

7th European Aviation Conference (EAC 2018)

8 - 9 November 2018, Athens, Greece

Main Hall of Athens Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ACCI)

6th Floor - Hall: Ermis, 7 Akadimias str, 10671 Athens, Greece

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

EAC 2018 Agenda

Welcome reception (Wednesday 7th, 2018)

Cocktail - Gathering (complementary by EAC)

National Hellenic Research Foundation – Main Hall

48 Vassileos Constantinou Avenue, 11635, Athens, Greece

19:00

Join Dinner with COST-ATARD workshop

Magemenos Avlos Restaurant

4 Amynta str., Proskopon Square, Pagkrati, 11635 Athens (<https://magemenosavlos.com/?lang=en>)

20:00

Day 1 (Thursday 8th, 2018)

EAC 2018: Registration

8:30 - 9:15

(Registration and Info Desk at the entrance of conference hall)

1. Welcome - opening

9:15 – 9:30

- Hans-Martin Niemeier, University of Applied Sciences of Bremen, EAC Advisory Board
- Dimitrios Dimitriou, Democritus University of Thrace, EAC 2018 Organizer

2. Martin Kunz Memorial Lecture:

9:30 - 10:15

Chair: Andreas Papatheodorou, University of Aegean

- Anne Graham, Westminster University, UK

Airport Privatisation: A Successful Journey?

Coffee Break

10:15 - 10:45

3. EAC Opening: message by authorities

10:45 - 11:30

Chair: Konstantinos Lintzerakos, Governor of Hellenic Civil Aviation Authority

- Evangelos Drimpetas, Dean of Social, Political and Economic Sciences Faculty, Democritus University of Thrace, Greece
- Attica Prefecture, tbc
- Christos Spirtzis, Minister of Infrastructure and Transports, Hellenic Republic

4. Airport Privatization

11:30 - 13:00

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 to the social expectations that motivated the policy?

Chair: William G Morrison, School of Business and Economics at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario

- Nicole Adler, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- Jody Kositsky, InterVISTAS
- Brian Pearce, IATA

Lunch break

13:00 - 14:00

5. Airport Regulation

14:00 - 15:30

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 University

- Harry Bush, formerly Director of Economic Regulation at the UK CAA
- Warren Mundy, Former Commissioner Productivity Commission Australia
- Christophe Dussart, Head of Unit 'Aviation Policy', DG Move at European Commission
- James Wiltshire, IATA

Afternoon tea break

15:30 - 16:00

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

16:00 - 16:45

- **Symposium Opening Speech**

Constantinos Michalos, President of Athens Chamber of Commerce and Industry

- **Key Note Speech**

Dimitrios J. Dimitriou, Professor Associate, Dept of Economics, Democritus University of Thrace - Chairman of the BoD, Athens International Airport

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

Panel: Challenges towards business resilience and sustainable growth

16:45 - 18:00

Chair: Professor Papadimitriou Efstratios, University of Piraeus, Greece

- Thanos Vourdas, Secretary General of Transport, Ministry of Transport
- Dimitrios Dimitriou, Athens International Airport, Chairman of the BoD
- Dimitrios Gerogiannis, Aegean Airlines, CEO
- Vasiliki Christidi, SkyExpress Airlines & SwissPort Handling, Aviareps Hellas, GM
- Dimitris Papamichail, Goldair Handling Greece, CEO
- Fraport Greece, *tbc*

7. Speed Mentoring for young professionals and researchers

18:00 - 19:00

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. Regional industry symposium panel members will speak about their experiences and the roles they have played and currently play in the aviation sector

Coordinated by Dr. Maria Sartzetaki, Dept. of Economics, Democritus University of Thrace

Gala Dinner

20:00 – 23:00

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

Dinner Venue

Royal Olympic, Athens Gourmet Restaurant: Ioannis, Roof Garden, 7th Floor, 28-34 Athanasiou Diakou Str. 117 43, Athens

https://www.royalolympic.com/athens_gourmet_restaurant_athens/

The gourmet restaurant in the heart of Athens Historic Centre with a panoramic fantastic view of the Temple of Zeus, the Acropolis, the National Gardens, the Marble Stadium, the Hadrian's Arch, the Lycabettus Hill, the Parliament, and the Herodion Theatre.

Day 2 (Friday 9th, 2018)

8. Review of Previous Day's Proceedings

9.00- 9.30

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

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

9:30 – 11:00

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, Airport Council International, Head of Economics & Competition
- Mike Tretheway, InterVISTAS Consulting Vancouver
- James Wiltshire, Head of Policy, IATA

Coffee Break

11:00-11:30

10. Airline Ownership and Liberalisation

11:30 - 13:00

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: Barry Humphreys, BKH Aviation Ltd, formerly Director of Virgin Atlantic Airways

- Daniel Boeshertz, EC DG COMP

- Jeff Shane, General Counsel, IATA - former Under Secretary for Policy at the US Department of Transportation
- Kostas Iatrou, Director General, Hermes - Air Transport Organisation
- Volodymyr Bilotkach, Newcastle University

Lunch

13:00 - 14:00

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

14:00 - 15:30

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, Long Term Research Coordinator and 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

Afternoon tea break

15:30 – 16:00

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

16:00 - 16:45

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

- Yes: Ulrich Schulte-Strathaus, former executive Secretary General of Association of European Airlines and Cathal Guiomard, Dublin City University
- No: Harry Bush, Former CAA-UK Director and David Starkie, Economicsplus

Closure and Invitation to EAC 2019

16:45 – 17:00

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