

## Housing and welfare systems

Housing and housing policies are strongly intertwined with welfare systems. They are connected to pension provision (e.g. through housing equity release) and the (spatial) wealth and income distribution within a society. Therefore, the impact of housing policies can only be properly assessed if one takes the broader context of welfare systems into account.

The Comparative Housing Research Expertise Centre (CHEC) of TU Delft investigates the complex connection between welfare system, housing policy, welfare outcomes and housing outcomes. Initially, we did so from a national and European perspective (comparing European countries). In recent years, however, we have extended our focus to non-European countries (e.g. China, South Africa, South Korea, Ecuador, Brazil). Furthermore, we are widening our attention from national welfare systems to welfare systems at the level of regions and cities, thus doing justice to the globalization, the devolution of powers (multi-level governance) and the increasing spatial inequalities.

In order to further strengthen our research program, we are interested in PhD-projects that deal with the following research questions.

- How can housing policies contribute to overarching goals that are important for the national, regional and/or urban welfare system? For example: can stimulating housing equity release diminish the pressure on the national pension system? Which housing policies can contribute to spatial justice, social inclusion and competitive cities?
- How can particular housing outcomes (tenure distribution, affordability problems, spatial segregation) be explained from welfare system in which they are embedded, and the housing policies in which this welfare system results?
- Which (national, regional, urban) housing policies work 'well' (in terms of desired outcomes) in a particular context? (*best practices*). To what extent is it possible to transfer such best practices from one welfare system to another?

PhD proposals dealing with these questions are welcome from all over the world. Please contact dr. Joris Hoekstra (j.s.c.m.hoekstra @tudelft.nl) for more information.