



18TH ERRA
**ENERGY INVESTMENT
AND REGULATION CONFERENCE**
23-24 September | 2019
RIGA, LATVIA

Call for Conference Abstracts

Purpose

The purpose of the ERRA Energy Investment and Regulation Conference Abstracts is to present new and ongoing research in the energy sector, particularly related to energy regulation and development of energy markets and reflecting the topics discussed during the Conference.

Requirements for the Content

The Candidates may choose among the following topics of the ERRA Conference:

1. Energy Transition and Decentralisation

Electrification, the shift of energy consumption from transport to electricity through electric vehicles, will play an important role in this the energy transition. Additionally, the fact that RES have seen steeply-declining cost curves over the past decade implies their deployment – even without subsidy – is likely to continue in the future either through IPPs or behind-the meter generation. It is believed that this will reduce the average size of the generating units connected in the network, implying more and more generation will be connected on the distribution network. This consequently implies that DSOs will increasingly have to assume a role in providing flexibility in the market, to accommodate differences between consumption and demand in their networks. TSO-DSO cooperation in this regard will be very necessary. The submitted abstracts should adequately address the role of regulators in these important aspects.

2. The Role of Natural Gas in the Energy Transition

Clean energy package has already been adopted by the European parliament as EU sets their vision for the share of renewables in the gross final energy consumption in 2030. It is believed that gas will play a very significant transitional role from the current energy mix to the full renewable energy mix since the gas is relatively cleaner. Biogas biofuels, renewable fuels from excess energy produced will be added to the mix, implying there will be opportunities for gas in this transitional phase. The submitted abstracts should deal with the role of the regulators related to gas in the energy transition.

3. Cyber Security

Today's electric, gas, water, communications, and transportation system operations are increasingly dependent on integrated systems to manage complex resources. Indeed, the introduction of advanced technology and digital controls to create "smart" energy grids offers considerable benefits to utilities and consumers alike, promising efficiency gains in system operations and allowing for great consumer choice and investment in renewable energy sources. While many future investments in the energy sector will help accelerate the "energy transition" to create more decentralized, automated, and clean systems, they will also introduce vulnerabilities that can be exploited by cyberattacks. There is significant risk posed by increasingly digitized and integrated energy systems and there are challenges that utilities, regulators, and investors will all have to face in the coming years, with a particular focus on the costs and benefits of cybersecurity and how will these risks impact future investments needed as part of energy transition. Abstracts submitted under this topic should address these risks and the role of regulators in cyber security.

Primary Group: Conference Presentations

Authors of best Abstracts are invited as presenters of the ERRA Investment and Regulation Conference. ERRA will provide full complimentary passes for the 2-day Conference to invited authors and ERRA will contribute to the travel and accommodation fees up to the maximum value of 1000 EUR/abstract. (Reminder: maximum 3 abstracts will be awarded for conference presentation purposes.)

Secondary Group: Poster Exhibition

ERRA will organize a Poster Exhibition in the Conference Foyer Area presenting research, findings and developments from primary and secondary abstracts. Posters should be descriptive, including visual aids like charts, tables, graphics, photos, etc. The poster should speak for itself and should not include lengthy texts or extensive explanations. Authors should be present in the Poster Exhibition area and be available for questions during times indicated in the Conference Program. ERRA is responsible for any cost related to the printing of the posters. Examples from previous year can be found here: https://erranet.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/ERRA_Conference_Posters_2018.pdf

Selection Process

Abstracts will be evaluated by an internal Abstract Committee. The Committee will select abstracts qualified for the Poster Exhibition. A group of Best Abstracts (primary group) will also have the opportunity to present their work in an assigned slot within an appropriate Conference session (speaker/panellist in max. one slot/session). Remaining abstracts qualified for the Poster Exhibition comprise the secondary group.

Requirements for the Format

- Abstract should be prepared in the following order:
 - *Introduction*: to explain the background work, the practical applications, the nature and the purpose of the paper
 - *Body*: to contain the primary message, with clear line of thought and validation of the techniques described
 - *Conclusion*
 - *References*
 - *Keywords*
 - Abstracts should meet the following requirements:
 - ✓ maximum length requirement (excluding a supplement of max. 2 pages of figures, charts, explanatory remarks): – 500 words
 - ✓ Microsoft Word Format or Open Document Format
 - ✓ English language for the Abstract
 - ✓ Figures and tables should be embedded and not supplied separately
 - ✓ IEEE Citation Style should be used for referencing literature (citation of sources) – [see IEEE Citation Reference](#)
- For Poster format please structure the information in the following way:
 - *Background information*: background information about the topic
 - *Methodology*: description of the work on the topic
 - *Outcomes*: what were the outcomes of the work done
 - *Recommendations*: what recommendations can be provided for policy makers or future work
 - *Reference materials*: max. 2-3
 - *Keywords*
 - General requests:
 - ✓ The Poster should have as less text as possible and focus more on pictures/ diagrams/ charts which tells the story or the main message of the Abstract
 - ✓ Any text that is presented should be organized in the form of bullet-points (6-7 bullet points for each section of the poster), organized in phrases and **emphasizing key-words**
 - ✓ As a general guiding principle, it would be advisable that about half of the area of the poster is covered by text and the rest by charts/ tables or diagrams. This can make the poster more visually appealing and easier to read

Time-line of the Conference Abstract Process

The planned time-line of the Abstract Acceptance process is:

<i>April 18, 2019</i>	Publication of the Call for Conference Abstracts with the conditions, the proposed topics
<i>July 3, 2019</i>	Deadline for the submission of the Abstracts
<i>August 15, 2019</i>	Publication of results
<i>September 23-24, 2019</i>	Presentation and/or posting during the 18 th ERRA Energy Investment and Regulation Conference and Poster Exhibition

Submission

The Candidates should submit their Abstracts and Submission Forms electronically directly to the ERRA Secretariat (E-mail: secretariat@erranet.org).

By sending the Abstract the Candidate consents that the Abstract can be published on the ERRA website and can be presented during the ERRA Energy Investment and Regulation Conference and/or distributed among ERRA Members and can be presented in Poster Format.

Evaluation Criteria

The Committee shall take into consideration the following criteria during the evaluation and selection process:

- the relevance of the proposed general topics and the applicability to key regulatory challenges;
- the clarity of the submitted Abstract;
- comprehensiveness of the work presented in the Abstract,
- adherence to propositions set by this Call for Abstracts, and
- the originality of the submitted Abstract.