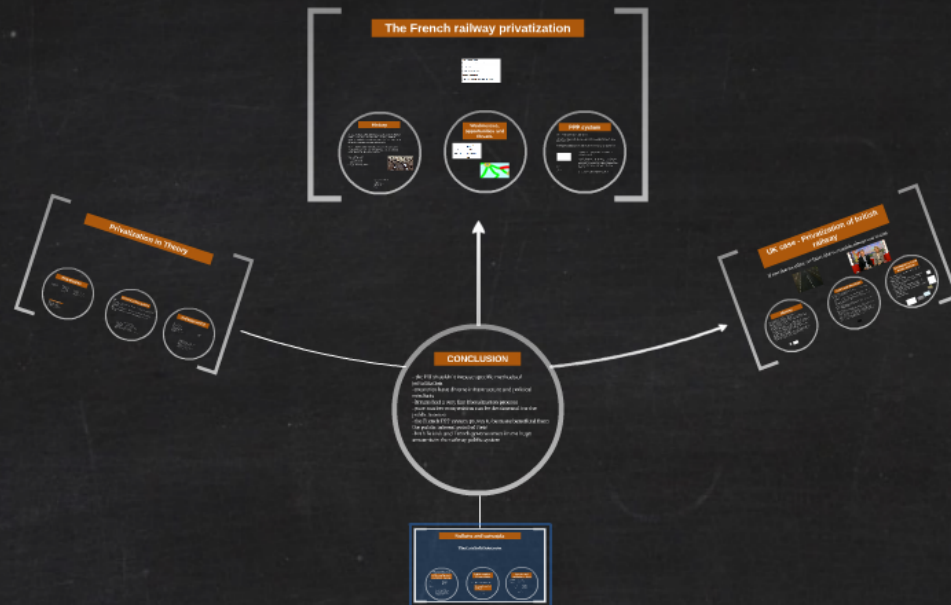


When Supply Is of Public Interest: Roche & Tamiflu

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Based on Jim Harvey's speech structures



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Notions and concepts

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Services of general economic interest

Meaning and definition
PTX: Services of general economic interest
The notion of general interest: free provision of services
A. Notion of SGEI
Requirements
State aid and SGEI
Exclusion of public services
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Meaning:
Services of general economic interest (SGEI) are economic activities that public authorities identify as being of particular importance to citizens and that would not be supplied in a normal market under different conditions if there were no public intervention. Examples are transport networks, postal services and social services.

Definition: There is no definition of SGEI.
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Public services- SGIs or SGEIs

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Free movement of services

Articles and legislation in force

Articles and legislation in force
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Services of general economic interest

Meaning and Definition

ETUC Stand and Measures on services.

Type of Services of general interest (Free movement of services)

A limited scope for SGEI

Recognition in EU

State Aid rules and regulations

Legislation on public services

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- public authorities have a responsibility to ensure their supply regardless of whether they are profitable in a free market
- The distinction between SGIs and SGEIs is equally hard to pin down, and is also subject to interpretation by the European Court of Justice
- Since the late 1990s, the Commission has pursued a policy of market-opening
- liberalisation has had the effect of replacing single public monopolies with a large group of private quasi-monopolies.

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Limited scope of SGEI

Given the absence of a definition and a legal framework for SGEI remains unclear whether an entire sector could be designated as a service of general economic interest or only those parts where restrictions on the Treaty rules are necessary in order for the public interest tasks concerned to be performed

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Public services- SGIs or SGEIs

Public services
essential for sustainable economic
development and social and regional
cohesion in Europe

For this reason the ETUC regards
universal access to public services to be a
fundamental right, and a pillar of the
European Social Model.

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Free movement of services

the freedom to establish themselves in other
Member States
important developments and progress in the field
of services have been brought about through
specific legislation in fields
Financial services, transport, telecommunications,
broadcasting and the recognition of professional
qualifications.