



# An Introduction to the Transport Area at the Florence School of Regulation

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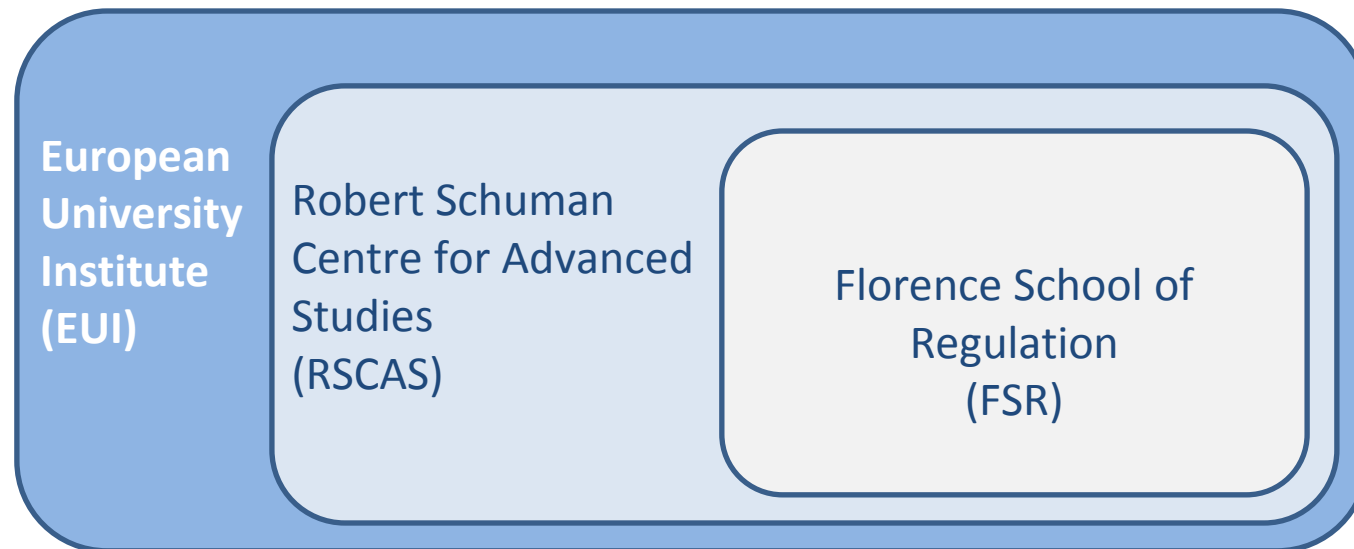
## Outline

- The Florence School of Regulation
- Challenges of transport regulation and need of an initiative
- The Transport Area
- Activities in the rail regulation sector



## EUI / RSCAS / FSR

- FSR is a project hosted by the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, the centre of research of the European University Institute, located in Fiesole, near Florence

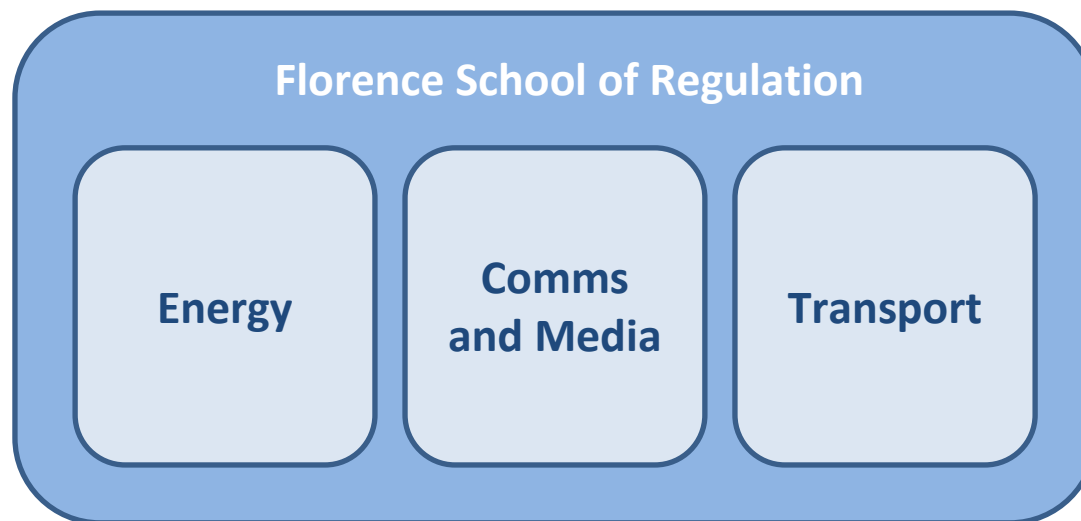


## The EUI and the RSCAS

- The **European University Institute**, provides **advanced academic training** to doctoral researchers and **promotes research at the highest level**.
- It was **set up in 1972** by the Member States of the European Communities and it has expanded to include new members of the enlarged European Union and other countries, including all the Mediterranean area.
- The **Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies** carries out **high quality interdisciplinary and comparative research** and work on major issues in the process of integration and European society.

## The Florence School of Regulation (FSR)

- The **Florence School of Regulation** was founded in 2004 by three European regulators dealing with **Energy** markets
- In November 2009 the **Communications and Media** area was established and was followed by the **Transport** area in April 2010





## The Florence School of Regulation (FSR)

- **An independent centre of research, training and discussion**
- It closely **collaborates** with the **European Commission** and the **relevant actors** in the respective sectors (energy, communications & media, transport)
- **Academics** and both **private** and **public** market players interact  
➔ the main topics are approached from several **interrelated perspectives**

FSR location:  
villa Malafrasca, part of the EUI campus





## The Florence School of Regulation (FSR)

- **Academia made relevant to practitioners:** where conducting theoretical research is as important as comparing **best practices**, collaborating with public bodies and firms for analyzing the market and institutional **dynamics** and providing new and better **regulatory tools** and **institutions**



The FSR team, directed by  
Prof. Jean-Michel Glachant

# The Florence School of Regulation (FSR)

## Funding

- The FSR is mainly funded by generous contributions from **donators** that are **companies** or **other bodies** representing **stakeholders in the process of regulation**
- There are **three categories of donators**:
  - **Major donators**, provide suggestions concerning the work programme (as part of an Advisory Council) and are entitled to nominate two participants in all the workshops and conferences; they may also nominate staff for training courses
  - **Associate donators**, entitled to nominate two participants in all the workshops and conferences; they may nominate staff for training courses
  - **Special donators**, who contribute to one initiative or series of initiatives of the FSR, and entitled to advise on and participate in these initiatives

## Why a transport initiative?

- Existence of a wide body of piecemeal **literature**
  - Find niche
  - Develop a comprehensive approach (e.g., technology and institutions)
- Existence of numerous **stakeholders** with varied (conflicting) interests and perspectives
  - Propose workable and sustainable solutions
- Academic research not always close enough to practitioners (**theory-practice gap**)
  - Ensure relevance
- New **ideas** entering the sector; new unprecedented challenges (e.g., co-opetition)
  - Testing ground of new ideas (e.g., what models of regulation for such developments?)

## Challenges of transport regulation

- Different **states** (member-states) of the infrastructures
  - How to be inclusive?
- Multiple **levels of governance**
  - Define the relevant unit(s) of governance
- Multiple **ways of looking** at regulation (e.g., policy, regulator, regulatory economics, models)
  - Define a comprehensive and relevant approach
- Continuously and **rapidly evolving** sector (e.g., intermodality, convergence, infrastructure planning)
  - Ensure timeliness and adaptability of research on regulation and policy
  - New modes of regulation (flexible regulation?)

## FSR – Transport

- Latest area opened at FSR (April 2010)
- **Research, executive training, and networking** in the broad area of **transport regulation in Europe** and for each transport industry
- FSR – Transport will cover regulation and policy of all modes of transport:
  - **Rail**
  - **Air**
  - **Waterborne** (maritime and waterways)
  - **Road**plus **urban transport**, which will be treated on its own
- **Synergies** with energy and communication initiatives

## FSR – Transport

### Mission

- Build a **knowledge base** on key themes of transport regulation and policy
- Create a European **pool of experts** on transport regulation and policy
- **Influence the debate** on transport regulation and policy in Europe
- ➔ **Become a point of reference for regulatory theory and practice in Europe**

## FSR – Transport

### Approach

- We want to be **relevant** for the stakeholders and, together with the stakeholders, **produce regulatory policy**
- Our approach is **pragmatic**, neither regulatory fundamentalism, nor neo-liberal public choice regulation



## FSR – Transport: Involving stakeholders is key

- A **forum with stakeholders** is the **first step** that FSR – Transport takes towards developing research, executive training, and networking for **each transport mode**
- The forum is then to be **repeated** to bring up **new issues** and discuss **research results** and **developments**
- Involving **all relevant actors**, providing them with an **independent forum** to discuss, **listening to their opinions** and **needs**, ensures that **FSR-T activities** are topical, relevant, carried out pragmatically and **feed directly into regulation debate, policy** and **practice**.

## FSR – Transport: Rail

- FSR – Transport activities started in April 2010 with the **European Railway Regulatory Forum (ERRF)**, a one-day event on the regulation of rail transport
- The forum brought together informally:
  - Experts from the EC
  - Regulators
  - Industry stakeholders
  - Academics
  - Consultants
- First in a series of **annual events** to discuss topical issues in rail regulation



## FSR – Transport: the 1<sup>st</sup> ERRF

Main aim: set the agenda for research that is of **practical relevance** and feeds directly into the European rail *regulation debate*

**April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010 – San Domenico di Fiesole, Villa La Fonte, San Domenico di Fiesole**

09:00 – 09:30 What are we trying to achieve at FSR-T? (Prof. M. Finger, EPFL)

09:30 – 10:15 The challenge of regulation (Prof. A Héritier, EUI)

10:15 – 10:45 The challenge of research on regulation (Prof. M. Finger, EPFL)

10:45 – 11:15 Coffee break

11:15 – 11:45 Presentation of research topics (Prof. M. Ponti, Politecnico Milano)

11:45 – 12:30 Rail research for Europe (Dr. Thomas Kaufmann, EU Commission)

12:30 – 13:45 Lunch

13:45 – 15:30 Input from the field

- Railway undertaking (Dr. C. Lerche, DB)
- Infrastructure manager (Mr. M. Robson, EIM)
- Regulator (Mr. J. Thomas, ORR)
- Supplier (Mr. J. Pélerin, UNIFE)
- Government (Mr. Croccolo, Italian Ministry of Transport)
- Operating under EU Directives (Mr. Kern, SBB)

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee break

16:00 – 17:30 Open discussion on research needs and agenda



## FSR – Transport : Next planned activities on rail

### In 2010

- **1<sup>st</sup> Specialized Workshop** on rail regulation
  - Planned for winter 2010
  - On invitation only, focused on a topic to be announced
  - Workshop details finalized by beginning of September
- Policy briefs

### In 2011

- **2<sup>nd</sup> European Rail Regulation Forum**
- **One-week specialized residential training for professionals**
- **2<sup>nd</sup> specialized workshop on rail regulation**

(...more to come with your involvement)



## FSR – Transport Donators

The activities of the Transport Area at the Florence School of Regulation are currently being funded by:



## FSR – Transport : Do get involved!

### Contact people

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