

## E-Users Project – Services of General Interest in the EU: a citizens’ perspective on public versus private provision



Public Services International Research Unit (PSIRU) [www.psiru.org](http://www.psiru.org)

### What future for England’s water services?

PSIRU is holding a roundtable on “What future for England’s water services?” on 28 April 2015 from 10.00-12.30pm. The roundtable aims to encourage a debate between key stakeholders on crucial issues that any future UK government will have to confront. Twenty five years after privatisation, England’s privatised water operators are facing rising water poverty and increasing questions about their role. No clear policy has emerged on these issues. This roundtable will be an opportunity for several stakeholders to outline their approaches to crucial problems facing the water industry and to take part in a discussion with trade unions, NGOs, other civil society organisations, and academics.

#### Speakers

**Simon Markall**, Head of Public Affairs, Ofwat (the economic regulator of the water industry)

**Eamon O’Hearn**, GMB trade union (represents workers in the water industry)

**Richard Whittell**, Corporate Watch (an independent research group, investigating the social and environmental impacts of corporations and corporate power)

**Cat Hobbs**, We Own it (a voice for everyone who wants UK public services to be run for people, not profit)

Programme	Attendance
10.00-10.10 Welcome	Attendance is free but places are limited. If you would like to attend this seminar, please contact <a href="mailto:BusinessEvents@greenwich.ac.uk">BusinessEvents@greenwich.ac.uk</a> with the following information: Name: Workshop: Institution / Faculty): Contact Number: Email Address: Dietary information -
10.10-11.30 Roundtable	
11.30-12.30 Q&A	
12.30-13.00 Panellists’ final remarks	
13.00-14.15 Lunch	

The roundtable will be followed by a seminar on “Water remunicipalisation as a new form of public service delivery”, 14:15-17:30, also in Hamilton House. All are welcome to stay for the seminar.

#### Objectives

The EUsers network aims to encourage the diffusion of innovative teaching approaches, applied research and policy debate on services of general interest (SGI) in the EU from a citizens’ perspective, by creating a network of six universities.

**Key questions:** How should governments define the missions, performance criteria and governance mechanisms of public enterprises providing SGI? How should they regulate private and mixed economy enterprises?

**Partners:** University of Milan (Lead partner), Åbo Akademi University School of Business and Economics (Finland), WU Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien (Austria), Université de Rouen (France), University of Leipzig (Germany); University of Greenwich

