# Call for papers and panels:
# Regulatory Governance in Times of Turbulence, Disruptive Technologies and Crises of Trust

**European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR)**
**9th Biennial Conference of the Standing Group on Regulatory Governance**

*University of Antwerp, Belgium 12-14 July 2023*

We would like to **invite proposals for panels or individual papers** for the 2023 Biennial Conference of the ECPR Standing Group on Regulatory Governance, hosted by the University of Antwerp (GOVTRUST Centre of Excellence) from 12 to 14 July 2023. The Biennial Conference is the leading interdisciplinary conference on regulation and regulatory governance in Europe, attracting researchers from all over the globe working in a wide range of disciplines. It provides an opportunity to present research in progress and to get feedback and meet both old and new friends within the field and to learn more about the cutting edge of regulatory governance research.

Conference highlights include the Standing Group Award for Regulatory Studies Development for lifetime career achievement, awarded to a senior scholar who made an outstanding contribution to the field, the Giandomenico Majone Prize for the best conference paper by a junior member of the profession, as well as keynote lectures, round tables, social activities and more. The 2023 Biennial Conference will also coincide with the final conference of the EU H2020 TiGRE project (Trust in Governance and Regulation in Europe) and include activities offered by TiGRE such as a keynote, a round table presenting the main project results, and a series of panels on the topic of trust in regulatory governance.

## Theme and Topics

We are interested in receiving panel/paper proposals relating to any aspect of the field of regulation and regulatory studies. Our main interest is to promote high-quality, rigorous research regardless of methodological approach. We welcome proposals from across a range of disciplines *political science, law, public administration and policy analysis, economics, international relations, organisational studies, sociology and anthropology, as well as interdisciplinary proposals*. Papers can be theoretical-conceptual or empirical, descriptive or explanatory, but they should have a clear conceptual and theoretical basis and meet appropriate methodological standards. We are encouraging papers using innovative (combinations of) state-of-the-art research methods (e.g. machine learning and automated coding). We encourage comparative papers and papers going beyond Western countries and including the Global South.

Besides proposals on regulation in general and/or dealing with specific sectors, panels and papers can deal with the functioning of regulatory *regimes* (state regulation, self-regulation and co-regulation), regulatory *processes* (rule-making and standard-setting, policy making, supervision, enforcement and compliance), the capacities, roles and behaviours of organisational and individual *actors* (such as regulatory agencies and regulatory officials, politicians and policy makers, front-line enforcers,

regulatory intermediaries and private regulators, courts, interest groups, regulatees and beneficiaries), _multi-level dynamics_ (international, national and subnational public and non-governmental actors as regulators), regulatory _instruments and styles_, hard and soft norms, regulatory _innovation and reforms_, and _criteria_ such as independence, coordination, reputation, transparency, accountability, effectiveness, legitimacy, democratic values and rule of law, equality and societal justice.

As the conference theme indicates, we also welcome papers with respect to _crisis governance and regulation,_ focusing on how regulation in all its forms as well as regulatory actors are affected by - and are changed in order to tackle - different crises (related to health pandemics, migration and diversity, energy, international security, political polarisation, climate change and biodiversity loss and others). Moreover, papers may focus on the relevance of regulation to seek for robust solutions of _wicked issues and grand societal challenges_. In addition, papers focusing on the _regulation of new, emerging or disruptive technologies_ such as regulation of AI, autonomous systems and robotics, platform industries, block chain and cloud technology, gene editing and others are invited, as well as papers which discuss ways to improve both the capacity of regulation to induce innovation, while simultaneously mitigate risks and avoid adverse societal effects (such as regulatory sandboxes or principle-based regulation, and communicative strategies on risk regulation).

Finally, as the final conference of the TiGRE project is organised along with the Biennial Conference, we welcome in particular papers dealing with _regulation and trust_, including how regulation and trust/distrust relate, how actors assess the trustworthiness of regulatory regimes, agencies, actors and markets, as well as how trust dynamics within and between actors affect the functioning and legitimacy of regulatory regimes. Papers can also connect all abovementioned topics with societal and political trust.

## Call for Papers and Panels Deadline

The deadline for paper and panel proposals is **Wednesday, March 15th, 2023**.

All proposals will undergo peer review. Notifications of acceptance of panels and papers will be sent out early April 2023. Approved papers not submitted as part of a panel will be allocated to an appropriate panel.

Full papers of accepted proposals should be made available by 26 June 2023.

## Submission of Panel/Paper Proposals

Paper and panel proposals are to be **submitted exclusively through My ECPR**. You can access the submission system through the conference website: https://ecpr.eu/Events/227.

_Panels_ can be submitted as 'closed' panels consisting of 3-4 invited papers (with paper titles and authors), as fully 'open' panels, or as combination of invited papers and free slots. Panels will last 90 minutes, or can run over several consecutive 90 minute slots. Panel proposals should include a panel title (max. 30 words) and abstract that introduces the panel theme and scope (max. 500 words). You should also provide the details of the panel chair, co-chairs (if you have them), and the discussant.

_Paper_ proposals should include a paper title (max. 30 words), an abstract (max. 300 words), the authors and their e-mail addresses, and 3-5 keywords.

## Fees and Grants

Fees for regular participants are set at 320 EUR. Fees for students (including PhD students) are set at 180 EUR. The welcome reception, lunches, coffee breaks, and the gala dinner are included in the conference fee.

We expect to have a small number of grants/fee waivers available for applicants. More information is available on the event website: https://ecpr.eu/Events/227.

**Further information**

Further information regarding the conference and the submission system is available on the conference website: https://ecpr.eu/Events/227

In case of questions, please do not hesitate to contact the ECPR Events Team at the following e-mail address: sgconferences@ecpr.eu.

Further information on the ECPR Standing Group on Regulation & Governance can be obtained at: http://www.reggov.org/.

We look forward to welcoming you in Antwerp in July 2023!

Best wishes,
On behalf of the Antwerp 2023 Organising Committee,
Koen Verhoest, Esther van Zimmeren and Bernardo Rangoni