

Call for Papers

Regulators and Regulation in the Digital Era

Scientific Conference organised by the Centre for a Digital Society
in cooperation with the Centre for Media Pluralism and Media Freedom

14-15 March 2024

Badia Fiesolana, EUI, Florence, Italy

The recognition of the increasing economic, social, political, and cultural power of digital players has resulted, in the European Union, in the proposal and, in most cases, already in the adoption, of a plurality of far-reaching Regulations (such as the Digital Market Act, the Digital Services Act, the Data Governance Act and the Data Act, the AI Act, the Regulation on Standard Essential Patents, and the European Media Freedom Act).

The implementation and enforcement of the emerging EU regulatory framework will pose new challenges to the Member States: while existing regulators might be enlarged, either to comprise new tasks or to accommodate new technical expertise, new regulatory bodies may also need to be created. This organizational change will likely increase the number of multi-task agencies, as well as foster forms of cooperation/coordination among different regulators, both at the national level (horizontal coordination), and with the EU level (vertical coordination).

The goal of the Conference is to stimulate an in-depth discussion of unpublished (or at the early stage of publication processes - i.e., working papers) academic papers. In addition to the papers' presentations, the Conference will feature a roundtable with a discussion by regulators, as well a keynote speaker.

CALL FOR PAPERS

The 2024 CDS-CMPF Scientific Conference welcomes papers from lawyers, economists, political scientists and other relevant technical experts, analysing the evolving role of regulation and regulators in the context of the digital age. Submitted papers should fall within at least one of the following core areas:

- **Regulation in the digital age:** papers might analyse the reasons behind the increased government regulation of the digital sphere and the appropriateness of the emerging regulatory framework with respect to objectives such as fostering market competition and innovation, safeguarding fundamental rights, addressing digital inequality, as well as enabling technological innovation. Papers might also analyse the vertical impacts of the horizontal regulation in specific sectors that have been disrupted by digital innovation and whose well-functioning is vital for the democratic process (such as the news media industry) or that deliver public/common goods (i.e., healthcare, education, mobility, environment, disaster management).
- **New tools and structure of regulators:** papers might analyse the impact of the new regulatory framework on regulators, in terms of independence, competences, resources, technical expertise and institutional structure. The analysis of innovative regulatory tools (such as the "regulatory sandboxes") and/or of best practices at national level is particularly encouraged.

- **Networks of regulators:** papers might analyse the impact of the new regulatory framework on the forms of cooperation among different national regulators, as well as in the context of transnational networks of regulators. It is of special interest the analysis of the relation between national regulators and the EU Commission.

The Conference will have an emphasis on the EU. However, papers discussing the changing role of regulation and regulators in other regions of the world are also welcome.

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Elda Brogi, European University Institute
Paolo Boldi, University of Milan
Marco Botta, European University Institute
Giacomo Calzolari, European University Institute
Martin Cave, Imperial College Business School
Alexandre De Streel, University of Namur
Lapo Filistrucchi, University of Florence / EUI
Scott Marcus, Bruegel
Juan Montero, European University Institute
Pier Luigi Parcu, European University Institute
Nicolas Petit, European University Institute
Maria Alessandra Rossi, University of Chieti-Pescara / EUI
Giovanni Sartor, University of Bologna / EUI
Peggy Valcke, KU Leuven

SUBMISSION

Please submit an extended abstract (min. 5 pages) or a full paper by **7 January 2024** [at this link](#).

Submitted papers will be peer-reviewed by the members of the Conference Scientific Committee.

Acceptance notifications will be sent by the end of January 2024. The final version of the selected paper should be submitted at the latest by 3 March 2024.

COSTS

The cost of participating in the seminar is EUR 150, covering the cost of the conference dinner, as well as meals and refreshments at the venue. Participants bear their travel and accommodation costs.

BEST JUNIOR PAPER AWARD

A Best Junior Paper Award will be given for the best contribution among those submitted by authors not older than 35 years. To be eligible for this award, scholars will be required to provide proof of their date of birth. In the case of joint papers all authors must meet the age criteria.

CONTACTS

For information about submissions and the programme please contact the organising committee: danielle.borges@eui.eu, roberta.carlini@eui.eu

For information about accommodation and logistics, please contact digital.society@eui.eu