

# THE EUUSERS NETWORK

Quarterly

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

Co-funded by  
the European Union



JEAN MONNET NETWORK

## EUUsers celebrates its 1st year of activity



The EUUsers Scientific Committee at the  
**XIV Milan European Economy Workshop**  
*Major Public Enterprises in a global perspective*  
25-26th of June 2015, Milan (IT)

*From the left to the right:*

- *Philippe Bance, Université de Rouen (France)*
- *Massimo Florio, Università degli Studi di Milano (Italy)*
- *Gabriel Obermann, WU Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien (Austria)*
- *Jane Lethbridge, University of Greenwich (UK)*
- *Johan Willner, Åbo Akademi University School of Business and Economics (Finland)*
- *Ulf Papenfuß, University of Leipzig (Germany)*

### N. 2, SEPTEMBER 2015

#### 1st YEAR OF ACTIVITY



During its first year of activity, the EUUsers network has undertaken and supported several initiatives, among which seminars, workshop, teaching courses, etc.

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#### XIV MILAN EUROPEAN ECONOMY WORKSHOP



The workshop on Major public enterprises took place at the University of Milan on 25-26<sup>th</sup> of June 2015.

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#### THE CALL FOR PAPERS



The EUUsers network has launched a new call for papers with the aim of collecting and capitalising the knowledge on SGI and specific related issues

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#### TEACHING ACTIVITIES



The EUUsers network was involved in the Milan Summer School on Cost Benefit Analysis. It is also working on the organization of a new summer school.

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#### SEMINARS SERIES



The EUUsers network constantly works on the organization of seminars. Overall, 10 seminars have been carried out by the network during the first year of its activity.

7

#### EUUSERS MEETING



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#### FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES



The first year of EUUsers activity has just gone. What's on the EUUsers network agenda for its second year of activity?

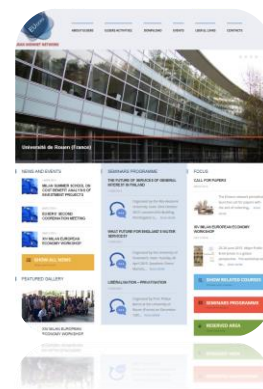
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*"EUUsers: A reference point in the European Union on public services within high education."*

# 1 YEAR OF ACTIVITY IN A NUTSHELL

Following its award in July 2014, the network of six Universities – lead by the Università degli Studi di Milano (Italy) - has started to pursue its objective, such as “encouraging the diffusion of innovative approaches, applied research and policy debate on services of general interest in the European Union from a citizens’ perspective”.

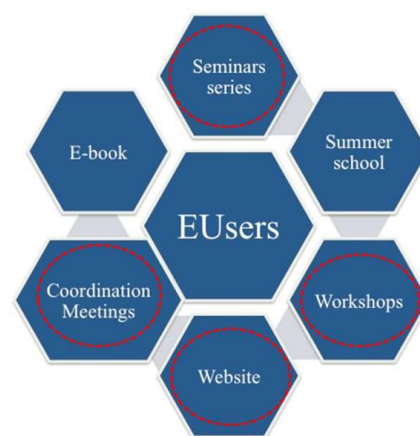
In particular, from **September 1<sup>st</sup> 2014 to August 31<sup>st</sup> 2015**, the network has undertaken and supported the following activities:



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

- ✓ Overall **10 seminars** (out of 45 ones planned over three years of activity) have been organized. Amongst the topics discussed, there are, for instance, the role of the public auditing in the public enterprises, the water re-municipalisation as a new form of public service delivery, the liberalization and its effect on the firms, the governance of the State-Owned Enterprises in the multi-level system of the EU.
- ✓ On June 25th and 26th 2015, the EUsers organized the first of the two **workshops** scheduled in the framework of its project’s activity. The workshop titled “**Major Public Enterprises in a global perspective**” was held as the Milan European XIV Milan European Economy Workshop and was organized in collaboration with CIRIEC.
- ✓ The **website** of the EUsers network has been launched on January 2015.
- ✓ A pilot **teaching experience** has been carried out at the Università degli Studi di Milano (IT). In particular, a new course (master level) in ‘**European regulatory economics**’ (ERE) has been organized (January-March, 2015).

- ✓ The EUsers network has been involved in the summer school “**Cost Benefit Analysis of Investment Projects: The new Programming Period 2014-2020**” held in Milan from 8-11 September 2015.
- ✓ Two **Coordination meetings** have been organized, both at the Università degli Studi di Milano (IT) on October 23<sup>rd</sup> 2014 and June 24<sup>th</sup> 2015, respectively.
- ✓ Three **meetings were held with the EACEA officers**: in Milan on November 25<sup>th</sup> 2014; in Brussels on 22nd January 2015; In Brussels on July 9<sup>th</sup> 2015.
- ✓ The first **EUsers newsletter** has been issued on April 2015. It summaries six months of activities of the network.





# XIV MILAN EUROPEAN ECONOMY WORKSHOP

## Major Public Enterprises in a global perspective

25-26<sup>th</sup> of June 2015

The EUsers network, in collaboration with [CIRIEC](#) and the [Department of Economics, Management and Quantitative Methods](#) (DEMM) of the University of Milan, has organised the [XIV edition of the Milan European Economy Workshop](#).

The workshop presented a preliminary knowledge developed within the EUsers Network on the empirical analysis of the different provision modes, with a specific focus on public providers. The workshop was structured according to an analysis of key research questions

The workshop took the form of an in-depth discussion of a set of invited papers by countries.

Country papers discussed include *European countries* (e.g. France, Germany, Ireland, Finland, Greece, etc.), *Chinese market*, *Asian countries* (e.g. Japan and India), *Americas* (e.g. Uruguay, Canada, Brazil, Chile) and *other Mediterranean countries* (e.g. Algeria, Turkey).

The first day of the workshop focused on the contributions from the European countries.

Amongst the speakers and institutions involved, there are: *Thomas Kostal* (WU Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien, Austria), *Johan Willner* (Åbo Akademi University School of Business and Economics, Finland), *Manto Lampropoulou* (University of Athens, Greece), *Stefano Clò* (University of Milan, Italy), *Catriona Cahill* (University of Limerick, Ireland), *Stephanie Warm* (Helmut-Schidt University, Germany), *Jane Lethbridge* (University of Greenwich, UK), *Carole Rentsch* (EPF Lausanne, Switzerland), *Anto Bajo* (University of Zagreb, Croatia), *Valdona Darskuviene* (Vytautas Magnus University, Lithuania), *Marina Klinova* (IMEMO, Russia).



**Lars-Erik Fredriksson** (Chair OECD Working Party on State Ownership and Privatization Practices) was invited as key-note speaker during the first day of the workshop. He discussed about the OECD interest in State-Owned Enterprises (guidelines and major changes) and focused on the activities and trends of the State Owned Enterprises operating in the global market.



The second day of the workshop was opened by the contribution of the key-note speaker **Richard Kozul-Wright** (UNCTAD) who focused on the lessons drawn from the revival of the industrial policy.

Then, **Andrea Goldstein** (OECD) and **Yingchao Zhang** (University of Vienna) discussed about the Chinese State-Owned Enterprises and the international market.

Contributions from Asia were provided by **Sofi Dinesh** (Amrita School of Business, India) and **Munenori Nomura** (Kwansei Gakuin University, Japan).

The final two sessions of the workshop focused on contributions from Americas and some Mediterranean countries. Speakers and institutions involved include: **Luc Bernier** (Enap - Québec, Canada), **Hugo Consciência Silvestre** (UNILAB, Campus de Liberdade, Brazil), **Francisco Castaneda** (University of Santiago de Chile, Chile), **Magdalena Bertino** (Universidad de la República, Uruguay), **Malika Ahmed Zaïd** (University Mouloud Mammeri, Algeria), **Sureyya Burcu Avci** (Özyegin University).

Prof. **Massimo Florio** (Università degli Studi di Milano, IT) moderated the discussion during the two days. A final roundtable involving members of the EUsers network and CIRIEC closed the workshop.

Papers presented and presentations delivered during the workshop can be download from reserved area of the EUsers website which can be accessed with reserved codes upon request to the EUsers network. (If interested, send an e-mail to [gelsomina.catalano@unimi.it](mailto:gelsomina.catalano@unimi.it)).

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## CALL FOR PAPERS

Following the **XIV Milan European Economy Workshop**, participants have been invited to submit a finalised and revised paper for publication through different forms and channels, including CIRIEC and DEMM publications DEMM as well as articles for special issues and interested journals.

In this regard, a call for papers has been recently launched by *Economia Pubblica* ([the Italian Journal of Public Economics](#)), in collaboration with Jean Monnet EUsers Network.

With this call, *Economia Pubblica* is interested to high quality papers dealing with, for example: country studies of major State Owned Enterprises; international dimensions of public enterprises privatization versus reform of public providers of services; empirical studies of performance compared between private; privatized and government-owned enterprise; etc.

In particular, the call invites submission to a special issue on "**Rationales, performance and governance of public enterprises**".

This special issue is edited by members of the EUsers network (**Massimo Florio** - Università degli Studi di Milano - and **Johan Willner** - Åbo Akademi University School of Business and Economics) and the CIRIEC network (**Luc Bernier**, Enap - Québec).

The international journal of "Annals of Public and Cooperative Economics" has also expressed an interest to publish a special issue on papers presented at the XIV Milan European Economy Workshop.



**FrancoAngeli** Journals & Series  
La passione per le conoscenze



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**ECONOMIA PUBBLICA. THE ITALIAN JOURNAL OF PUBLIC ECONOMICS**

**Call for papers – Submission is open until January 10<sup>th</sup> 2016**

Special issue

**RATIONALES, PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES**

*Edited by Luc Bernier (Enap – Québec), Massimo Florio (University of Milan) and Johan Willner (Åbo Akademi University School of Business and Economics).*

[Click here to download the call for papers](#)

# TEACHING ACTIVITIES

## EUsers Summer School on Public vs private provision of energy, telecoms, Transport and water Services

June 27th to July 1st 2016

Members of the EUsers network are currently working on the organization of the EUsers summer school on “*Public vs private provision of energy, telecoms, Transport and water Services*”. The school will be held from **June 27th to July 1st 2016 in Milan (IT)**.

It will target no more than 30 master-level and PhD students as well as young professionals, who are working in the fields of Economics, Public Economics, Social Studies, Political Science.

The school will have an international dimension, including participants selected from different countries (both within and outside the EUsers Network participating universities).

Students will be exposed to ongoing research, which is being disseminated by the EUsers Network.

Training activities will rely on a combination of face-to-face lectures (in the morning) and hands on sessions (in the afternoon).

After the closure of the morning sessions, participants will work in groups, which will be created around a common theme. Instructors will help in identifying, for each theme, the gaps in the literature, the areas for further research, both theoretical and applied.

*Applications for the school will be possible until April 30th 2016.*

**Summer School Scientific Committee**

- Messina Fiano, University of Milan (Italy), Coordinator
- Jane Leithbridge, University of Greenwich (UK)
- Godeo Christiana, IUT (Frankfurt/University of Applied Sciences)
- 123 Heidelberg, University of Leipzig (Germany)
- John Walker, Ave. Abshire University School of Business and Economics (France)
- Philippe Basse, Conservatoire de Bourgogne (France)

**Attention**

The participation in the summer school is for admitted students only. Few costs for successful applicants will be financed by the EUsers Network budget. For details, please visit <http://www.eusers.eu> for further information.

Application deadline: 30 April 2016

Contact point for the submission of application

Delmas Caroline  
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[delmas.caroline@unimi.it](mailto:delmas.caroline@unimi.it)

Or go to:  
Michelis August  
ph: +39 02 581 21127  
fax: +39 02 581 21101  
[michelis.august@unimi.it](mailto:michelis.august@unimi.it)

**EUsers Network**

- University of Milan (Italy)
- University of Bourgogne (France)
- University of Greenwich (UK)
- University of Applied Sciences (Germany)
- University of Leipzig (Germany)
- Ave. Abshire University School of Business and Economics (France)
- Conservatoire de Bourgogne (France)

**Working language**

English

**Location**

MILANO (Italy)  
Via Sant'Antonio, 12 - Milano

For more information,  
[click here](#)

Admission to the School will follow a selection process based on CV evaluation, reference letter and motivation. Applicants should provide evidence of their interest in the topic of services of general interest, should possess a good command of English and knowledge of economics or public administration and related topics.

## Milan Summer School on Cost Benefit Analysis of Investment Projects

8-11<sup>th</sup> of September 2015

As part of its teaching activities, the EUsers network, in particular the team of the Università degli Studi di Milano, has participated in the organization of the summer school “Cost Benefit Analysis of Investment Projects: The new Programming Period 2014-2020” held in Milan from 8-11 September 2015. The School focused on the ex-ante appraisal (Cost Benefit Analysis) of Major Projects (whose costs exceed EUR 50 million) asking for co-financing under the European Structural and Investment Funds in the Programming Period 2014-2020.

The School targeted a wide range of users, including desk officers in the European Commission, civil servants in the Member States and in Candidate Countries, staff of financial institutions, consultants and practitioners involved in the preparation or appraisal of investment projects, young researchers and students. It has been designed for professionals and researchers who are dealing with the programme and project management of the EU Funds and for decision-makers of major projects in the fields of transport, environment, energy and telecommunications, research, and urban development.

Indeed, major projects analysed and discussed during the School were infrastructures delivering services of general (economic) interests, such as transport, energy, water supply, waste water treatment, etc.



This summer school was at its fifth edition and was attended by more than 30 young professionals and students from different countries (not only European countries). The origin and working experiences of participants ranged from countries such as Belgium, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Italia, Czech Republic, Croatia, France, Latvia, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and UK.

Apart from traditional training methods, used during the first half of the training (face-to-face presentations) an interactive and practical approach was applied. After the closure of the morning sessions, participants worked in groups (they were divided in six groups) and practiced on how to assess a project by reviewing an evaluation report and how to actually carry out a cost-benefit analysis.

The School faculty consisted of experts from the team involved in the preparation of the new edition of the [Guide to Cost Benefit Analysis of Investment Projects](#), including its authors, technical advisors and academic peer reviewers. The following institutes have participated:

- [CSIL Centre for Industrial Studies](#)
- European Commission, [DG Regional and Urban Policy](#)
- [European Investment Bank](#)
- [University of Milan](#)

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- [European Investment Bank](#)
- [University of Milan](#)



[Milan Summer School on Cost Benefit Analysis of Investment Projects](#)

8-11th of September 2015.

Member of the EUsers network ([Massimo Florio](#) and [Gelsomina Catalano](#), Università degli Studi di Milano) were involved in teaching and lectures activities both during face-to-face lessons and hands-on-sessions. The Università degli Studi di Milano, in particular, has supported this event and contributed to the organisation (e.g. preparation of materials, lectures, etc.).

The school closed with a presentation of Massimo Florio on the good practices and common mistakes in carrying out cost-benefit analysis of investment projects. Then, groups of participants were invited to present results on their assessment. Each presentation was discussed with a group of high-level experts with long professional experiences with the assessment of projects in the field of transport, environment, healthcare, etc.

To know more about this event, look at [Milan Summer School 2015](#).



[Milan Summer School on Cost Benefit Analysis of Investment Projects](#)  
8-11th of September 2015.

## EUsers related teaching activities

A number of teaching activities have been undertaken by the Universities of the network in connection with the EUsers programme and objective. In particular, the following [courses](#) have been related to the EUsers activities:

- Bachelor programme specialisation: Infrastructure and Public Economics (Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien).
- Case studies in Public Policy - MA in Public Policy (University of Greenwich).
- European regulatory economics (Università degli Studi di Milano).
- Global Business and Sustainability - MA/MBA International Policy (University of Greenwich).
- Industrial and public economics (Åbo Akademi University).
- Industrial organisation (Åbo Akademi University).
- Master programme specialisation: Public Economics and Infrastructure (Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien).

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## SEMINARS SERIES

The EUsers network constantly works on the organization of seminars. Overall, 10 seminars have been carried out by the network during the first year of its activity. From April until September, the University of Greenwich (UK), the University of Leipzig (Germany) and the University of Rouen (France) have particularly focused on this activity as compared to the other EUsers members.

In particular, the following seminars have been organized:

- [The European postal sector liberalisation and its effects on the strategy of firms](#), 17<sup>th</sup> of April, 2015. Organised by the University of Rouen. *Speakers: Benoit Camguilhem (University of Rouen), Denis Joram (La Poste group), Nathalie Rey, (Université Paris 13).*
- [Governance of State-Owned Enterprises in the Multi-Level System of the EU](#), 15<sup>th</sup> of July, 2015. Organized by Leipzig University, Faculty of Economics and Management Science
- [What future for England's water services?](#), 28<sup>th</sup> of April, 2015. Organised by the University of Greenwich. *Speakers: Simon Markall, Head of Public Affairs, Ofwat, Eamon O'Hearn, GMB trade union, Richard Whittell, Corporate Watch, Cat Hobbs, We Own it.*
- [Water re-municipalisation as a new form of public service delivery](#), 28<sup>th</sup> of April, 2015. Organised by the University of Greenwich. *Speakers: Prof. Esteban Castro, Newcastle University Emanuele Lobina, Dr. Jeff Powell and Dr. Yuliya Yurchenko (PSIRU), Barbara Anton, ICLEI, Local Governments for Sustainability Polly Jones, Global Justice Now, Milo Fiasconaro, Aqua Publica Europea).*



*The European postal sector liberalisation and its effects on the strategy of firms– Rouen, seminar 17<sup>th</sup> of April, 2015.*



*Water re-municipalisation as a new form of public service delivery– University of Greenwich (UK), 28<sup>th</sup> of April, 2015.*

### FORTHCOMING SEMINAR:

The [Future of Services of General Interest in Finland](#)  
Organised by the Åbo Akademi University (FI).  
23<sup>rd</sup> October 2015. For more info, download the [“Seminar Programme”](#).

# EUSERS MEETING

## The 2<sup>nd</sup> EUsers coordination meeting 24<sup>th</sup> June 2015

The *second Coordination Meeting* took place on June 24<sup>th</sup> 2015 and was focused on four specific issues, such as i) the revision of the EUsers' budget, ii) the update of seminars' programme; iii) the organization of the summer school; iv) the publication of a handbook on public enterprises in collaboration with the CIRIEC network.

In particular, a reallocation of resources amongst categories of expenditures was discussed and approved by each partner.

This revision was deemed necessary to ensure a smooth implementation of the project based on the successful experience of the first year of implementation. While a new structure of the budget was drafted, the total budget and the EU grant requested was not changed.

Also, they agreed to organize the summer school between June 27<sup>th</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup> 2016 and to select papers, as outputs of EUsers seminars and workshops, to be published in a book on public enterprises in collaboration with CIRIEC network.

The *next EUsers Coordination meeting is scheduled in June 2016 in Milan* during the [EUsers summer school](#) on Public vs private provision of energy, telecoms, Transport and water Services.

## Third meeting with EACEA officers

9<sup>th</sup> July 2015

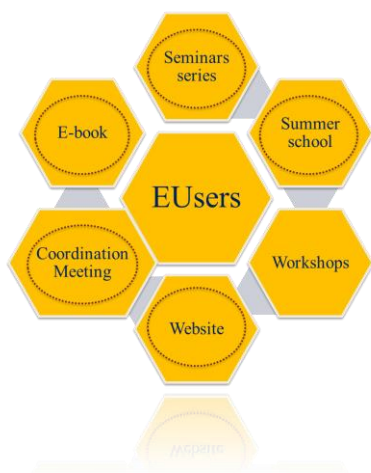
A third meeting was held in Brussels on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2015. The meeting – between Ms. Maria Victoria de Yturriaga Saldanha and Prof. Florio (University of Milan) – focused on the revisions needed to the EUsers budget and the administrative procedure to undertake these revisions.

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## Forthcoming activities: the second year of the EUsers network

September 1<sup>st</sup> 2015- August 31<sup>st</sup> 2016

- ✓ Seminars: overall 18 seminars will be organized between 2015 and 2016 by the six universities of the network.
- ✓ Coordination Meeting: the next coordination meeting is scheduled in June 2016. In the meanwhile, there will be conference calls as needed.
- ✓ Summer school: a summer school on "[Public vs private provision of energy, telecoms, Transport and water Services](#)" will be organized from June 27<sup>th</sup> to July 1<sup>st</sup> 2016 in Milan (IT).
- ✓ Publications: the EUsers network will work on the selection of interesting and relevant papers to be published in a handbook on public enterprises in 2016. A list of issues and proposals of index for the handbook is under discussion between the EUsers members and CIRIEC network.
- ✓ Website: it will be periodically updated with news and photos about the EUsers activities (see section "Event" and Seminar Programmes) such as seminars, workshops and coordination meetings.





## EUsers contacts

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[Prof. Gabriel Obermann](#) (WU Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien)

[Prof. Ulf Papenfuss](#) (Universität Leipzig )

[Prof. Johan Willner](#) (Åbo Akademi University School of Business and Economics)

## Project info

- ✓ *Funding scheme:* Lifelong Learning Programme
- ✓ *Action:* Jean Monnet Network Creation and development of consortia of international players in the area of European Union studies.
- ✓ Project Leader: Università degli Studi di Milano (Italy)
- ✓ Duration: 1.08.2014 - 31.08.2017
- ✓ EUsers website: <http://users.unimi.it/eusers/>

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## PARTNERS



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