



**ABSTRACT FOR 12TH ANNUAL WORLD CONFERENCE  
AIR TRANSPORT RESEARCH SOCIETY (ATRS)**

**Privatization, regulation and restructuring and effects on performance:  
A comparison between German and British airports**

**Jürgen Müller, Tolga Ülkü and Jelena Živanović**  
GAP Team FHW Berlin and HUB<sup>1</sup>  
Berlin School of Economics and Gap Team Berlin  
Badensche Strasse 50-51, D-10825 Berlin, Germany  
Phone +49-30-85789-145, Fax: +49-30-85789-199  
E-mail : [jmueller@fhw-berlin.de](mailto:jmueller@fhw-berlin.de)

**Abstract:** This paper encompasses a comparative analysis of the economic and technical performance of thirteen airports from 1998 to 2005. Methods used are Partial Factor Productivity (PFP), Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA) and Financial Ratio Analysis (FRA) which are applied to identify the characteristics of British and German airports and compare two different ownership structures: privatized and partially privatised with residual public ownership. The analysis aims to identify to what degree privatization contributes to or enhances the performance of the airports. Our results give support to the fact that the British (fully privatized) airports outperform the German ones. This paper improves the existing literature under two points of view. First it provides more detailed evidence on transnational productivity and financial performance comparisons of airports. Secondly, it uses a variety of methodologies to obtain consistent overall efficiency measures.

**Keywords:** Airport industry, productivity analysis, financial performance, privatization

[www.gap-projekt.de](http://www.gap-projekt.de)

---

Prof. Dr. Hans-Martin Niemeier  
Hochschule Bremen  
Werderstr. 73  
28199 Bremen

Prof. Dr. Jürgen Müller  
FHW Berlin  
Badensche Str. 50-51  
10825 Berlin

Prof. Dr. Hansjochen Ehmer  
Internationale Fachhochschule Bad Honnef  
Mühlheimer Str. 38  
53604 Bad Honnef

---

<sup>1</sup> *Corresponding authors:* Jürgen Müller is FHW Professor, Tolga Ülkü and Jelena Živanović, are students at HUB and members of the project "German Airport Performance" (GAP) at the Berlin School of Economics (FHW Berlin).