

Residential Training Course

Loyola Autumn Research School

5 - 6 September 2026

Arcisstraße 21 - 80333 München - 2. OG Room 0501.EG.136 (Immatrikulationshalle)

Course Director:

Marzia Sesini | Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI

Executive Training Officer:

Elena Bondesan | Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI

Teaching Assistant:

Adrien Nicolle | Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI

Introduction

The Florence School of Regulation and the Loyola de Palacio Chair organise the Loyola Autumn School for Researchers (LARS) in collaboration with the International Association for Energy Economics (IAEE). The 2026 edition will take place in Munich and will be closely connected to the IAEE conference, creating a unique opportunity for early-career researchers to engage with the international energy economics community.

LARS is designed for researchers with modelling skills who wish to contribute to the policy and regulatory debate in the energy sector. The programme combines academic guidance, peer learning, and insights into the publication process.

Senior scholars will present lectures on modelling approaches and conceptual framing used to analyse energy policy and regulation and support the broader debate. Participants will also benefit from an editors' panel featuring leading journal editors, who will discuss publication strategies and expectations in the field of energy economics and engineering.

A central element of LARS is the peer-review workshop. Each participant will review another participant's paper and will also receive feedback on their own work from both peers and senior reviewers, including senior scholars, representatives from the FSR, and members of the IAEE scientific community.

Participants will be selected based on the research paper they submit, together with a short motivation letter. We accept working papers, papers under review, and already published papers. Applicants should specify the status of their paper and explain why they are seeking additional feedback.

By submitting a paper to this Autumn School, participants will also be eligible for the annual Loyola Award, which recognises the paper that most clearly demonstrates the potential for research to inform and shape policy and regulatory debates.

Programme

5 September **Day 1: How to publish and build an academic career with applied research**

- 09.30 - 10.00 Welcome to the course, course description, and participants' presentation.
- **Marzia Sesini** | Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI
 - **Elena Bondesan** | Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI
- 10.00 - 11.00 Loyola Lecture: passing wisdom on to the next researchers' generation.
- **Michael Pollitt** | Cambridge Judge Business School
- 11.00 - 11.30 *Coffee break*
- 11.30 - 13.00 Tips from Journal Editors in the field of energy economics and engineering.
- **Pedro Linares** | Comillas Pontifical University
 - **Monica Contestabile** | Nature Sustainability
- 13.00 - 14.30 *Lunch*
- 14.30 - 15.15 Applied Workshop with coaching by the instructors (Part 1).
- **Marzia Sesini** | Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI
 - **Hans Auer** | TU Wien
 - **Lena Kitzing** | DTU and Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI
 - **Pedro Linares** | Comillas Pontifical University
 - **Adrien Nicolle** | Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI
 - **Anna Billerbeck** | Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research
- 15.15 - 15.45 *Coffee break*
- 15.45 - 16.30 Applied Workshop with coaching by the instructors (Part 2).
- **Marzia Sesini** | Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI
 - **Hans Auer** | TU Wien
 - **Lena Kitzing** | DTU and Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI
 - **Pedro Linares** | Comillas Pontifical University
 - **Adrien Nicolle** | Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI
 - **Anna Billerbeck** | Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research
- 16.30 - 17.30 Applied Workshop with peer-to-peer feedback (Part 3).
- **Marzia Sesini** | Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI
 - **Adrien Nicolle** | Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI

6 September **Day 2: Using modeling and conceptual framework in a policy/regulatory debate**

- 09.30 - 11.00 Presentations by researchers sharing their experience using energy models to support regulatory and policy debates (Part 1).
- **Hans Auer** | TU Wien
 - **Pedro Linares** | Comillas Pontifical University

- 11.00 - 11.30 *Coffee break*
- 11.30 - 13.00 Presentations by researchers sharing their experience using energy conceptual frameworks to support regulatory and policy debates (Part 2).
- **Lena Kitzing** | DTU and Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI
 - **Marzia Sesini** | Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI
 - **Adrien Nicolle** | Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI
- 13.00 - 13.20 Loyola Award and final remarks.
- **Marzia Sesini** | Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI
 - **Adrien Nicolle** | Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI
 - **Elena Bondesan** | Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI
- 13.20 - 14.30 *Lunch*
- 17:30 - 18:30 *IAEE Conference Welcome Reception*

Loyola Autumn Research School



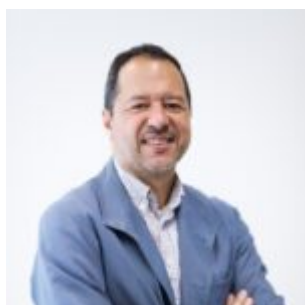
Marzia Sesini | Florence School of Regulation

Marzia Sesini is Research Team Leader – Molecules & Materials at the Florence School of Regulation (FSR), where she leads research and executive training on energy system decarbonisation, with a focus on clean molecules, energy security, industrial transition, and critical raw materials. She is Director of the Loyola Autumn Research School (LARS) and the EU Gas Network Codes course. Her research examines how energy systems, infrastructures, and supply chains evolve under decarbonisation and geopolitical pressures, focusing on security of supply, renewable and low-carbon gases, critical raw materials, market design, and energy governance. Before joining FSR, she worked at the Climate Economics Chair at Université Paris-Dauphine, Snam, Bocconi University, and the Oxford Institute for Energy Studies. She holds a PhD in Process Systems Engineering from Imperial College London, an MSc in Sustainability Management from Columbia University, and an MSc in Engineering from University of Pavia.



Michael Pollitt | University of Cambridge

Michael Pollitt is Professor of Business Economics at the Judge Business School, University of Cambridge. He is Co-Director of the Energy Policy Research Group (EPRG). He is a Fellow in Economics and Management at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge. Michael is a Distinguished Visiting Professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering at Tsinghua University and an honorary director at the Centre for Regulation in Europe, Brussels. Michael was external economic advisor to the GB Energy Regulator, Ofgem, from 2007 to 2011. He has published 14 books and 120 refereed journal articles on efficiency analysis, energy policy and business ethics. He is the co-editor (with Jean-Michel Glachant and Paul Joskow) of the Handbook on Electricity Markets (Edward Elgar, 2021) and of the Handbook on Electricity Regulation (Edward Elgar, 2025). He was Vice President of the International Association for Energy Economics (IAEE) for 2020-23.



Pedro Linares | Comillas Pontifical University

I am Professor of Industrial Engineering at the ICAI School of Engineering, Director of the bp Chair for a Sustainable Net Zero, and co-founder and Director of Economics for Energy. I am also a researcher at the Institute for Technology Research (IIT), Affiliate Researcher at the MIT CEEPR and the U. Cambridge EPRG, and Senior Fellow at Esade EcPol. Currently I serve as Director of the International Doctoral School of Comillas Pontifical University, and as Editor in Chief of The Energy Journal. Regarding my teaching and research, I would define myself as a jack of all trades (accepting of course the downside of it). I am interested in many topics, most of them connected by a broad idea of sustainability, understood as an integral concept that encompasses economics, the environment, social capital, innovation, and justice. I mostly devote my research to study the relationship between energy, economics and environment, and specifically sustainable energy policy, energy efficiency, and energy models; but I am also interested in decision making (in particular multiple criteria decision methods), social justice, higher education policy, and some others. I have published about most of these issues in

the usual journals relevant in the field. I have also been a consultant for several private and public firms and institutions in Spain, Europe and Latin America.



Monica Contestabile | Nature Sustainability

Monica joined the Nature family in 2011 as a Senior Editor at *Nature Climate Change*, where she handled original research and review articles across the entire breadth of social sciences, and interdisciplinary articles integrating natural and social science disciplines in the context of climate and global environmental change. She became the launching Chief Editor of *Nature Sustainability* in 2016. Monica completed her doctoral studies in environmental and development economics at the University of Naples Federico II, Italy; she then held a visiting professor position at University Tecnológico de Monterrey, Mexico, and subsequently joined the sustainable consumption team at WWF-UK where she gained invaluable experience about the challenges of bridging the gap between research and policy domains. Monica is based in Berlin.



Hans Auer | Technische Universität Wien

Hans Auer is Professor in Energy System Economics at Technische Universität Wien (TU Wien) and Adjunct Professor (International Chair in the Energy Transition Programme) at Norwegian University of Science and Technology. Hans has been with Energy Economics Group (EEG) at TU Wien since 1995. After studying Electrical Engineering (1996, MSc), he graduated in Energy Economics (2000, PhD and 2012, Venia Docendi). Hans also was on research leave several times (e.g., TU Berlin, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Massachusetts Institute of Technology). Since the beginning of his academic career, Hans has been focusing on various aspects of energy market design, energy system modelling and energy system decarbonisation, notably in the context of grid and market integration of renewable energy technologies as well as energy sector coupling at several granularity levels. In the last 25 years, Hans has been coordinating a series of European and national projects in the energy transition field for a variety of different clients. He has comprehensive teaching, supervision, reviewing and examination experience of bachelor, master and PhD students, a significant amount of energy conferences contributions worldwide and also authored more than 100 peer-reviewed scientific papers and book contributions. Hans is an active member in different academic and scientific committees and associations.



Lena Kitzing | Technical University of Denmark

Lena Kitzing is since September 2023 part-time Professor at FSR and teaches the course Regulation and Integration of Renewable Energy. She is full Professor of Energy Economics and Policy at the Technical University of Denmark, where she is also leading the multi-disciplinary Division of Wind Energy Systems. Her research spans across the energy-economy-society nexus and especially concerns the effective governance of energy systems through policy instruments, with particular focus on deployment and financing of renewables and their integration into the energy system. Lena is a leading expert in auction design for renewable energy procurement, contracts-for-difference design and the economics and policy for offshore wind energy. She has participated in and coordinated many international research projects. Lena is an experienced lecturer, having developed and

conducted university courses at five different institutions. She supervises PhD students and Master thesis projects. Lena is a sought-after scientific advisor to public and private organisations, is regularly invited to key-note speeches and high-level events, and appears in the media on energy related issues. Since March 2022, Lena is member of the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change, with a mandate by the European Climate Law to advise European policymakers and stakeholders on climate and energy related decisions ([Climate-advisory-board.europa.eu](https://climate-advisory-board.europa.eu)).



Adrien Nicolle | Florence School of Regulation

Adrien Nicolle is a Research Associate at the Florence School of Regulation. His research addresses key regulatory and technical challenges in natural gas, CCS, and hydrogen network infrastructure. Adrien's recent work covers infrastructure planning for CCS transportation, subsidy allocation for CCS adoption, and regulation of gas networks. Adrien holds a PhD in Engineering Economics. He holds a double degree in engineering from Technische Universität Berlin and Ecole Centrale Lyon.



Anna Billerbeck | Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research

Anna Billerbeck is a researcher at the Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research in Germany. She works on national and international research and consultancy projects relating to renewable energy. Her research focuses on energy market design, financing concepts and social preferences in the context of the energy transition. She holds a PhD in Energy Economics from the University of Freiburg.