



Speaker Information

(Alphabetical order)

- Leonie BELL
Managing Consultant, OXERA

Leonie specializes in the economics of the financial services sector and corporate finance. Examples of her recent financial services work include an evaluation of the adequacy of investor compensation arrangements in EU Member States; analysis of investment restrictions for EU pension funds; developing a methodology for measuring the benefits of financial services regulation; analysis of the competitive position of the UK asset management industry; and a study of contractual and regulatory arrangements for custodian banks and depositaries in Europe. Leonie also works on a variety of finance issues in other industry sectors, including capital structure, asset valuation, cost of capital, and profitability, and for example conducted a study for the European Commission on the impact of golden shares held by governments in EU privatized companies. She has managed projects for the FSA, European Commission, European Asset Management Association, London Stock Exchange, Corporation of London, and other clients.

- Alexandra BERKETI
Senior Officer, CESR

Alexandra Berketi is a Greek citizen and holds a Ph.D in Actuarial Science from Heriot-Watt University in the UK. She's a senior officer at the CESR Secretariat, in charge of the works of the EcoNet Group and a staff member at the Department of Research of the Hellenic Capital Market Commission. Alexandra has served as a research associate at the National Bank of Greece's Risk Management Division, specializing in model development for asset-liability management and has offered academic courses in financial economics in Heriot-Watt University and Cyprus University. Her current research interests involve financial regulation, regulatory impact assessment and monitoring alternative investment vehicles' risks.

- Ramona BRATU
Director of Bank Products and Services, SPI Romania

Bringing to bear a long managerial experience in various Romanian banks (Unicredit Tiriac, Eximbank, Commercial Bank of Greece, Daewoo Bank and Dacia Felix Bank), Ramona has covered a variety of banking areas such as individual and corporate lending, trade finance, foreign loans and treasury. Ramona's distinctive contribution to the SPI Secretariat activities is her understanding of how laws and regulations affect the business processes and how the delivery of bank products and services could be improved through changes in regulations. After graduating from Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest, Ramona is a PhD candidate at the same institution.

- Riccardo BROGI
Senior Regulatory Economist, Convergence Program and South-East Europe Regional RIA Program Director

Riccardo Brogi brings to Convergence his pioneering experience in designing Regulatory Impact Assessment analyses at the Italian Banking Association where he applied Law and Economics methodology to all policy interventions he worked on. His main fields were as follows: insolvency law, real estate enforcement procedures, positive information sharing and credit bureau with privacy implications, corporate governance. He taught Economics of Financial Intermediaries as assistant at LUISS University in Rome. Riccardo holds a degree in Economics from the University of Florence and attended Microeconomics Summer course at London School of Economics and Political Science.

- Stephen DICKINSON
Senior Regulator, UK Financial Services Authority

Stephen Dickinson has a BA (Hons) 1st Class in Politics, Philosophy and Economics and an MPhil in Economics both from Oxford University where he attended Pembroke College. Stephen joined the Royal Bank of Scotland in January 1992 where he worked in the Economics Office specialising in country risk analysis. In 2001 Stephen was seconded to the Regulatory Impact Unit (now called the Better Regulation Executive) of the Cabinet Office in UK central government where Stephen helped to set up a Business Regulation Team which aim was to go out to talk to businesses and identify and then help government departments address unnecessary regulatory burdens. On completion of the secondment in 2004 he left RBS to work in HM Treasury on an independent review of the actuarial profession before joining the FSA in June 2005 where Stephen works as an advisor to policy makers, ensuring that they use the disciplines of impact assessment appropriately. Latterly Stephen have also taken on a role dedicated to promoting these disciplines within financial regulators across Europe.

- Paul GOWER
Senior Adviser, Oxera

Paul specialises in economics issues relating to financial regulation, company law, corporate governance and accounting reform. From 2004 until 2006, he was the Economic Adviser to the DTI's Corporate Law and Governance Directorate. He also provided economic input into regulatory impact assessments of policy initiatives and liaised with key stakeholders in both the public and private sectors. In addition, he was involved with a number of Better Regulation initiatives and was a member of a cross-Whitehall economists' group developing methodologies for the assessment of the cumulative impact of regulation. Between 2000 and 2003, he was an analyst for the Regulatory Strategy and Risk Division of the Financial Services Authority, assessing international developments in financial regulation and their implications for the UK. Paul has also lectured in economics, business analysis and financial regulation for the University of Brighton Business School and University of Sussex.

- Luigi PASSAMONTI
The World Bank, Founder and Head of Convergence Program

Luigi Passamonti fought hard to build this program because he realized that authorities and bankers could achieve a great deal in terms of modernizing financial systems in many emerging and transition economies by joining forces with the help of an "honest broker" with a gift for analysis and compromise. This program is the fruit of a 25-year career in banking, strategy consulting, emerging market investments and public policy. With graduate studies in Economics in Brussels and Oxford, Luigi is married and has two children. He sails and hikes.

- Christian WINKLER
Associate, UK Financial Services Authority

Christian Winkler has a Masters in Economics and a PhD in Economics from Nuremberg University in Germany. He is also a CFA charter holder. Christian joined MAN Aktiengesellschaft in Munich/Germany in 2002 where he worked in several roles in Corporate Finance. This included pension and asset management as well as the management of foreign exchange and interest rate risks. He was also involved in the implementation of new financial markets legislation, including e.g. the Market Abuse Directive. Christian joined the FSA in April 2007 where he works as an advisor to policy makers, ensuring that they use the disciplines of impact assessment appropriately.