VIRIDIS2025
VILNIUS REGULATORY DELIVERY INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

EPLO-IRIDE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

MAJOR PUBLIC RISKS: ACHIEVING EFFECTIVE REGULATORY SUPERVISION

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

Vilnius, 11 - 12 February 2025

Vilnius University (Aula parva, main building, 3 Universiteto St., Vilnius)

Organisers:

EPLO
European Public Law Organization

Institute for Regulatory Innovation, Delivery and Effectiveness

VMVT
VALSTYBINĖ MAISTO IR VETERINARIJOS TARNYBA

Partners:

Nordic Council of Ministers Office in Lithuania

COBALT
It's a big deal

Background

The conference gathers complementary perspectives on major public risks and how to effectively prevent and manage them using regulation, in particular by making regulatory supervision more effective.

It covers several crucial areas both for public safety and health (food safety, environmental protection) and for strategic security (energy, water supply, networks), with presenters and participants from various countries and fields of expertise. Making regulations more effective (in particular at the "delivery" stage) through better understanding of the mechanisms of risk, improved risk data, overcoming of silos, and systematic information sharing, will be the fundamental cross-cutting themes of the conference.

Insights from the conference will help guide future regulatory transformation and strengthen the overall governance of major public risks, including those to public health, environment, and infrastructure. More systemic and effective regulatory supervision, better involving all stakeholders, will help improve risk governance, delivering improved public welfare and security.

Objectives

-Consolidate knowledge and insights on major public risks and challenges in managing them
-Present perspectives on problems and innovative practices in regulatory supervision
-Provide a platform for knowledge-sharing, capacity building and cooperation
-Bring together international experts and representatives from various industries
-Ensure that regulatory agencies are prepared and able to adopt forward-thinking solutions.

Expected outcomes

-Contribute to building stronger institutions and more coherent cross-institutions systems that can mitigate or prevent major risks while sustaining public confidence.
-Develop strategic guidance and actionable recommendations for public institutions.
-Promote cooperation between key institutions and stakeholders on public risk management.

Organisers & Co-organisers: European Public Law Organisation – IRIDE, Vilnius State University – Faculty of Law, Environmental Protection Department of Lithuania (AAD), State Food and Veterinary Service of Lithuania (VMVT), Association of Supervisory Institutions of Lithuania (PIA)

Registration link:
 https://www.eventbrite.com/e/vilnius-regulatory-delivery-international-symposium-tickets-1105498699369?aff=oddtdtcreator

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

DAY 1: PLENARY AND PARALLEL SESSIONS

8:30-9:00   Registration

9:00-9:45   Welcome & Opening of the Conference

H.E. Eglė Radišauskienė, the Chancellor of the Ministry of Economy & Innovation; H.E. Marius Vaščega, EU Ambassador; Prof. Spyridon Flogaitis, Director, European Public Law Organisation (EPLO); Assoc. Prof. Dr. Haroldas Šinkūnas, Dean, Law Faculty, Vilnius University.

9:45-11:15 SESSION 1
PLENARY: REGULATING PUBLIC RISKS

Exposing the major public risks that regulation exists to tackle, the ways regulation can work or fail, and how to improve regulation of public risks.

Speakers:
• Dr. Florentin Blanc, Director, IRIDE, "Regulating public risks more effectively"
• Giedrius Kadziauskas, Director, AAD (Lithuanian Environmental Protection Department), "Lithuanian experience in improving management of public risks"
• Kristine Vlagsma, Head of Unit, Joint Research Centre, European Commission
• Giuseppa Ottimofiore, Program Lead, OECD, Regulatory Policy Division

Panel:
Session speakers, plus the Minister of Economy and Prof. S. Flogaitis

11:15-11:35 Coffee break

11:35-13:05 SESSION 2
PLENARY: CHALLENGES IN EFFECTIVE REGULATION OF MAJOR PUBLIC RISKS

Discussing some of the areas where public risks are particularly difficult to tackle and regulation has been facing major challenges, as well as directions that can be taken to address these challenges.

Speakers:
• Graham Russell, CEO, UK OPSS, "Product safety and construction risks – improving regulation and regulatory delivery"
• Régis de Montardy, Head of Risk Management, Sanofi, "Dealing with known and unknown risks – an international business perspective"
• Audrone Mikalauskiene, Director, VMVT (LT Food and Veterinary Service)
• Mylaine Desrosiers, Head, Hydrogen Development & Former Head, Transversal Regulation, Transport Canada

Panel:
Session speakers, plus Ludovic Rigaux (Energy Security Officer, Federal Economic Service, Belgium) and Saulius Rimutis (Planning and oversight project manager, EPSO-G)

13:05-14:15 Lunch break

14:15-15:45 SESSION 3
PARALLEL SESSIONS: ENERGY; ENVIRONMENT AND SAFETY RISKS; FOOD AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Format: short presentations – panel discussion with audience questions

Current & emerging risks, challenges for regulation, how to address them
(Panels gathers speakers and a facilitator)

Speakers:

Critical Infrastructure:
• Ludovic Rigaux, Energy Security Officer, Federal Economic Service, Belgium
• Kristina Rimkunaite, Subject Matter Expert, NATO Energy Security Center of Excellence (Vilnius)
• Jelena Diliene, Deputy Chair, LT VERT (Energy Regulatory Commission)
• Jarkko Saarimäki, Director General, Traficom, Finland

Environment and Safety Risks:
• Minna Päivinen, Director of Research and Development, TUKES (Safety and Chemicals Agency), Finland
• Simon Bingham, SEPA
• Er. Ho Siong Hin, Vice Dean, MOM Academy & Senior Director (International WSH), Ministry of Manpower of Singapore
• Baiba Vitolina, Head, BVKB – Construction Control Bureau, Latvia

Food Safety:
• Donald Macrae, Consultant, "Transformation of Food Regulatory Systems"
• Dr Abdul Jalil, Assistant CEO (Operations), Singapore Food Agency
• Giorgio Smaldone (Prevention and Public Health Unit, Animal Health and Bacterial Diseases for the Campania Region, Italy)
• Dr Gordana Ristic, Consultant, "Managing Risks in Food Safety Inspections"

Good Governance Public Health:
• Vaidotas Gruodys, Director, National Public Health Centre under the Ministry of Health
• Chan Weng Chee, Deputy Director (Aged & Ancillary Service Regulations & Transformation) Health Regulation Group, Ministry of Health, Singapore
• Jooske Vos, Chair of EPSO (European Partnership for Supervisory Organizations in Health and Care)
• Lauras Butkevičius, Senio lecturer at the Vilnius University Faculty of Law; "Application of principles of good administration in different areas of supervision of economic entities - do we have (need) a unified standard?"

15:45-16:05 Coffee break

16:05-17:40 PLENARY – HOW DO WE MANAGE PUBLIC RISKS?

Format: short presentations – panel discussion with audience questions

Misconceptions about public risk, things to not forget to tackle it, and lessons for regulators and stakeholders

Speakers:
• Darius Kuliešius, Deputy Chair of the Council, Lithuania Communications Regulatory Authority
• Ira Helsloot, Radboud University, "Not missing the risk forest for the tree!"
• Kevin Myers, President, International Association of Labour Inspectors & Former Deputy and Acting CEO, Great Britain Health and Safety Executive, "Understanding how risk materializes"
• Donald Macrae, Consultant, "How can authorities deal with public risk?"

Panel:
Session speakdoners, Genius Lukošius, Director at Lithuanian Transport Safety Administration

17:40-18:00 PLENARY – WRAP UP

Speakers:
• Giedrius Kadziauskas, Director, AAD
• Dr. Florentin Blanc, Director, IRIDE
• George Kalpadakis, Chair of the Board, IRIDE

END OF CONFERENCE DAY 1

12TH OF FEBRUARY 2025

DAY 2: WORKSHOPS - SHARING EXPERIENCE(S)

Vilnius University (Main building: Aula Parva Hall, 3 Universiteto St., Vilnius)

09:00-09:30 OPENING SESSION

• Prof. Dr. Jurgita Paužaitė-Kulvinskienė, Law Faculty, Vilnius University, "Risk-Based Approach to Investigating Economic Entities and the New Role of State Regulatory Agencies"
• Dr. Florentin Blanc, IRIDE, Introduction to the workshops

09:30-11:00 PARALLEL WORKSHOPS
Energy – Environment and Safety – Food and Water – Public Health

Participants are free to mingle with presenters in a larger room (1 room per workshop) for lively interactions. Whiteboards, flipcharts and projectors will be made available to presenters.

Workshop topics will cover:
• Understanding and assessing risk;
• Working with data;
• Cooperating across government institutions;
• Cooperating between stakeholders.

TOPIC 1. ENERGY, TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY (AULA PARVA HALL)

• Ira Helsloot: "What does it mean to be really risk-based – insights from fire and energy safety"
• Dr. Emmanuel Eckard, Senior policy advisor, IRIDE: "Risk-based regulation of hydrogen for maritime applications"
• Mylaine Desrosiers: "integrating data sources for risk-based screening of shipments in transportation"
• Vytautas Ambrazas, Policy Analyst, OECD: "Building outcomes-based regulatory delivery in construction: developing a data-driven, risk based approach"

TOPIC 2. ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC HEALTH (238)

• Simon Bingham: "the IRAM model and effective implementation of IMPEL recommendations on risk-based environmental inspections"
• Chan Weng Chee "Using innovative technology to manage health care risks"
• Dr. Florentin Blanc"Integrating data sources and perspectives to improve public health risk management"
• Remigijus Šimašius, Principal Advisor, IRIDE, "How to deal with difficult cases?"

TOPIC 3. FOOD AND WATER (239)

• Indre Stoskuviene, VMVT (LT Food and Veterinary Service), "Developing risk criteria and risk-based planning"
• Donald Macrae "International experience in supporting institutions to move from process-focus to outcomes-focus"
• Giorgio Smaldone (Prevention and Public Health Unit, Animal Health and Bacterial Diseases for the Campania Region, Italy): "Campania's experience in making food safety supervision more effectively risk-based"
• Ming-Cheng Chen, Deputy Director of River and Coast Division, Water Resources Agency of the Ministry of Economic Affairs Taiwan: "Experience Sharing on Water Resource Management and Resilience Adaptation for Alternating Droughts and Floods"

TOPIC 4. AUTOMATED RISK ASSESSMENT

• Lukas Lukoševičius (Chief Advisor to the Department of Governance): "setting up of risk assesment tool for few volunteer organizations".

11:00-11:20 Coffee break

11:20-12:50 PARALLEL WORKSHOPS
Energy – Environment and Safety – Food and Water – Public Health

TOPIC 1. ENERGY, TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY (AULA PARVA HALL)

• Gediminas Almantas, "Climate change mitigation v. climate resilience of the infrastructure and the role of the regulators"
• Kevin Myers, "Implementing a "supply chain" approach to construction safety"
• Ira Helsloot, "Why "traditional" fire safety measures fail"

TOPIC 2. ENVIRONMENT AND SAFETY (238)

• Gita Sematoviciute (AAD)" "Developing risk criteria and risk-based planning"
• Remigijus Šimašius, Principal Advisor, IRIDE, "The Risks of not Tolerating Risks"
• Er. Ho Siong Hin, Vice Dean, MOM Academy & Senior Director (International WSH), Ministry of Manpower of Singapore: "Implementing Safety Case for Major Hazard Installation in Singapore"
• Simon Bingham: "looking at effective systems to control risks when conducting environmental inspections"

TOPIC 3. FOOD SAFETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH (239)

• Carol Fernandez and Shirley Chua (Operations Policy & Development Department, Singapore Food Agency): "The transformation of Singapore's food safety regulatory system"
• Gordana Ristic: "International experience in creating risk-based check-lists in food safety"
• Eystein Oveland (Executive Director, Nordic-Baltic Committee on Food Analysis) and Egidijus Pumputis (Director of NMVRI): "aspects of regulatory
supervision of food/water from NMKL's and NMVRVI's perspectives. "
• Rasmus Pruus and Pilleriin Kalmus, Service Managers, Environmental Health, Estonian Health Board.
• Irena Taraškevičienė, Head of the Public Health Department, National Public Health Centre.

TOPIC 4. AUTOMATION AND DATA-DRIVEN APPROACHES IN RISK MANAGEMENT (SENATE HALL)

• Dr. Florentin Blanc, Vytautas Ambrazas, Dr. Emmanuel Eckard

16:15-16:45 CLOSING REMARKS BY CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS AND HOSTS