



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	British Journal of Economics, Management & Trade
Manuscript Number:	2014_BJEMT_9545
Title of the Manuscript:	Should Water Resources be Managed as a Public or as a Private, Economic Good – the Croatian Dilemma
Type of the Article	Short Research Article

General guideline for Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound.

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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment <i>(if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
Compulsory REVISION comments 1. Defining the essence privatization of public companies. 2. Explaining forms of privatization 3. Elaboration of best practices and challenges of water privatization.	• The essence of the privatization of public companies need to be explained further before addressing the “for” or “against” arguments of water privatization (this part should precede section 3.1 of the Manuscript). This involves to have a close look at the different definitions of privatization of public companies (economic, legal, financial, business & investment). This will make complete the paper and give coherence. • There emerge many forms of privatization, each one with diverse implication for the argument. Accordingly, the author is expected to incorporate clarifications regarding forms of privatization. • The author has sated the documented gains of water privatization in Argentina but evade to explain the solid reasons why Suez concession was revoked (section 3.1 of the Manuscript). I think it is advisable to review the Argentines water privatization best practices and challenges and come up with hard facts that are necessary for enriching the argument of the Croatian water privatization. The success stories stated concerning the Great Britain need to be accompanied by practical challenges faced other than labour layoffs and water price rise	

4. Clarifying the environmental, legal, social and ethical aspect of water privatization. 5. Best practices and drawback s of the Croatian public water supply system before privatization is considered.	indicated in the Manuscript. This will give an opportunity for the Croatian water privatization case to share the practical experience on the ground and better prepare themselves for challenge ahead. • Before discussing the details “against” water privatization, (section 3.2 of the Manuscript) it is worthwhile to give an over view of the environmental, ethical, legal and social aspect of the privatization of water supply system. Giving brief account to these points make smooth and coherent of the manuscript. • The author has to indicate the best practices and major drawback s of the Croatian public water supply system and one must distinguish the state of affairs before the present move of water privatization. What was the state of the infrastructure before water privatization was considered? Was it putrefied and abandoned? How about the management and operational capacity of the public water supply companies? Did the public water supply and utility companies possess the necessary capital to install or overhaul the infrastructure? How was the efficiency and cost effectiveness of the public companies in terms reaching the community with adequate water for drinking and other household use? These and other related issues surrounding Croatian public water supply system have to be addressed in section 4 of the manuscript where the author has stated about the potential of Croatian water resources.	
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6. Lessons learn from World Bank/IMF imposed water privatization. 7. Stating other alternative forms of water privatization as a solution.	• It was well noted that the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund used to have forcing client countries towards privatization of public water supply utilities/systems. In this case the author has to give due emphasis concerning lessons that Croatia need to learn from World Bank imposed water privatization. It is worthwhile to mention and share the experience of Bolivia, Ecuador, Panama, Chile, South Africa, Tanzania and others. I strongly believe that addressing the privatization experience of these countries is very helpful while dealing with the way forward of Croatian water supply system privatization. • It is good to know that the author has stated the adoption of the franchising model as a solution for Croatian context. But how about other alternatives that needs to be addressed as potential solutions? I think it is advisable to consider and indicate about these possible alternatives in brief.	
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<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments 1. Reason out why the city of Paris refuses to sign a contract with Suez and entrusted its water supply to a local utility company?	• The author has to find out and state the reason why the city of Paris refuses to sign a contract with Suez. Because this is helpful to those interested on Croatian water supply privatization to better under conditions surrounding contract arrangement with such company.	
<u>Optional/General</u> comments None		

Note: Anonymous Reviewer