



THE GENEVA ASSOCIATION / INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE SOCIETY, INC.

Insurance Research Awards Partnership

An insurance research program for business - sponsored by business.

CALL FOR PAPERS

To be presented at the IIS Seminar in Madrid, Spain: June 6-9, 2010

The Geneva Association and the International Insurance Society research program is designed to foster original, practically oriented *applied research in the insurance area* addressing issues of concern to global insurance leaders by examining subjects which directly influence business operations and operational business issues on a practical level.

The winning research will be presented at the annual IIS meeting in Madrid, Spain, June 6-9, 2010 where a delegation of some 500 insurance professionals representing 50 nations is expected. The research is published in a special edition of *The Geneva Papers on Risk and Insurance – Issues and Practice* and distributed by the IIS and The Geneva Association, and awards in an amount up to \$10,000 are presented to qualifying research. We invite submissions of original (developed for this particular program) applied research on the following issues:

TOPIC 1: The Impact of Regulatory Change on Insurance Business Strategies and Operations

Possible topic areas include:

- Are announced/proposed reforms responsive to current and prospective market conditions? Are there adequate early warning systems to anticipate future crises? Is systematic risk addressed? Should “normal” market diversification effects be recognized? Do responses avoid procyclicality?
- Do regulatory proposals for financial services properly distinguish insurance from banking and securities?
- How well do new solvency requirements fit insurer risk profiles, e.g., Solvency II, IAIS standards, other national solutions? Are extreme risks (e.g., systemic, natural CAT) adequately accounted for?
- What are the prospects for convergence of solvency requirements globally? Is Solvency II the new de facto standard target? Is a single global solvency standard desirable or obtainable?
- How will the current proposals for supervision of groups that include insurance companies impact company structures, capital management and operating efficiency? Do they properly account for subsidiary company v. group needs (e.g., limits on capital fungibility)? Are they likely to be effective in protecting insurance company solvency from losses in non-insurance businesses? Should they (can they) be applied worldwide?
- Do national supervisory authorities cooperate sufficiently to meet market needs? What structures and approaches are needed/effective (e.g., supervisory colleges, MOUs)?
- How are supervisory authorities adapting to new, more complex regulatory requirements and principles-based approaches to regulation? Do they have, or can they obtain, the needed skills and staff levels?
- Should supervisors rely more on professional certifications, e.g., actuarial review of reserves, internal models, solvency measures?
- Should consumer protection regulation and prudential regulation be done by separate agencies? What changes are needed in consumer protection regulation?
- What is needed to provide for business failure in insurance, in terms of regulator insolvency management, rehabilitation, guarantee funds, etc?
- What effects will attempts to limit executive compensation in insurance have?
- How do other “regulators” influence the environment, e.g., rating agencies, SEC, Financial Stability Board, IASB, CFO Forum?
- How will regulatory changes affect insurer business strategies, measurement of performance and capital management?

TOPIC 2: The Impact of the Economic Crisis on the Insurance Industry

Possible topic areas include:

- How has the economic crisis impacted insurers? Has the impact varied by lines of business, line diversification, size, geography, corporate structure, involvement in non-insurance businesses or other distinctions?
- How will the impact vary depending on what economic recovery scenario is considered, e.g., quick recovery, slow recovery, double-dip recession?
- What can insurance contribute to financial markets in promoting stability? What vulnerabilities does insurance have to financial market instability?
- What lessons can be learned about the adequacy of risk management, capital management and other management control systems used in insurance (e.g., ERM, EC, EV, MCEV)?
- What can insurers and/or regulators do to reduce the risk of future crises?
- How will the crisis change the structure and competitive behavior in insurance markets? How are insurer keys to success changed as a result?
- How are risk transfer markets changed by the crisis, e.g., reinsurance, retrocession, use of capital markets and securitization? How will (should) credit risk issues be addressed going forward?
- If economic stimulus efforts lead to a future period of high inflation, what are the consequences for the insurance industry?

The deadline for submissions is February 1, 2010 and submissions must be in the English language, consisting of approximately 6,000 words and include: a cover page containing the paper title; author(s) affiliation and contact information; a two-page text explaining the purpose and importance of the research, research methodology, results and a summary of the implications on the industry. The paper cannot have been presented in any other forum prior to its submission to the program. Please send submissions to: secretariat@genevaassociation.org with the subject line: "Geneva Association/IIS Research Awards Submission." A Judging Committee will review all submissions and authors will be notified of the selections in March 2010.

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