The Régulation Review
Capitalism, Institutions, Power

EAEPE conference, Manchester, November 2016

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WHO ARE WE AND WHERE DO WE COME FROM?

- The *Régulation Review. Capitalism, Institutions, Power* is a generalist, double-blind, peer-reviewed, JEL-refereed, econlit-listed journal
  - with a France-based editorial board (+1 Japanese, 1 Argentinian)
  - an international advisory board (Crouch, Dosi, Epstein, Hodgson, Lavoie, Piore, Nelson, Thelen, Zelizer etc.)
  - It welcomes articles in English and French.

- The journal seeks to provide a forum for research in the field of régulationist studies and, more broadly, for the full spectrum of institutionalist approaches in economics and beyond.


- The review is now published on a bi-annual basis, in an electronic version only.
1. BEYOND RÉGULATION THEORY: EXCHANGING WITH OTHER POLITICAL ECONOMY APPROACHES AND OTHER SOCIAL SCIENCES

The Review is not confined to Régulation theory

- Only a minority of the published articles is based on Régulation theory
- A central aim of the Régulation Review is to be a locus for discussions and exchanges with other political economy approaches in economics.
- This is reflected in the composition of the Editorial Board and the International Advisory Board, composed of scholars with diverse sensibilities
- Articles published in the Review come from all forms of Institutional Economics, Post-Keynesian economics, Socio-economics, etc.
...nor is it limited to some specific level of analysis or methodology

- The Régulation Theory was originally mainly composed of macroeconomic analyses and it evolved to include meso and micro-organizational studies.
- Stylized facts confrontations, time series and econometric tools are rather commonplace in the Review;
- Case studies, organizational analysis or other in-depth inquiries are also frequent.
- Therefore, there is no preference in the Review for a peculiar type of formalization or type of enquiry: each type of reasoning has is own pertinence, provided it is justified by a relevant, responsible and critical use (a controlled pluralism).
...nor even to economics

- 25% of our articles come from other social sciences.
- An increasing presence of other social sciences in our international advisory board and our editorial board.
- A discussion is engaged with other disciplines within the Régulation Review: mainly sociology, management sciences, political sciences and anthropology, so far.
- The Régulation theory constantly builds connections with history and politics, for instance.
2. DISSEMINATING KNOWLEDGE: AN INCREASING READERSHIP

Figure 1: Number of one-shot visitors per month

Source: http://statistiques.cleo.cnrs.fr/awstats.pl?config=regulation
DISSEMINATING KNOWLEDGE
REACHING A BROAD READERSHIP THANKS TO OPEN ACCESS

Contrary to L’Année de la régulation, the Régulation Review is online only, which has many advantages:

- **Financial advantages**
  - No printing and distribution costs
  - Financial independence from established publishing houses (cf. the academic Spring) who, in some cases, display rent-seeking behaviours (permitted by their position of power in the “academic value chain”)

- Higher dissemination within and outside the academe

- Higher flexibility and responsiveness (october 2008 paper on the financial crisis)

- Convincing authors to publish in our journal despite the fact it is not a high-ranking journal: authors also want to be read

- Promoting innovative young scholars (the broad readership is particularly important for them: compliments and invitations to seminars following the publication in the journal etc.)
2. DISSEMINATING KNOWLEDGE
THE ADVANTAGES OF AN HYBRID OPEN-ACCESS MODEL

• Till 2012, Régulation Review had a de facto creative commons policy
  • Full free access to all articles
  • A major drawback: Many libraries didn’t include Revues.org journals in their portfolios (they only included pay-journal packages)

• Thus, Régulation Review joined the public OpenEdition Freemium
  • an alternative to restricted access platforms, which constrict users and diminish the impact of academic production
  • an innovation in the domain of open-access academic publishing

• A viable hybrid economic model combining
  • open-access to knowledge (free access to the html files of the articles but not to PDF, ePub and Mobipocket files)
  • and paid premium services for subscribing libraries
  • generating incomes reinvested in the development of open-access academic publishing
    ➢ Two-thirds of income is allocated to those journals which adopt the freemium model (2000€ last year)
    ➢ The other third enables the development of the platform
2. DISSEMINATING KNOWLEDGE
MORE SPACE AND OPENING UP NEW FORMATS

Being online, we are not limited by the physical volume of print editions

- More space for innovative thought:
  - our issues are getting more voluminous
  - despite an increasing selectivity

- We opened up new spaces and formats beyond the scientific articles:
  - The section Viewpoint: Opinion – debate: notes related to current economic events or a research program in progress
  - Extensive interviews with leading scholars putting their work and career in perspective (Dupuy, Hodgson, Jessop, Kornai, Lavoie, Orléan, Schefold, Streeck and many others)
  - Extensive book reviews (up to 8000 words) to allow a thorough discussion, for ex.:
    - Capital in the Twenty-First Century: A régulationist view
    - Régulation Theory: From Textbook to Research Agenda
  - PhD summaries to diffuse the work by new generations of researchers
3. GOING INTERNATIONAL (1)
AN INCREASING INTERNATIONALIZATION OF CONTRIBUTORS AND LANGUAGES

Share of articles in English

Share of authors working outside France

Internationalization: Contributors

Internationalization: Languages
3. GOING INTERNATIONAL (2)  
AN INCREASING INTERNATIONALIZATION OF OUR READERSHIP

- The majority of connections to our website originate from **visitors outside France**
- Connections come from **118 countries all over the world**
- Our main visitors come from **countries with a large scientific community** (US, GB, Canada, Germany), and to a lesser extent from francophone countries (Belgique, Tunisie, Marocco).
- Since 2013, **emergent countries** represent an increasing part in our readership: **China, Russia, India** count now among the top ten countries visiting our website.
3. GOING INTERNATIONAL TO MAINTAIN AND BOOST OUR SPECIFICITY IN AN ADVERSE ENVIRONMENT (2)

The Régulation approach is not island and never was: Knowledge has to go to-and-fro and pervade through boundaries.

Nevertheless, internationalization does not necessarily equal anglicization:

• For French research assessment agencies, English-speaking equals international. **France-based journals are automatically poorly rated in economics** (but not in other social sciences: a specific Malthusianism of French economists, see AFEP-Report 2011)

• Yet, **some American or English Journals are based on local networks and are not open to outsiders** (Audier, 2010, Fourcade et al., 2015)

• We are not nostalgic of a long-vanished French grandeur, but in some cases **French can indeed remain an international language** (Canada, Switzerland, Belgium, parts of Africa etc.), **the same can be true for Spanish**

  • An ex: we published 2 contributions in Spanish in our special issue on Capitalisms in Latin America. In this case, Spanish may be as or even more relevant than English to reach an interested readership.
3. GOING INTERNATIONAL TO MAINTAIN AND BOOST OUR SPECIFICITY IN AN ADVERSE ENVIRONMENT (3)

• So our (balanced) strategy is to push internationalization in a broad sense as much as possible…
  • even in the details: all our articles enclose trilingual abstracts (English, French and Spanish)
  • including translations into French of outstanding contributions (ex: Ostrom)

• … while preserving a much-needed diversity of languages. In the same way as money is not a neutral vehicle of goods à la Say, language is not a neutral vehicle of thought. Moreover, in a pragmatic linguistic view (Fraenkel, 2003), there is much more at stake than words: The whole architecture of an article, the narrative conventions and references are different from one country to another (Labrousse, 2005). Behind the words are worlds of thought…

• The most quoted French social scientists like Bourdieu or Foucault published mostly in French and their thought is deeply embedded in the French context (styles of scientific thinking à la Crombie, French epistemic communities, etc.). It is this very specificity which contributes to their originality and attractiveness for the international scientific community.

• Specificity and variety are crucial, whereas blueprint thinking and language monocropping yield blighted harvests.
3. GOING INTERNATIONAL TO MAINTAIN AND BOOST OUR SPECIFICITY IN AN ADVERSE ENVIRONMENT (4)

Adopting international publishing standards

- The French assessment environment (with ranking lists comparable to the Diamond List, see Lee, 2006) is particularly tough and narrow-minded toward both heterodox and French journals, as far as economics is concerned (differing from other social sciences in France).
- We published several articles on the social construction of such rankings to deconstruct them:
  - « Should you believe in the Shanghai ranking? An MCDM view » (Billaut, Bouyssou and Vincke, 2010)
- Contrary to these rankings, international standards regarding procedures (double blind etc.) are means to legitimate our scientific soundness in a rather open and productive way (although this is increasingly discussed, see Ietto-Gillies, 2012).
- But its not enough to get a better ranking: institutional lock-in by the mainstream with an arbitrary and unfair way to assess journals.