

5th Florence Rail Regulation Conference

13 July 2026

Sala Teatro - Badia Fiesolana, Via dei Roccettini 9 - San Domenico di Fiesole (Fiesole, Florence)

Juan Montero | Director, Florence School of Regulation – Transport Area

Introduction

The 5th Florence Rail Regulation Conference aims to discuss advancements for accelerating the growth of the railways in the EU. This conference is a space where academics, selected industry representatives, and policymakers can debate freely on fresh approaches to rail regulation. The scope of the conference will be to find practical solutions through rigorous academic dialogue and constructive debate.

Programme

13 July **Plenary sessions are taking place in Sala Teatro and parallel sessions in Sala Teatro and Sala Capitolo**

9:00 – 9:10 Introduction

Juan Montero | Florence School of Regulation – Transport Area, EUI

09:10 – 11.00 Plenary Session: Shaping markets

- Should Conditions Regarding Non-Discrimination Be Imposed in Vertical Mergers? The Experience of the U.S. Freight Rail Regulator

Presenter: **Russell Pittman** | Antitrust Division of the U.S Department of Justice

Discussant: **Juan Montero** | Florence School of Regulation – Transport Area, EUI

- How National Transport Plans Shape Rail Systems

Presenter: **Mario Tartaglia** | FS Research Center

Discussant: **Rosario Macario** | Universidade de Lisboa

- Striking the balance between private and public interest on railways: Evaluation of economic equilibrium test application for passenger rail markets across the EU

Presenters: **Nikola Stojadinovic** | University of Belgrade

Discussant: **Stéphane de la Rosa** | Université Paris-Est Créteil

Chair: **Juan Montero**

11:00 – 11:30 *Coffee break*

11.30-13:15 Plenary session: Competition

- FlixTrain's development in Germany. Business model, pricing and market barriers

Presenter: **Krenn Jakob** |

Discussant: **Juan Montero** | Florence School of Regulation – Transport Area, EUI

- Avoiding Regulation: rate reviews and contracts in the Freight rail industry

Presenter: **Jeffrey T. Macher** | Georgetown University

Discussant: **Rosario Macario** | Universidade de Lisboa

- Different types of strategic interactions in on-track rail competition

Presenter: **Dejan Trifunovic** | University of Belgrade

Discussant: **Russell Pittman** | Antitrust Division of the U.S Department of Justice

Chair: **Stephane de la Rosa**

13:15-14:30 *Lunch break*

14:30 – 15.45 Parallel session I: National experiences

- Rail liberalization and territorial reconfiguration: rethinking High-Speed rail service provision in France

Presenter: **Lorenzo Freire–Stella** | Université CY Cergy Paris

Discussant: **Mario Tartaglia** | FS Research Center

- Analysis of Legislative and institutional reforms in Ukraine's railway transport sector in the process of implementing the EU acquis

Presenter: **Serhii Arkhypo** | National Transport University, Kiev.

Discussant: **Stéphane de la Rosa** | Université Paris-Est Créteil

Chair: **Stéphane de la Rosa**

14:30 – 15.45 Parallel session II: Barriers to entry

- Access to rail maintenance facilities as a market barrier in Europe

Presenter: **Iñigo Aguas Ardaiz & Guillem Ochoa I Pérez** |

Discussant: **Juan Montero** | Florence School of Regulation – Transport Area, EUI

- Economic and Regulatory Implications of Establishing a Rolling Stock Company in Italy

Presenter: **Marco Percoco** | Università Bocconi

Discussant: **Juan Montero** | Florence School of Regulation – Transport Area, EUI

Chair: **Juan Montero**

15:45 – 16:15 *Coffee break*

16:15 - 17:45 Plenary session: Rail Capacity Management

- Market-oriented traffic management

Presenter: **Frank Jost** |

Discussant: **Rosario Macario** |

- Regulation of infrastructure capacity and commercial path speed performance in the 2025-2029 RFI tariff system

Presenter: **Giulio R. Sitongia** | Rete Ferroviaria Italiana

Discussant: **Russell Pittman** | Antitrust Division of the U.S Department of Justice

- Partitioning of Rail Capacity on a saturated shared line: A welfare-optimising Framework for Efficient Capacity Models

Presenter: **Chiara Widua** | Université Gustave Eiffel

Discussant: **Nikola Stojadinovic** | University of Belgrade

Chair: **Juan Montero**

18:00

Cocktail in Lower Loggia