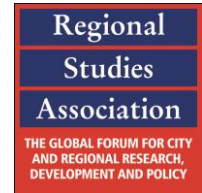


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Housing equity, mortgage crisis and entrepreneurship

Interview with Darja Reuschke

I saw the EC grant advertised in the RSA e-bulletin. I signed up for the [e-bulletin](#) when I attended the annual international RSA conference in 2011 for the first time to keep up to date with latest news from the RSA which turned out to be very worthwhile!

I decided to go ahead with the application because the procedure was straight forward and there were only few regulations to be considered regarding the costs that are eligible for funding. I had just started working as research fellow in the Centre for Housing Research (CHR) at the University of St Andrews, and I am particularly keen on developing new research ideas and trying to get funding to transfer these into action. The grant offers me fantastic opportunities to get started with my research ideas. Thanks to the funding I am able to push forward timely policy relevant research and bring together several key stakeholders from housing and small business policy and practice in a one-day workshop. This would have been difficult in other funding schemes.



The University of St Andrews and CHR in particular provided me all the administrative and academic support I needed for the application. The support and encouragement for the project from the Director of CHR, Prof Duncan Maclennan, was particularly important.

The EC grant is extremely important in developing my career for many reasons. Most importantly, it offers me the opportunity to attend conferences and to facilitate my academic networks nationally and internationally. This would have been very difficult to realise otherwise. Equally important, it funds fieldwork that will enable me to develop further my research agenda.

The application process was straight forward. The form and guidelines were easy to understand. Two questions came up during the application process which I sent per email to the RSA. Each time I received a precise answer within the same day which was of great help and highly appreciated. The only thing I could recommend is a confirmation email that the application has been received.

I am happy to be a mentor for other young researchers, feel free to contact me at dr35@st-andrews.ac.uk .

Darja