

WEBINAR ON THE LIBERALISATION OF RAILWAYS IN THE EU

Introduction, Matthias Finger

14 DECEMBER 2020 @ 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM CET

Why this webinar?

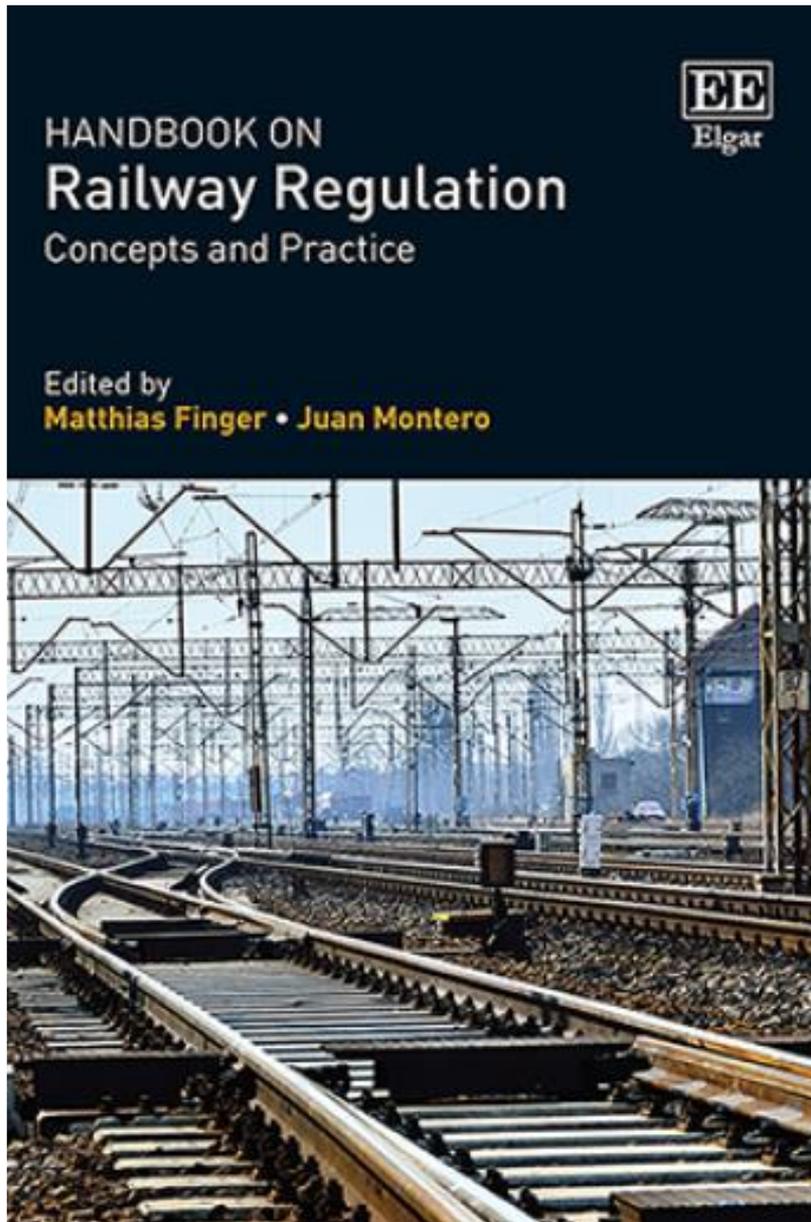
- Today, December 14th 2020, is the date of the opening up of the EU passenger railway market
- 2021 will be the 'European Year of Rail', the first full year when the rules agreed under the Fourth Railway Package will be implemented throughout the EU Member States
- This is a significant step in an almost 30 year history of de- and re-regulation of the European railway (Directive 90/440)
- Since now 10 years, we at the Florence School of Regulation, together with DG MOVE, accompany the COM in its efforts to reform the European railway system
- Yet, the European railway sector is still very diverse and complex

A lot at the history is always useful

- Rail starts in Europe ... which is exporting the model
- “Peak rail” at the beginning of the 20th century, then nationalization in many countries
- “Divergence” after modal competition from road and air:
 - freight vs passengers
 - high-speed as a new vision (JP, F)
- “Diverging policies” re railway reform:
 - horizontal competition in the US
 - vertical separation and infrastructure harmonization in the EU
 - competition for the market (PSO, tendering)
- Today: re-evaluating reform policies: have they delivered? (investment, technical harmonization, competition, modal share)
- And all in a new light: decarbonization and digitalization

The main messages of our Handbook

- Rail has (must have) a future!
- But which rail?
 - high-speed?
 - mass-transit?
 - long-distance?
 - freight?
 - regional?
- EU/SERA as the experimental ground (of the world)?
- A broader, more systemic policy and regulatory perspective is required:
 - rail in light of modal shift
 - rail in the context of multimodality



Content

- The Handbook provides a comprehensive overview of the state-of-the-art in railway regulation worldwide
- 14 railway countries: leaders, large railway countries, small interesting countries
- It considers the most pressing issues and outlines future trends in the development of rail globally
- 10 transversal issues, such as technical issues, high-speed, mass-transit, modal shift, digitalization
- 24 chapters authored by the main internationally recognized railway experts

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