



## XVI NERI Workshop

The *Dipartimento di Scienze dell'Economia "Antonio de Viti de Marco"*, University of Salento, is pleased to host the XVI meeting of the Network on the Economics of Regulation and Institutions (NERI) in Lecce, Italy, on **28-29 May 2026**. NERI meetings focus on the economics of regulation, meant in its broadest sense of public intervention aimed at affecting market outcomes, with particular attention to the relationship between regulatory tools and institutions. The focus of this year's workshop is on:

### DIGITALIZATION, INSTITUTIONS AND PUBLIC POLICY

#### Submissions

We welcome contributions on all topics within NERI's scope and especially encourage the submission of papers aligned with the workshop's main theme. The workshop explores how digitalisation reshapes incentives, constraints, and strategic interactions in public intervention, affecting not only market dynamics but also the behaviour of policymakers, regulators, interest groups, and voters. From an institutional and public policy perspective, digital technologies generate new informational asymmetries, transform channels of influence and participation, and modify the political demand for and supply of regulation.

Contributions may examine how data driven markets influence regulators and regulated firms, how digital platforms, AI systems, and algorithmic tools affect strategic behaviour and regulatory capture, and how institutional design can limit these risks. We also welcome work on digital communication, political competition, voter behaviour, and collective decision making, including the role of misinformation, targeted political advertising, and algorithmic curation. Further relevant topics include digital taxation, cybersecurity and privacy regulation, cross border coordination, and the distributive effects of digital policies. The workshop aims to advance understanding of how digital transformation interacts with political incentives and institutional constraints, and to identify regulatory strategies that promote efficiency, accountability, and institutional resilience.

The program will also include sessions with **invited speakers**: **Vincenzo Denicolò** (University of Bologna and CEPR) and **Sauro Mocetti** (Bank of Italy) have kindly confirmed their participation.

Papers should be sent to [neri.workshop@gmail.com](mailto:neri.workshop@gmail.com) by the **15<sup>th</sup> of March 2026**. Decisions will be notified to authors by the 5<sup>th</sup> of April 2026.

#### Participation expenses

Participants are expected to pay a registration fee of €150, which includes lunches, coffee breaks and a social dinner. On a discretionary basis, the organizing committee may grant partial exemptions, upon request, to students and junior fellows (PhD students, post-docs, etc.) facing financial difficulties. In any case, all participants will have to cover their own travel and accommodation expenses.

Any further information on the workshop and other activities of NERI can be found on our website: <http://www.network-neri.net/>.

**Local Organizers:** Debora Assisi, Michele Giuseppe Giuranno, Felice Russo.

**NERI Promoters:** Sergio Beraldo, Anna Bottasso, Alberto Cavaliere, Marina Di Giacomo, Alberto Iozzi, Massimiliano Piacenza, Antonio Scialà, Gilberto Turati, Edilio Valentini, Annalisa Vinella.