



ERRA Regulatory Research Award Call for Paper in 2015

Background

Energy regulation in the ERRA countries has evolved over the last 10-15 years based on the experience of its members and international commitments and practices. The evolution of regulation toward market-based electricity and gas systems in particular has resulted in certain trends and issues. Most regulators now deal with such issues as introduction of competition; the need for expanded investment; affordability and citizen participation; regulatory governance and the political-regulatory relationship as well as other issues.

The ERRA Presidium concluded that there is now a need for applied energy regulatory research, i.e. research that is evidence-based and addresses energy regulatory problems facing ERRA regulators, therefore it established the "ERRA Regulatory Research Award" in 2014.

Award Objectives

1. Expand energy regulatory research and analysis and contribute to improve regulatory practices among ERRA energy regulators.
2. Encourage, reward and expand cross-disciplinary (e.g. among legal, financial, engineering and accounting experts) and joint research among academics, researchers and practicing energy regulators and staff within and outside the regulatory authorities.

Potential Candidates

The nomination for the Award is open for researchers, students, professors, regulatory commissioners and staff members; individuals or group of candidates, who are aware of the goals of the ERRA Award. Those candidates are most welcomed, who are targeting the research collaboration with the ERRA full member National Regulatory Authorities, in their regulatory activity.

Proposed Research Fields

The candidates could choose among the following fields:

- electricity system regulation
- gas system regulation
- district heating regulation
- water supply utility regulation
- regulatory governance

Proposed Topics

To analyse, research, prepare and/or propose regulatory basic concepts, methodologies, approaches and tools related to the following preferred issues:

- Regulation and investment: generation (new and rehabilitation), transmission and distribution systems
- Market development and monitoring
- Regional market integration
- Price regulation approaches; affordability
- Governance, management and operation of regulatory authorities
- Customer empowerment
- Energy policy and regulation: the relationship between government policy and regulators' implementation
- Energy efficiency
- Role of regulators in climate change
- Carbon pricing and regulation

The Candidate(s) shall prepare a Paper for submission through the ERRA Award submission process.

Requirements for the Content and Format

The submitted Papers should meet the following requirements:

- fit to one or more of the above proposed research fields and topics;
- filled submission form;
- length: minimum 2500 words – maximum 5000 words (additional attachments are allowed);
- executive summary: 1 – 1,5 pages;
- Word format;
- English language of the Papers;
- Reference to other literatures (cite sources) in IEEE Citation Reference Reports format.

Time-line of the Award Winning Process

The planned time-line of the Award winning process in 2015:

- November 10, 2014: publishing the Call for Paper with the conditions, the proposed research fields and general topics (through the homepage of ERRA and its member regulatory authorities);
- May 31, 2015: deadline for the submission of the Papers;
- Latest until September 30, 2015: evaluation of Papers and selection of Award winner(s);
- Latest until October 31, 2015: publishing the results and Award giving.

Advisory Committee of the ERRA Regulatory Research Award

ERRA established a Research Award Advisory Committee (RAAC) with the following aim and responsibilities:

- preparing proposed research fields and topics each year for ERRA Presidium approval;
- preparing conditions of Call for Paper and Submission;
- preparing selection criteria's;
- evaluating the submitted Papers;
- recommending the winning research paper(s) to the Presidium.

The prepared suggestions and the evaluation results shall be submitted to the ERRA Presidium for approval.

The members of the RAAC representing different fields and expertise:

- Mr. Robert Archer, former USAID Senior Energy Advisor – Chair of RAAC;
- General Secretary of ERRA;
- Representatives of the ERRA member regulators (representing different regions and different market conditions);
- Consultants working with ERRA;
- Researcher;
- Representative of utilities;
- Academy lecturer.

Award

The Award will be accompanied by monetary compensation in the total maximum gross value of EUR 3,000 (the taxation is the responsibility of the Winner(s)). The RAAC has the power to suggest a shared Award among the participants or may decide not to announce Winner(s). The Award will

be given to the Winner(s) or to the representative of the Winner(s) during the ERRA Investment and Regulation Conference. The representative(s) of the author(s) of the winning paper is (are) expected to attend the Award Giving Ceremony. In case the Winner is not in the position to cover participation cost in the Award Giving Ceremony, ERRA organizes travel and accommodation deducting max. EUR 1,000 (per person) from the gross value of the monetary compensation.

Submission Process

The candidates should submit their Papers electronically directly to the ERRA Secretariat.

The electronic version of the submitted Paper and the filled submission form (available for downloading at the ERRA homepage: www.erranet.org) should be sent to the ERRA Secretariat e-mail address (secretariat@erranet.org) before the declared deadline.

By sending the Paper the Candidate consent that the Paper in case of interest can be published on the ERRA website and/or distributed among ERRA Members.

Evaluation Criteria

The RAAC shall take into consideration the following aspects during the evaluation and selection process:

- the relevance of the selected topic to the proposed research fields, the proposed general topics and conditions of this Call for Paper;
- the practicality of the submitted Paper in daily regulatory practice;
- the clarity of the submitted Paper;
- the applicability of the submitted Paper to the key regulatory challenges;
- the demonstration of teamwork, in which the team members with different educational background and expertise could strengthen each other's activity;
- the demonstration of collaboration between the candidates and NRA staff (if this is not a paid advisory activity);
- the originality of the submitted Paper.