

Management of Urban Infrastructures *A Massive Open Online Course by EPFL - MIR - IGLUS*

In recent years, online courses have emerged as a game changer in the educational landscape. Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs), covering a wide variety of subject matters, are now available to practitioners, as well as academics, and continue to attract increasingly large audiences via online education platforms such as Coursera and EdX. These online courses enable learners to choose from a diverse array of subjects and to freely explore those that are most interesting to them at their own pace. The combination of the flexibility associated with online education and the high quality of courses offered by world-class universities, have turned MOOCs into an appealing learning reference for many. As a result, these courses have become particularly invaluable to those practitioners who have limited time and tight schedules restricting them from attending conventional training programs, but still feel the need to stay up to date with the cutting edge knowledge in their fields.

As of February 2016, the Chair Management of Network Industries (MIR), is offering a free online course on the [Management of Urban Infrastructures](#) as one of the products of a global action research initiative relating to the Innovative Governance of Large Urban Systems, called [IGLUS](#). This free, and on-demand, course covers the basic principles of the management of urban Infrastructures and illustrates these principles through a deeper investigation of two of the most important urban infrastructures- the urban energy and transportation sectors.

In this online course we, at EPFL, have worked with a series of our partners in the [IGLUS project](#), namely the World Bank, The Veolia Environment group, Swiss Post, City-Canton of Geneva, Boston Consulting Group, and City University of New York. By providing a combination of inputs from both academia and industry experts, we have tried to give a balanced overview of the basic principles of urban infrastructure management and to also illustrate how practitioners make use of these principles in the real-world.

In less than 2 months, about 4000 learners had enrolled in the course and the feedback from this large audience is quite promising ([Click here to see the feedback](#)). The online learning forum associated with this course provides us with a unique opportunity to host discussions and hear a range of diverse perspectives on the managerial issues raised in the course. People attending the course represent more than 90 different nationalities, and the debates centered around the course materials reflect this diversity and are in themselves an immense learning opportunity, both for us and our learners. You can find more information about free registration in this course by [visiting the IGLUS webpage at: http://iglus.org/mooc](http://iglus.org/mooc)

We are currently planning the second part of the course that is set to go online Spring 2017. The second part of the course will have a more keen focus on the Management of Urban Infrastructures in presence of disruptive innovations introduced by the ICT sector; which can be labeled as Management of Smart Urban Infrastructures.

Online courses that cover managerial, regulatory and governance issues in different network industries are becoming increasingly more prevalent. So, as of this issue of NIQ we will introduce a new section that closely follows the world of online education and reviews the currently available, and the upcoming, MOOCs that might be useful for academics and practitioners active in the field of Network Industries.

If you would like to write a review about a MOOC and publish it in an upcoming issue of NIQ, please send an email to mohamad.razaghi@epfl.ch.



The Transport Area of the Florence School of Regulation

The Florence School of Regulation (FSR) has been created in 2004 as a partnership between the European University Institute (EUI) and the Council of the European Energy Regulators (CEER). Since then, the Florence School of Regulation has expanded from Energy regulation to Telecommunications and Media (2009), Transport (2010) and Water (2014).

The Transport Area of the Florence School of Regulation (FSR Transport) is concerned with the regulation of all the transport modes and transport markets (including the relationship among them). It currently focuses on regulation and regulatory policies in railways, air transport, urban public transport, intermodal transport, as well as postal and delivery services.

The aim of FSR Transport is:

- to freely discuss topics of concern to regulated firms, regulators and the European Commission by way of stakeholder workshops;
- to involve all the relevant stakeholders in such discussions; and
- to actively contribute to the evolution of European regulatory policy by way of research.

The core activity of FSR Transport is the organization of policy events, where representatives of the European Commission, regulatory authorities, operators, other stakeholders, as well as academics in the field meet to shape regulatory policy in matters of European transport.

The results of FSR Transport’s activities are disseminated by way of policy briefs, working papers and academic publications. All FSR Transport materials are open source and available on the FSR Transport webpage, as they aim to involve professors, young academics and practitioners to become part of a unique open platform for applied research.

To learn more visit our website: www.florence-school.eu or contact us at FSR.Transport@eui.eu.

Highlight



Latest event: 5th Conference on the Regulation of Infrastructures

Continuing the successful format, the 5th Conference on the Regulation of Infrastructures is taking place on Friday, 24th June and brings together all research areas of the Florence School of Regulation to discuss current challenges in the regulation of the Infrastructure Industries.

FSR-Transport events Spring 2016:

Date	Title
29 February 2016	4th Florence Intermodal Forum
9 March 2016	Executive Seminar at the World ATM Congress in Madrid
2 May 2016	12th Florence Rail Forum
3 May 2016	Executive Seminar: ERA and the Digitalization of Railways
23 June 2016	Book Presentation: Routledge Companion to Network Industries
24 June 2016	5th Conference on the Regulation of Infrastructures

For more information about our activities please contact: FSR.Transport@eui.eu.



We're hiring: Job Opportunity for a research associate at FSR Transport

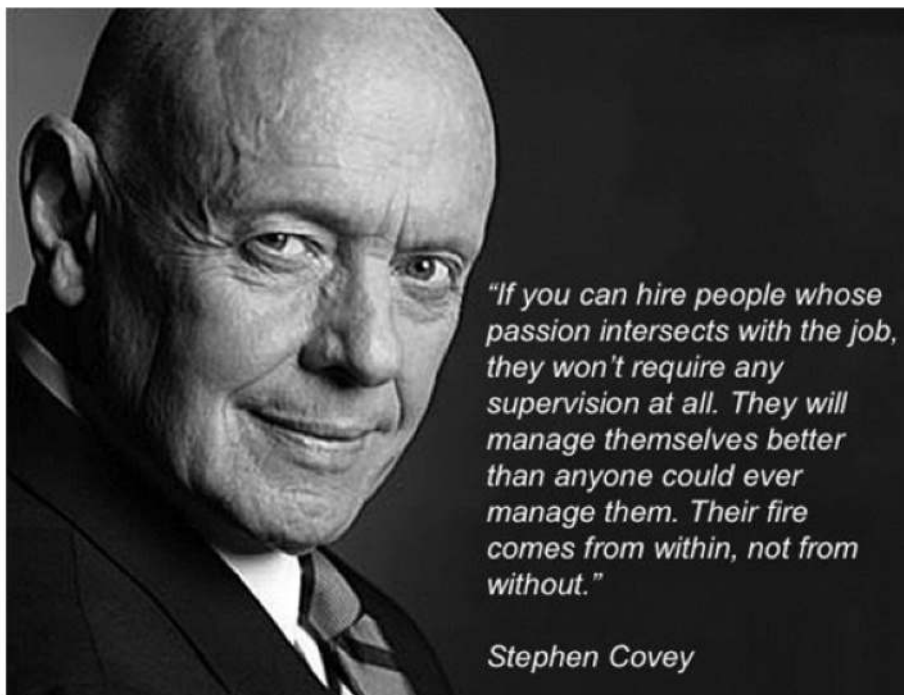
The Florence School of Regulation – Transport Area (FSR Transport) is hiring: we are looking for a research associate to join the team based in Florence, Italy.

The post holder will contribute to the core activities of the Area (organization of policy events, publications and writing in the field of rail, air and urban transport). The post holder will be responsible for the expansion of the Area's activities in other transport modes. The post holder will report to the FSR Transport Area Director and Coordinator.

Main tasks include:

- Draft and edit briefs, reports, summaries and papers for workshops.
- Organize workshops (content definition) with logistic support provided by the Conference Unit.
- Perform analytical and research tasks.
- Develop the network and communication channels of FSR Transport.
- Provide further assistance and perform additional tasks as required.

[Read the full description](#)



"If you can hire people whose passion intersects with the job, they won't require any supervision at all. They will manage themselves better than anyone could ever manage them. Their fire comes from within, not from without."

Stephen Covey



networkindustries

Call for Papers

Special issue on: Network Industries in Latin America

Guest Editors

Joisa Campanher Dutra, Getulio Vargas Foundation, Rio de Janeiro Matthias Finger, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale Lausanne and European University Institute, Florence

Miguel Angel Montoya Bayardo, Tecnológico de Monterrey, Guadalajara

Abstract

The network industries in Latin America (from Mexico to Chile) are undergoing substantial changes, marked in particular by their liberalization but also their privatization. Similarly, the regulation of the network industries' sectors is gradually being institutionalized following European, American, but also endogenous approaches. Overall, however, the de- and re-regulation of the network industries in Latin America follows no clear model and results are mixed, at best. This special issue of Utilities Policy aims at shedding light at the de- and the re-regulation practices in the different network industries and in the different Latin American countries, notably Mexico, Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Argentina, Chile and others. This special issue is especially dedicated to critically analyzing these practices, along with the policies that have inspired them.

Topics Covered

- Description and critical assessment of the different network industries' de- and re-regulation policies and practices in Latin America, notably Mexico, Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Argentina and Chile
- Sectors covered: telecommunications, postal services, electricity, gas, air transport, rail transport, road transport, urban public transport, water and wastewater
- Comparative studies across sectors and countries are particularly welcome

Notes for Prospective Authors

All papers must be submitted through the Utilities Policy website: <http://ees.elsevier.com/juip/>. Make sure to upload your paper to the special Issue "Latin America".

Submitted papers can be in early draft versions, but should not have been previously published nor be currently under consideration for publication elsewhere. All papers will be selected through a peer-review process. For more information, please see the Author Guidelines page. The authors of the selected papers will be invited to either a conference in Guadalajara, Mexico, on November 21st, 2016 or a conference in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on November 23rd, 2016, during which their papers will be presented and critically discussed before a final submission to the special issue.

Important Dates

- Draft paper due on 30 September, 2016
- Notification of acceptance to the Conference on 15 October, 2016
- Conference in Guadalajara, Mexico, on 21 November, 2016 or in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 23 November 2016
- Submission of revised paper on 31 January, 2017 Notification of acceptance on 15 April, 2017 Publication date: August to September 2017

networkindustries quarterly

Network Industries Quarterly, Vol. 18, issue 3, 2016 (September) “The challenges of digitalization and the use of data”

Presentation of the next issue

The de- and re-regulation of the different network industries is an ongoing process at national and global levels. As this process unfolds, ever new phenomena emerge. Yet, the question about the right mixture between market, economic, technical and social regulation remains wide open in all the network industries. The question becomes even more challenging when looking at recent infrastructure development as triggered by their pervasive digitalization. Not only are the different infrastructures transformed by their digitalization – e.g., digital transport, smart energy, etc. – calling for new approaches to regulating them, but moreover does digitalization become a phenomenon in its own right. The European Commission actually sees digitalization as a means to accelerate integration, to tear down regulatory walls and to move from 28 national markets to a single one. Consequently, digitalization and especially its implications in terms of privacy and security also require regulatory attention.

The next issue of the Network Industries Quarterly (NIQ) will be dedicated to some of the best papers presented at the 5th Conference on the Regulation of Infrastructures, which is organized by the Florence School of Regulation in June 2016. Selected academics and practitioners have been invited to Florence to discuss the latest developments in the regulation of different network industries, namely transport, energy, telecoms and water distribution. Both the Conference and the next issue of the NIQ have a special focus on digitalization and the role of data, and they build on the long lasting experience of all the Area directors of the Florence School of Regulation.

More information

If you are interested in learning more about the “5th Conference on the Regulation of Infrastructures: The challenges of digitalization and the use of data” and the next issue of the Network Industries Quarterly, please send an email to Ms. Nadia Bert at FSR.Transport@eui.eu.



OPEN CALL FOR PAPERS

Implementation of the liberalization process has brought various challenges to incumbent firms operating in sectors such as air transport, telecommunications, energy, postal services, water and railways, as well as to new entrants, to regulators and to the public authorities.

Therefore, the Network Industries Quarterly is aimed at covering research findings regarding these challenges, to monitor the emerging trends, as well as to analyze the strategic implications of these changes in terms of regulation, risks management, governance and innovation in all, but also across, the different regulated sectors.

The Network Industries Quarterly, published by the Chair MIR (Management of Network Industry, EPFL) in collaboration with the Transport Area of the Florence School of Regulation (European University Institute), is an open access journal funded in 1998 and, since then, directed by Prof Matthias Finger.

ARTICLE PREPARATION

The Network Industries Quarterly is a multidisciplinary international publication. Each issue is coordinated by a guest editor, who chooses four to six different articles all related to the topic chosen. Articles must be high-quality, written in clear, plain language. They should be original papers that will contribute to furthering the knowledge base of network industries policy matters. Articles can refer to theories and, when appropriate, deduce practical applications. Additionally, they can make policy recommendations and deduce management implications.

Detailed guidelines on how to submit the articles and coordinate the issue will be provided to the selected guest editor.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

MORE INFORMATION

- network-industries.org
- mir.epfl.ch
- florence-school.eu

QUESTIONS / COMMENTS?

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Published four times a year, the **Network Industries Quarterly** contains short analytical articles about postal, telecommunications, energy, water, transportation and network industries in general. It provides original analysis, information and opinions on current issues. Articles address a broad readership made of university researchers, policy makers, infrastructure operators and businessmen. Opinions are the sole responsibility of the author(s). Contact fsr.transport@eui.eu to subscribe. Subscription is free.



SUBJECTS

- Vol. 17 - No. 4 (2015)*
 Local utilities and public services in Europe: challenges and opportunities

- Vol 17 - No 3 (2015)*
 Regulating of Infrastructure Industries in emerging countries

- Vol 17 - No 2 (2015)*
 Urban Energy Transition

- Vol 17 - No 1 (2015)*
 Network Industries in Eurasia

- Vol 16 - No 4 (2014)*
 Business Groups in Network Industries

- Vol 16 - No 3 (2014)*
 Corporate governance of public utilities

- Vol 16 - No 2 (2014)*
 Regulating Railways

- Vol 16 - No 1 (2014)*
 Consumer Involvement in Network Industries' Regulation