Fairness is getting a fair chance to enter the skies – for UTM providers getting a fair chance to offer their services in the skies – for drone operators to have a fair chance to choose the provider of their choice. While ATM is a natural monopoly where safety depends on a complete and unique overview of all operations in a single chunk of airspace, UTM can be organised in a federated manner – in a competitive market.

In principle provides the framework and sets the modalities for service provision. Industry agrees on how to move forward and implement the set conditions. Hence the need for industry players to collaborate and make the system evolve along increasing traffic density and complexity. That will be challenging for the heterogenous drone traffic.

In any case, there are lessons to be learnt from the current flow management systems. Current drone projects point to the need for highly flexible processes and dynamic airspace management. Industry should also look for audited negotiation processes for airspace allocation. After all, fairness is a priority that needs to be addressed both technically and politically.

The FAA presentation of the webinar, together with the speakers' information of this “Airspace Fairness – Introduction” webinar, can be found here. GUTMA Members can access the recordings of the webinars here and the other presentations here.