



2020 EDITION

CALL FOR RESEARCH PAPERS

Purpose

The purpose of the ERRA REGULATORY RESEARCH AWARD is to present the latest research in the energy sector, particularly related to energy regulation and development of energy markets and reflecting on the most up-to-date hot-topics in the industry.

Requirements for the Format

The Paper should be prepared in the following order (using the [ERRA template](#)):

1. Summary
2. Keywords
3. Introduction
4. Body
main findings and the primary message, with clear line of thought and validation of the techniques described
5. Conclusion
6. References

Papers should meet the following requirements:

- ✓ Minimum length – 2500 words
- ✓ Maximum length – 5000 words (one additional attachment allowed – max. 3 pages)
- ✓ Written in English
- ✓ 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](#)

Requirements for the Content - Topics

The Candidates may choose from among the following topics:

1. Regulatory responses to the COVID-19 pandemic

The COVID19 pandemic proved to have an immense and immediate impact on energy markets by drastically changing *inter alia* demand and pricing dynamics. The Paper should review immediate regulatory policy measures undertaken to contain the impacts of the pandemic on the energy sector and those measures required to restore the technical and financial state of the sector as well as preserve its long-term sustainability. A perfect example could be provided by a case study of successfully implemented regulatory and policy measures and their impacts on restoring normality of operations in the system.

2. Regional Integration, Cross border trade

Regional cooperation and the merging of energy markets is a natural way forward to facilitate energy access and its affordability for end users. In the context of evolving energy landscape towards more decentralized solutions for generation and balancing mechanisms this area needs to be inspected by all energy supply chain stakeholders in order to suggest possible solutions for a smooth and effective energy transition that would involve all market participants in a given area. The proposed Paper should treat about the successful past/ongoing/prospective future framework of cooperation that lead/can lead to positive outcomes for neighbouring energy systems. The focus should be put on integration issues and/or cross border cooperation, such as trade elements.

3. Approaches to Mini-Grid regulation

According to IEA nearly 900 million people do not have access to electricity, the majority of which are located in Sub-Saharan Africa. IRENA expects that a significant portion of these investments will come from off-grid solutions where renewable mini-grids are expected to play a significant role, especially due to the reduced costs of RES technologies. The proposed Paper will discuss regulatory approaches for a streamlined licensing and permitting process for renewable mini-grids and cover light-handed tariff methodology approaches that address modelling approaches that can expedite the approval process, provide the necessary predictability measures that enhance bankability and address regulatory constraints in undertaking detailed reviews of tariff submissions submitted by an increased number of mini-grids.

4. Disruptive Technologies in Energy Systems

Modern energy systems are characterised by *inter alia* their responsiveness towards market signals and their efficiency. Safeguarding a well-functioning energy system today, requires the minimisation of ineffective solutions, measures and consumption patterns that affect it. The role of DSOs and end customers is crucial in this exercise. The latter, empowered by new means such as smart metering systems and new regulatory frameworks that enable their effective usage and management, constitute a new type of entity in the market that define the so-called demand side response but the use of smart meters also contribute to increased energy efficiency, the use of flexible/dynamic tariffs and simplified procedures for the integration of renewables, etc. The proposed Paper should treat about the potential of smart metering to modernize energy systems, its role in end user's evolution to market players and/or should elaborate on a case study of its implementation in a given area and the results of such.

Awards

- **1st place** – The author(s) of the best Paper will be invited to present it during the 19th ERRA Energy Investment and Regulation Conference in Tbilisi in 2021*
- **1st-3rd places** – Authors of the 3 best Papers will be invited as presenters during a dedicated, ERRA Regulatory Research Award Webinar**
- **Select works** – winning and also potentially other, select Papers will be published in the ERRA E-library on the Association's website.

Notes:

* ERRA will provide full complimentary pass(es) for the 2-day Conference to the best author(s)

** The winners should be available for the webinar.

Please also note that the evaluation committee has the power not to announce the winners in case the received Papers do not meet certain high-quality standards.

Submission

The Candidates should submit their Papers in ERRA template and [Submission Form](#) electronically directly to the ERRA Secretariat (E-mail: secretariat@erranet.org).

By sending the Research Paper the Candidate gives consent that the Paper can be published on the ERRA website and can be presented during the ERRA Regulatory Research Award webinar.

Evaluation Criteria

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

- the relevance of the paper with the above-listed topics and the applicability to key regulatory challenges;
- the clarity of the submitted Paper;
- comprehensiveness of the work presented in the Paper,
- adherence to propositions set by this Call for Papers, and
- the originality of the submitted Paper.

Timeline of the process

July 27th, 2020	Publication of this Call for Papers
October 1st, 2020	Deadline for the submission of the Papers
November 15th, 2020	Publication of results
November-December, 2020 (TBD)	ERRA Regulatory Research Award Webinar
2021(TBD)	19 th ERRA Energy Investment and Regulation Conference

Additional information

More information about previous editions of the competition can be found at:

<https://erranet.org/knowledge-base/erra-regulatory-research-award/>

or through direct contact:

CALL US:

Tel.: +36 70 392 5986

WRITE US:

secretariat@erranet.org