



INSTITUT
D'ÉCONOMIE
INDUSTRIELLE

IDEI / Bruegel Conference

Regulation, Competition and Investment in Network Industries

Brussels, 25-26 October 2007



Call for papers

Date: 25-26 October 2007

Place: Brussels

Regulation of network industries should not only aim to ensure that today's consumers face a broad variety of products at competitive prices but also that future consumers will be served properly. This means that regulation must focus not only on existing infrastructure but must also foster innovation, efficient investment and market entry. For example, the deployment of new generation communications networks is clearly influenced by the regulatory access conditions that will apply to them. In energy markets, the regulation of access to the grid and asset sharing conditions are also key for new investment in liquefied natural gas terminals, cross-border interconnections and incentives to invest in alternative technologies. Other network industries such as postal services or transport, industries which for long periods have been fairly stagnant, now also face similar issues. The right balance between competition, investment and innovation is at the centre of the current policy debate on network industry regulation. Most network industries have already gone through the phase of breaking up former monopolists and now need regulation that promotes efficient operation of dynamic markets.

In order to stimulate research on these issues, and also to stimulate interaction between academia, industry and policymaking, IDEI and Bruegel will host a conference on October 25-26 2007 in Brussels. The conference will bring together academics, policymakers and business representatives to discuss issues related to the dynamics and growth of network industries (information and communication technologies, energy, transport, postal services, etc.). The conference will include both presentation of latest academic research on the subject and thematic policy panels reflecting the current debate in these sectors. Lectures by keynote speakers will also be part of the programme. A particular emphasis will be put on the effect of competition and regulatory policies on investment and in particular the incentives to innovate.

Academic contributions are expected to highlight current and potential issues that are specific to network industries. Examples of topics of interest to the conference are:

- The nature of platform competition and investment in network industries.
- The role of network access regulation and asset sharing obligations on competition and investment.
- Vertical structure of industries and investment and innovation incentives.
- Forward/long-term contracts and competition in network industries.
- Intellectual property rights in network industries.
- Regulatory approaches to foster innovation in network industries.

This list is not exhaustive. Contributions can address these issues from a theoretical or an empirical perspective.

The scientific committee includes Martin Cave (Warwick BS), Claude Crampes (IDEI), Juan Delgado (Bruegel), Martin Hellwig (Mas Planck Institute), Bill Hogan (Harvard U), Henrik Horn (IFN and Bruegel), Marc Ivaldi (IDEI), Paul Joskow (MIT), Bruno Jullien (IDEI), Michael Katz (UC Berkeley), Gerard McCullough (U Minnesota), John Panzar (Northwestern U), Jean Pisani-Ferry (Bruegel), Patrick Rey (IDEI), Lars-Hendrik Röller (ESMT and Bruegel), Wilfried Sand-Zantman (IDEI), Suzanne Scotchmer (UC Berkeley), Jean Tirole (IDEI).

Submission of papers:

If you would like to submit a paper, complete the enclosed *submission form* and return it to Marie-Pierre BOÉ by email at conf.net@cict.fr, or by fax at +33 (0)5 61 12 86 37.

All proposals to present papers must reach IDEI by June 15, 2007, and must include a preliminary draft of the paper or an extended abstract.

The program and list of presenters will be confirmed and notification will be made to presenters by July 15, 2007.

Completed drafts of accepted papers are due by September 25, 2007.

Further information on the conference and registration can found at Bruegel or IDEI webpage: <http://www.bruegel.org> and <http://idei.fr>

Ticket fares are reimbursed to speakers on a negotiated basis and their hotel room paid directly by the conference organizing committee (this does not apply to coauthors). Please indicate when submitting whether you will be able to cover your own travel costs, or whether you will require funding.

We hope you will be able to join us for an intellectually stimulating conference, with potentially significant academic, strategic, and policy outcomes.

Yours sincerely,

The organizers:

Claude Crampes,
Juan Delgado,
Henrik Horn,
Bruno Jullien,
Jean Pisani-Ferry,
Wilfried Sand-Zantman.

Please note the deadlines:

For preliminary draft or extended abstract submission: **June 15, 2007.**

For submission of completed drafts: **September 25, 2007.**