

# Services of general interest in the EU: *a citizens' perspective on public versus private provision*

2014-2017



**JEAN MONNET NETWORK**

# The EU users structure in a nutshell



# The EUUsers objective

## FOCUS:

- *Services of General Interest* (SGI), which are recognised to be *a key aspect in fostering European social and territorial cohesion* and ensuring the enjoyment of fundamental rights to EU citizens.

## OBJECTIVE :

- *Analyse SGI* through the lenses of citizens as users and create a debate on *the public or private nature of their provision* in terms of consumers' welfare effects.

## KEY QUESTIONS:

- How should governments define the mission, performance criteria, and governance mechanisms of public enterprises providing SGI?
- How should they regulate the enterprise if provision is private or mixed?

# The **EU**users programme of activities

TARGETS	ACHIEVED (June 2017)
<b>45 SEMINARS</b> over three years	<b>10</b> held during the 1 <sup>st</sup> year, <b>18</b> held during the 2 <sup>nd</sup> year, <b>17</b> during the third year
<b>2 WORKSHOP</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> in <b>Milan</b> (June 25 <sup>th</sup> and 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2015) 2 <sup>nd</sup> in <b>Milan</b> (June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2016) 3 <sup>th</sup> in <b>Rouen</b> (June 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2017) 4 <sup>th</sup> in <b>Milan</b> (June 22 <sup>th</sup> - 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2017)
<b>1 summer school</b>	1) <b>Milan Summer School on Cost Benefit Analysis of Investment Projects</b> , held Milan on September 8 <sup>th</sup> – 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2015. 2) <b>EUusers Summer school on Performance and Governance of Services of General Interest</b> , held in Milan on June, 27 <sup>th</sup> – July 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2016
<b>1 website</b>	<a href="http://users.unimi.it/eusers/">http://users.unimi.it/eusers/</a>
<b>1 new teaching course</b>	<b>European Regulatory economics</b> held at University of Milan
<b>1 E-book</b>	<b>A BOOK</b> on the reform of network industries. Evaluating privatisation, regulation and liberalisation in the EU, <b>ELGAR publisher</b>
<b>Coordination Meetings</b>	1) on October 23 <sup>rd</sup> 2014; 2) on June 24 <sup>th</sup> 2015, 3) on July 1 <sup>st</sup> 2016; 4) on March 22 <sup>nd</sup> 2017; 5) on June 7 <sup>th</sup> 2017
<b>Newsletters</b>	1) on April 2015; 2) on September 2015, 3) on November 2016; 4) planned on August 2017
<b>Other dissemination channels (e.g. international journal, etc.)</b>	Special issues on the Rationales, performance and governance of public enterprises (Italian Journal of Economics, N. 3 2016), students club trough website; working papers, special issue on the Journal of Economic Policy Reforms (forthcoming 2017)

# A good practice from the **EUUsers** experience (1)

**Summer school on Performance and Governance of Services of General Interest.**

*Critical perspectives on Energy, Telecommunications, Transport, and Water Reforms in the EU*

June 27th – July 1st 2016, Milan (IT)



**579** applications

**300** different institutions

$\approx$  **200** PhD or post doc

more than **70** nationalities

**35** selected participants (18 female and 17 male), of which 14 from the universities of the EUUsers universities. Overall, 20 PhD and Post doc students, 17 nationalities and 24 different institutions represented.



# A good practice from the EUUsers experience (2)

## KEY INGREDIENTS OF THE SCHOOL:

- 40 hours of teaching activities **involving both academics and policy makers.**
- Combination of **face-to-face lessons** (lectures and presentations) with **hands-on workshops.**
- **Active students' involvement** to encourage critical and original thinking on the role of SGI and issues regarding their provision: **preparation of a position paper on an assigned topic and delivering a final presentation.**
- **Awards** to the best presentation and position paper.
- **Follow up activities: involving participants in dissemination activities** (e.g. EUUsers book, special issues on international journal, etc.).

	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4	DAY 5
Morning session	1.1 Introduction	2.1 Sectoral perspective: Telecommunications	3.1 The empirics of Policy Reforms (Dynamic panel data and LDV model)	4.1 Sectoral perspective: Local Public Transport	5.1 Presentations of groups' results and discussion with experts.
	1.2 Public Services and Policy Reforms: an overview of the main ingredients – Part I		3.2 Sectoral perspective: Gas		5.2 Presentations of groups' results and discussion with experts (cont.)
	COFFEE BREAK				
	1.3 Public Services and Policy Reforms: an overview of the main ingredients – Part II	2.2 Sectoral perspective: Electricity	3.3 Sectoral perspective: Transport Networks	4.2 Sectoral perspective: Water and waste water	5.3 Policy implications and directions for future research
LUNCH					
Afternoon session	1.4 Data for empirical analysis	Division of participants into groups and launch of the case studies.	Hands-on workshops	4.3 Recent advances in the Economics and Management of Public Enterprise: XV Milan European Economy Workshop	
	Division of participants into groups: Students' club and launch of the hands-on workshops.	Hands-on workshops			



Day 1 – June 27th 2016 – Face-to-face lecture held by Prof. Massimo Florio



The Telecommunication group during the hands-on-workshop



Water and Waste Water group: the best presentation award

# Forthcoming EUUsers activity

## XVI Milan European Economy Workshop

### Innovation and services of general interest: from the lab to enterprises and citizens

22 – 24 June 2017

Palazzo Greppi, via Sant'Antonio 12, Milan (IT)



- The workshop will discuss the **role played by governments to foster and generate innovation in the SGI for enterprises and final users.**
- It will focus on the **multiple ways public institutions perform directly research and support the flow of new knowledge** from research laboratories to innovation in enterprises and finally to citizens.
- **Key Research Questions:**
  - *What are the channels through which governments support research?*
  - *How do governments, development agencies and public enterprises address their strategies towards innovation?*
  - *How does innovation penetrate in key sector of general interest such as energy, telecommunication and health systems?*
  - *What is the role of public research infrastructures and how their outcomes are transferred to the market?*
  - *How do consumers and enterprises benefit from public research?*

# IMPACTS (1)

## Topics covered by the EUsers network

....to cite some examples from 45 seminars:

- *Liberalisation vs privatisation in network industries*
- *Investments and regulation in the water sector*
- *Evaluation of policy framework reforms in network: industries empirical and methodological issues*
- *SGI in political decision making and reforms*
- *Costs, quality, and quantity in public service production*
- *Experiences of Deregulating the Swedish Railways*
- *Corporate Governance, Accounting and Accountability of State-Owned Enterprises and Agencies*
- *Health and Social Care Integration'*
- *The state and the future of energy: markets and policy insights from the EU, UK, Germany and South Korea'*
- *Tax justice, Brexit and future tax havens in the UK?*
- *How to Conceptualise and How to Measure Public Value?*
- *Women in Leading Positions: Gradual Improvement in Private and Public Sector?*



*Seminar on the economic regulation of water sector held at University of Milan on March, 8<sup>th</sup> 2016*



*Seminar on Régulation et politiques publiques dans le secteur des Télécommunications, held at Université de Rouen (FR) on September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016.*



*Seminar on How to Conceptualise and How to Measure Public Value? – held at Universität Leipzig (DE) on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016.*

....**AND many OTHERS**



# IMPACTS (2)

## “External” stakeholders involved in EUsers activities by category

*....to cite some examples from EUsers seminars, workshops, summer school)*

- ❑ **EU Institutions:** *e.g. European Investment Bank, European Space Agency, European Commission (DG Regio, DG Ecfm, DG Connect, etc.), European Railway Agency, European Spatial Agency, etc.*
- ❑ **International Institutions:** *e.g. OECD, CERN, UNCTAD,*
- ❑ **National institutions:** *e.g. Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Research (France), Ministry of Employment and the Economy (Finland), Austrian Court of Audit, Saxon State Ministry of Finance, etc.*
- ❑ **Academics:** *e.g. University of Sussex (UK), Tallinn University of Technology (Estonia), Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich (Germany), Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Spain), University of Santiago de Compostela (Spain), University of Athens (Greece), University of Zagreb (Croatia), EPF Lausanne (Switzerland), Amrita School of Business (India), Kwansei Gakuin University (Japan), University of Santiago de Chile, Enap – Québec, Canada, etc.*
- ❑ **Sectoral Organisations:** *e.g. Italian National Physics Institute, ELIXIR Hub, European Future Innovation System Centre, European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures, DIW Berlin, GMB trade union (UK), La Poste group (France), etc.*

**CIRIEC**



**....AND many OTHERS**

# IMPACT (3)

## Young researchers involved in EUsers activities

*....to cite some figures*

❑ **579** applications to the EUsers summer school, **35** selected participants

❑ **More than 230 students** involved in teaching courses related to EUsers network activities

---

Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien	Bachelor programme specialisation: Infrastructure and Public Economics
University of Greenwich	Case studies in Public Policy (MA in Public Policy)
University of Milan	European regulatory economics
University of Greenwich	Global Business and Sustainability (MA/ MBA International Policy)
University of Greenwich	Global Networks and Innovation (MA/MBA International Policy)
Åbo Akademi University	Industrial and public economics
Åbo Akademi University	Industrial organisation
Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien	Master programme specialisation: Public Economics and Infrastructure
University of Rouen	Master Economics and development of territories

---

❑ **20 PhD students** admitted to XVI edition of MEEW (scheduled in Milan on June 22-24th, 2017)

**....AND many OTHERS**  
*involved in Eusers events (as speakers) and other dissemination activities  
(e.g. articles, Eusers book, students club, etc.)*

# The EUsers dissemination channels

- ❑ PUBLIC EVENTS: e.g. seminars, workshop
- ❑ NEWSLETTERS
- ❑ WEBSITE
- ❑ BOOK
- ❑ SPECIAL ISSUES ON INTERNATIONAL JOURNALS
- ❑ WORKING PAPERS

**A mix of these channels is  
the most successful  
approach**



XVI MEEW - Major Public Enterprises in a global perspective  
25-26th of June 2015



**EUSERS website**  
<http://users.unimi.it/eusers/>

## EUsers book:

*“The reform of network industries. Evaluating privatisation, regulation and liberalisation in the EU”.*

**ELGAR publisher**



EUsers newsletter,  
September 2016

# WHAT'S NEXT?



*EUsers Scientific Committee*

# THANK YOU

[massimo.florio@unimi.it](mailto:massimo.florio@unimi.it)