

Ownership and Privatization of Airports, Airlines & Air Traffic Control

2018 European Aviation Conference; Athens, Greece: 8-9 November 2018

Principal sessions & themes

Airport privatisation

What are the lessons learned on effective design of a privatization policy and tendering process? Have airport privatizations lived up to the social expectations that motivated the policy?

Airline ownership

Airlines are restricted by archaic ownership and control rules, which have influenced the structure and profitability of the industry and prevented the emergence of the type of global companies found in other international industries. Why has reform been so difficult and how might it be achieved? What are the implications of the changing nature of investment in airlines which make it increasingly difficult to identify who the ultimate owners really are?

Regional air connectivity: what role for government support?

Remote regions need access to goods and services, and also links to the centre to foster economic growth in the regions. The effectiveness of such policies, as well as their value-for-money outcomes have been contested by many experts. How can governments surmount the challenge of providing remote communities with adequate levels of air connectivity and provide access to congested hub airports with significant barriers to entry?

Airport regulation

Is regulation needed to constrain potential abuse of market power by airports? What are the arguments that airport competition and countervailing power sufficiently constrain airport pricing? What types of regulation are appropriate for different types of privatized airports?

ATC - reform, technology & ownership

Compared to the (state owned) US system, the European system of ATC is poorly coordinated, uncompetitive and inefficient. It is also mostly state owned. Would privatisation help to improve performance? ATC is also facing new technology which will allow control of drones and will lead to self-separation of aircraft. Should the state or private ATCs manage this innovation?

Industry symposium:

Challenges for Air Transport in regions heavily depended on tourism.

Selected Speakers	Institution
Anne Graham	University of Westminster
Dimitrios Dimitriou	Uni of Thrace; Athens Airport
Jagoda Egeland	OECD
Dimitrios Dimitriou	Aviation Consultant
Daniel Boeshertz	DG COMP
Rigas Doganis	Cranfield
Peter Griffiths	Formerly of Productivity Review Body (PRB)
Peter Forsyth	Monash University, Australia
Marina Efthymiou	Dublin City University, Ireland
Jeffrey N Shane	General Counsel, IATA
Barry Humphreys	Aviation Consultant
Warren Mundy	Formerly of Productivity Commission
Dan Elliot	Frontier Economics
Harry Bush	Former CAA Director

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- Accommodation and
- Travel arrangements

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