

## **Project ENLIGHTEN - Funding Horizon 2020 grant**

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**Title:** "European Legitimacy in Governing through Hard Times: the role of European Networks"

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### **Abstract**

ENLIGHTEN addresses the ways in which the EU's modes of governance cope with hard times on short- term and long-term issues. To do so it investigates the European governance architecture, which includes: modes of governance; expert networks; policy instruments; and legitimizing narratives. The ENLIGHTEN project suggests that an understanding of temporal issues is crucial to dealing with hard times, and for the legitimacy of the European project overall. It distinguishes between Europe's 'fast- burning' and 'slow-burning' crises, setting out to compare the ways in which EU policy actors have attempted to deal with them. The project maps how European institutions and expert networks handle these crises, and what European modes of governance relate are best suited to addressing these crises.