Newcastle) and doc. Kateřina Kolářová (Charles University). Dr. Osman responded to main comments and answered all questions during the final part of public lecture. The members of the habilitation board agree with all aspects of the evaluation.

Conclusion: The applicant's habilitation thesis **meets** the requirements expected of habilitation theses in the field of Social geography and regional development.

Secret vote results

Voting took place: electronically

Number of board members		5
Number of votes cast		5
of which	in favour	5
	against	0

Board decision

Based on the outcome of the secret vote and following an evaluation of the applicant's scholarly or artistic qualifications, pedagogical experience and habilitation thesis, the board hereby submits a proposal to the Scientific Board of the Faculty of Science of Masaryk University to **appoint the applicant associate professor** of Social geography and regional development.

In Brno on 04.11.2025

prof. RNDr. Martin Ouředníček, Ph.D.