
Editorial

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Introducing the last issue of the 2012 volume of the *International Journal of Electronic Governance*, now in its 6th year of publication, I feel the need to thank all of this issue's contributors and reviewers, and of course our guest editors, for their high-quality work. It is only through such diligent contributions and collective efforts that results can be achieved of added value to the *IJEG* readership and the e-governance constituency, and edited volumes such as the present double special issue of *IJEG* on Voting Advice Applications can be produced and serve as reference to our research and practice community.

In this special issue on "*Voting Advice Applications and State of the Art: Theory, practice, and comparative insights*", guest-edited by Vasiliki Triga, Cyprus University of Technology, Uwe Serdült, Centre for Research on Direct Democracy and Centre for Democracy Studies Aarau, and Theodore Chadjipadelis, Aristotle University Thessaloniki, we have the pleasure to publish a series of very interesting research articles that compare side-by-side theoretical and applied aspects of efforts on providing better platforms for voting advice. The introduction of our guest editors that follows succinctly brings forward a number of critical dimensions and open issues in this domain, whose significance under the current conditions of political turbulence becomes even more important.

Alongside the articles of this special issue, our regular columns on news and briefs as well as forthcoming conferences of interest to our readership offer a broader view of directions towards which current e-governance research and practice is headed.

Volume 6 of the journal will continue, during 2013, with alternating regular and special issues on a number of topics from our subject coverage, including a forthcoming special issue on "*Security and Privacy of E-Government Applications and Services*", guest-edited by Dr. Konstantinos Papapanagiotou, Open Web Application Security Project (OWASP), and Dr. Vasileios Vlachos, Technological Educational Institution (TEI) of Larissa, Greece.

Leaving the floor to our guest editors for their Introduction, please be invited to peruse the research articles of this special issue and stay close to *IJEG* for more to come.