

Ownership and Privatization of Airports, Airlines and Air Traffic Control: Getting it right

Athens Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ACCI)¹

Preliminary Draft as of 29 Oct 2018

Day 1

1. Welcome

- Regional Authorities
- Dean of Democritus University of Thrace
- EAC representative

8:45 – 9:15

2. Minister of Transport, *tbc*

9:15– 9:30

3. Martin Kunz Memorial Lecturer

9:30 –10:15

- Chair: Andreas Papatheodorou, University of Aegean
- Anne Graham, Westminster University
Airport Privatisation: A Successful Journey?

Coffee Break

10:15 –10:45

4. Airport Privatization

10:45am – 12:30pm

An intense debate has been launched about airport privatization. What are the lessons learned on effective design of a privatization policy and tendering process? Have airport privatizations lived up the social expectations that motivated the policy?

- Chair: William G Morrison, Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario
- Nicole Adler, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- Jody Kositsky, InterVISTAS
- Brian Pearce, IATA

Lunch

12:30 – 13:30

¹ 7-9, Akadimias Street 10671, KOLONAKI , ATHENS , GREECE
<http://www.eac-athens.com/index.php>

5. Airport Regulation

13:30-15:00

Accompanying the debate on the merits of privatization is there a need for any type of regulation to constrain any potential abuse of market power by airports? What are the arguments that airport competition and countervail power sufficiently constrains airport pricing? What are the arguments that all airports need constraint? What types of regulation are appropriate for different types of privatized airports?

- Chair: Peter Forsyth, Monash
- Harry Bush, Former CAA-UK Director
- Warren Mundy, Former Commissioner Productivity Commission Australia
- Christophe Dussart, Deputy Head of Unit Aviation Policy, Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport
- James Wiltshire, Head of Policy, IATA

Afternoon tea break

15:00 - 15:30

Session 6. Regional Industry Symposium: Innovation and Challenges in Air Transport

Key Note Speech

15:30 – 15:50

Dimitrios J. Dimitriou, Democritus University of Thrace & Chairman of the BoD, Athens International Airport

Air Transport as a service: key priorities towards innovation and business resilience

15:50 – 17:30 Business resilience and sustainable growth

- Thanos Vourdas, Secretary General of Transport, Ministry of Transport
- Konstantinos Lintzerakos, Governor of Hellenic Civil Aviation Authority
- Athens International Airport, tba
- Fraport Greece, tba
- Dimitrios Gerogiannis, Aegean Airlines, CEO
- Vasiliki Christidi, Aviareps Hellas sa, General manager
- Dimitris Papamichail, Goldair Handling Greece, CEO

17:30 - 18:30 Speed Mentoring with for young professionals and researchers

The aim of the speed mentoring activity is to briefly introduce researchers and young professionals to the diverse career options available in the aviation sector by hearing directly from aviation professionals participated in the industry symposium panel about their experience in the aviation sector and the role they play in the sector.

Coordinated by Maria Sartzetaki, DUTh

Gala Dinner: Venue tba

20.00-23.00

After Dinner Speech: Thomas Immelmann, A&O Airport&Outlet Consult

Day 2

Review of Previous Day's Proceedings

8.45 to 9.15

- Michael Tretheway, InterVISTAS Consulting Vancouver
- Hans-Martin Niemeier, University of Applied Sciences of Bremen

8. ITF Session: Government Support for Regional Air Connectivity: Why, how, and at what cost?

9:15 – 10:30

All OECD countries provide some form of support for regional air connectivity. The rationale behind these policies is not only to provide remote communities with access to goods and services, but also to establish business links between the centre and the periphery to foster economic growth in the regions. The latter objective is particularly important in the light of growing economic disparities among regions in the OECD for the past few decades. The effectiveness of such policies in terms of reaching their objectives, as well as their value-for-money outcomes have, however, been contested by many experts. In this session, key experts will discuss how governments can approach the challenge of providing remote communities with adequate levels of air connectivity.

- Chair: Jagoda Egeland, ITF-OECD
- Jon Inge Lian, Executive Senior Advisor, Avinor
- Michael Stanton-Geddes, ACI Head of Economics & Competition
- Mike Tretheway, InterVISTAS Consulting Vancouver
- James Wiltshire, Head of Policy, IATA

Morning Coffee Break

10:30-11:00

9. Airline Ownership and Liberalisation

11:00am-12:30am

The trend around the world to privatise airlines, combined with a more pro-competition approach to their regulation, has achieved considerable success and has been almost universally welcomed. However, airlines continued to be restricted by archaic ownership and control rules, reflective of a much earlier era, 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. The economic argument in favour of reform appears to have been largely won, but the political barriers remain. This session will review why progress has been so difficult and how reform might be achieved. It will in particular focus on the changing nature of investment in airlines which make it increasingly difficult to identify who the ultimate owners really are.

- Chair: Dr Barry Humphreys, BKH Aviation Ltd and formerly a Director of Virgin Atlantic Airways
- Volodymyr Bilotkach, Newcastle University
- Daniel Boeshertz, EC DG COMP

- Kostas Iatrou, Director General, Hermes - Air Transport Organisation
- Jeff Shane, former Under Secretary for Policy at the US Department of Transportation

Lunch

12:30-13.30

10. Implementation of New Technology: Ownership Issues and the Reform of Air Traffic Control:

13:30 - 14:45

The European ATM system is deemed highly fragmented and inefficient when compared to the USA. Increasingly, capacity is better utilized, but, but Delays and frustrations are mounting. The system is also largely state-owned. What can be done to address the frustrations? Can institutional changes, performance based regulation or technology provide better airspace utilisation? What is the best way to manage the necessary change?

- Chair: Andrew Charlton, Aviation Advocacy & Executive Director ATM Policy Institute
- Giancarlo Ferrara, Head of Techno Sky R&D and Support to Innovative Operations, ENAV
- Marina Efthymiou, Dublin City University
- Vitan Todorov, Financial Director and Chief Accountant BULATSA

Coffee Break

14.45 to 15.15

11. The Debate – Airport Privatization, the record and the future

15.15 – 16:15

This year's closing debate pulls the evidence together to debate whether airport privatization has lived up to its expectations and whether light handed or heavy handed regulation should be used, and whether all airports need constraint or weather constraint should be limited

- Chair: Dan Elliot Director of Frontier, frontier-economics
- Side 1: Cathal Guiomard, Dublin City University and Ulrich Schulte-Strathaus, former executive Secretary General of Association of European Airlines
- Side 2: Harry Bush, Former CAA-UK Director and David Starkie, Economicsplus

12-Closure and Invitation to EAC 2019

16.15 to 16.30

- Peter Malanik, Austrian Aviation Association
- Hans-Martin Niemeier, University of Applied Sciences of Bremen
- Michael Tretheway, InterVISTAS Consulting Vancouver

Event fees:

Including Gala Dinner €500, GARS/ATARD €350, Student (limited number) €150