



# The Régulation Review Capitalism, Institutions, Power

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Revue de la  
régulation

# 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**.
- Founded in 2006, the journal comes after *L'Année de la Régulation* (**Annals of Régulation**) edited by Robert Boyer and Frédéric Lordon from 1997 to 2005.
- 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.

# 1. BEYOND RÉGULATION THEORY: EXCHANGING WITH OTHER POLITICAL ECONOMY APPROACHES AND OTHER SOCIAL SCIENCES (3)

...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 its own pertinence, provided it is justified by a relevant, responsible and critical use (a controlled pluralism).

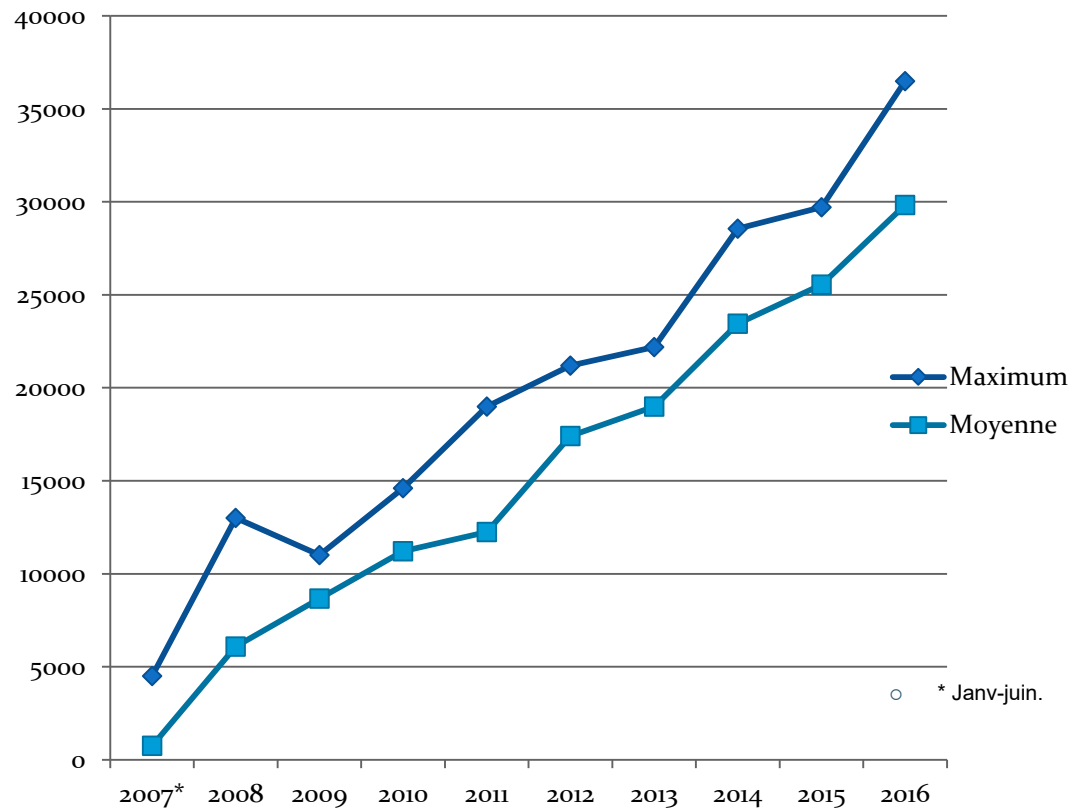
# 1. BEYOND RÉGULATION THEORY: EXCHANGING WITH OTHER POLITICAL ECONOMY APPROACHES AND OTHER SOCIAL SCIENCES (5)

## ...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

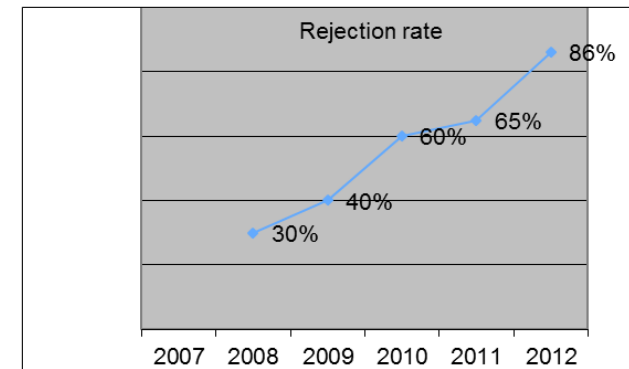
- Till 2012, Régulation Review had a *de facto* **creative commons policy**
  - Full free access to all articles
  - A major drawback: Many libraries didn't include Revues.org journals in their portfolios (they only included pay-journal packages)
- Thus, Régulation Review joined the public **OpenEdition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

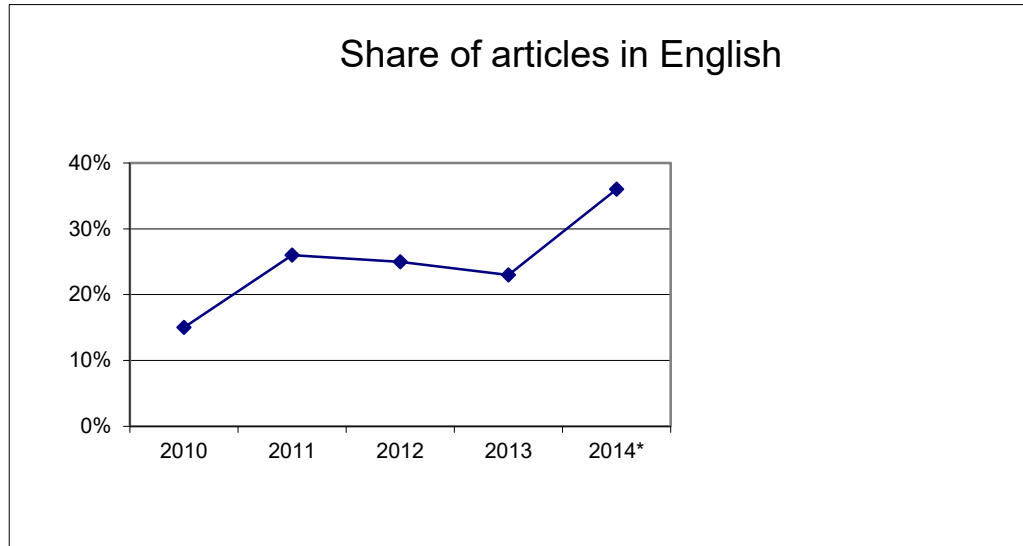
Being online, we are **not limited by the physical volume of print editions**

- **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



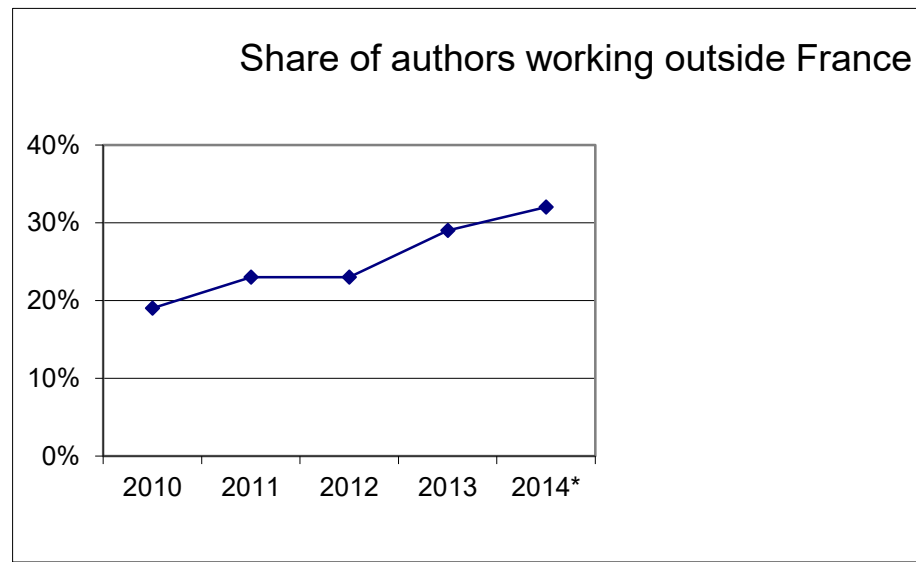
### 3. GOING INTERNATIONAL (1)

#### AN INCREASING INTERNATIONALIZATION OF CONTRIBUTORS AND LANGUAGES



Internationalization:  
Languages

Internationalization:  
Contributors



### 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 extend 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 AFEF-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:
  - « Estimated Journals, Esteemed Journals. The shaping of rankings in economics and management » (Torny, Pontille, 2010)
  - « 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 Letto-Gillies, 2012).
- But it's not enough to get a better ranking: institutional lock-in by the mainstream with an arbitrary and unfair way to assess journals