



Newsletter Chair in Regulatory Practice #10-#11 (October 2020 – March 2021)

Welcome from Professor Jeroen van der Heijden, Chair in Regulatory Practice

Welcome to the combined tenth and eleventh quarterly Regulatory Practice Newsletter highlighting recent activities, research and news from the Chair in Regulatory Practice (October 2020 – March 2021).

The Chair is based at the [School of Government](#), in the [Victoria University of Wellington](#). It is part of the New Zealand [Government Regulatory Practice Initiative \(G-REG\)](#), a network of central and local government regulatory agencies established to lead and contribute to regulatory practice initiatives.

The Chair has been active behind the scenes over the last six months, but the work has been less visible in the public arena. The fruits of the work done over the last six months will, however, become available over the next few months.

Research

The politics of regulation

Jeroen has committed to writing a series of book chapters in 2021 for various academic handbooks. One is on the politics of regulation, and asks: How much politics goes into the development, implementation, evaluation, and reform of regulation? This question has been at the forefront of regulatory scholarship for over four decades. Jeroen's chapter will first reflect on four of the major theories about the need for regulation: public interest, public policy, private interest, and institutional perspectives. From there, it will engage with some of the most politically contentious topics of regulatory reform: re/deregulation, the shift away from deterrence, the involvement of non-governmental parties in regulation, the use of behavioural insights in regulation, and the regulation of regulation itself. Draft versions of parts of the chapter will be made available on the [From the Regulatory Frontlines blog](#)

Regulatory failure

Jeroen is working on a synthesis of the international academic literature on 'regulatory failure'. This is the central theme of the Chair in Regulatory Practice for this third year of the Chair (July 2020 – June 2021). This will involve a systematic reading of the broader academic literature on regulatory failure, which will result in a series of blogposts and a future research paper in the *State of the Art in Regulatory Governance Research Paper Series*. The systematic search for literature on the topic has resulted in 40 peer reviewed empirical articles and 15 theoretical/conceptual publications to be included in the review.

Outreach

As a result of the COVID-19 crisis, we have had minimal opportunities to engage with the New Zealand regulatory community through workshops and lectures this period:

- Workshop, Systems thinking and regulatory practice (13 October 2020)
- Webinar, What makes a modern and entrepreneurial regulator? (5 October 2020)
- Keynote lecture, The role of risk-based thinking in regulatory stewardship (23 February 2021)
- Workshop, Behavioural science and regulator governance (17 March 2021)

Upcoming workshops are:

- Risk Governance and Risk Based Regulation (28 April 2021, WLG, fully booked)
- [Risk Governance and Risk Based Regulation \(19 May 2021, AKL, spots available\)](#)

Education

Postgraduate Certificate in Public Management

In 2021, the Victoria University of Wellington's School of Government will offer a Post Graduate Certificate in Public Management (PGCPM) with a focus on regulatory governance in practice. The PGCM has been developed in association with the Government Regulatory Practice Initiative (G-REG) and the Skills Organisation. The PGCPM is targeted at experienced public officials, particularly those who are regulatory or policy practitioners in or aspiring to management in central or local government organisations. The PGCPM will expand their understanding of the theory and practice of public management and regulatory practice in the 21st century in Aotearoa/New Zealand and open career development options. Participation leads to upgraded personal competencies and capacities as managers and the ambition, imagination and courage to improve practice in regulatory organisations. For more information, please get in touch with Dr Verna Smith, verna.smith@vuw.ac.nz

YouTube channel: The essence of regulation

Regulation and regulatory governance affect each and every aspect of our lives. From the day we're born to the day we die, we are subject to rules, regulations, monitoring, and enforcement by governments and others. We often take regulation for granted... until it stands in our way of leading a happy and fulfilling life. This channel explores the essence of regulation. It aims to increase our regulatory literacy so that we can better manage our way through the myriad of regulatory processes and instruments that affect us each and every day. Over the last few months, Jeroen has been working recorded on a series of 16 short videos to capture the essence of regulation. The videos are short and snappy (5 to 7 minutes each). Each video is a brief lecture and addresses a key theme from the regulatory literature. The short lectures will be released on a YouTube channel, [The essence of regulation](#). The first 12 videos are available and the final four will appear during April. From there, Jeroen will continue adding videos (but at a slower pace).

Students

Jeroen continues supervising the MSc thesis of Michael Howden at VUW, and he has welcomed Geetanjali Sharma in October as the first PhD student of the Chair in Regulatory Practice (co-supervised with Dr Flavia Donadelli). He has continued working with his PhD students Adriana Sanchez Gomes at the University of New South Wales, and Sayel Cortes Berrueta at Wageningen University.

Publications/output

- *Academic*
 - Jeroen van der Heijden (2021) "Balancing narrow and broad public service professionalism: Experience with the New Zealand G-REG qualifications framework", *Administration and Society*, 53(3), 410-438.
 - Jeroen van der Heijden, (2021) "Regulatory stewardship: The challenge of joining a virtue and a mechanism", *Policy Quarterly*, 17(1) 57-63.
 - Jeroen van der Heijden, Alexandra Cherkasheva and Olesya Luckman (2020) "Urban climate governance in Russia: Insights from Moscow and St Petersburg.", *Journal of Urban Affairs*, 42(7), 1047-1062.
 - Jeroen van der Heijden (2020) "Environmental regulation in the twenty-first century: A systematic review of (and critical research agenda for) JEPP scholarship", *Journal of Environmental Policy and Planning*, 22(5), 581-593.
 - Jeroen van der Heijden (2020) "Innovative urban climate governance: A brief overview of global trends." IN: Torres, P. et al. (eds), *Adaptation and public policies in the São Paulo Macro Metropolis: A Science-Policy Approach*. São Paulo: Universidade de São Paulo, 22-26.
- *Blogs*
 - 5 October 2020, [What makes a modern and entrepreneurial regulator?](#)
 - 24 February 2021, [The role of risk-based thinking in regulatory stewardship](#)
 - 30 March 2021, [The Politics of Regulation: Mapping a Half-Century of Debates \(1970-2020\)](#)