Editorial

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Biographical notes: Dimitris Gouscos is an Assistant Professor with the Faculty of Communication and Media Studies of the University of Athens and a Research Fellow of the Laboratory of New Technologies in Communication, Education and the Mass Media. His research interests include digital communication, electronic governance, social media and digital games.

In this second issue for 2012, the focus of the *International Journal of Electronic Governance* turns on some matters more located at the technical side of the advancements that underlie the progress and uptake of e-Government services. In the 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, we have the pleasure to publish a set of interesting research articles that bring forward theoretical and applied aspects of the never-ending quest for deploying secure e-Government applications that safeguard citizen privacy. The introduction of our guest editors that follows highlights a number of important advancements and issues in this domain, whose significance extends far beyond technical solutions to some core factors that influence adoption and use of e-Government services.

Alongside the articles of this special issue, our regular columns on news and briefs as well as forthcoming conferences of interest to our readership provide a broader spectrum of directions in which current e-Governance research and practice moves along.

Volume 6 of the journal will continue later on this year with regular and special issues on a number of topics from our subject coverage, including subjects on e-Government, e-Governance, e-Participation as well as on the use and impact of new digital tools and media on the democracy and governance agenda.

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.