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## Editorial

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**Biographical notes:** Dimitris Gouscos is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication and Media Studies at 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.

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We are glad to present you this double issue which concludes Vol. 9 of the *International Journal of Electronic Governance*, featuring a special issue on *Citizen rights in the world of the new computing paradigms*, guest-edited by Sokratis Katsikas, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway & University of Piraeus, Greece and Vasileios Zorkadis, Hellenic Data Protection Authority, Greece.

This special section, which has drawn research papers from contributors of the 2015 edition of the eDemocracy conference series, provides a very interesting picture of research and practice advances in the use of ICT for preserving and protecting citizen privacy and civil rights in today's fast changing socio-political landscape.

In the months to come, IJEG will continue with alternating regular and special issues on topics from the journal's subject coverage. In this respect, our forthcoming special issues feature

- *Empowering Citizenship in the Hybrid City*, guest-edited by Dimitris Charitos, University of Athens, Greece, Martijn de Waal, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands and Penny Travlou, University of Edinburgh, UK
- *Privacy-Preserving, Secure, Intelligent eGovernment Services*, guest-edited by Sokratis Katsikas, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway & University of Piraeus, Greece and Vasileios Zorkadis, Hellenic Data Protection Authority, Greece
- *Pervasive Participation – New Horizons for Technology-Mediated Citizen Involvement*, guest-edited by Sarah-Kristin Thiel and Peter Fröhlich, Austrian Institute of Technology, Austria, Malgorzata Goraczek, Donau-Universität Krems, Austria, Matthias Baldauf, FHS St.Gallen – University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland, Titiana Petra Ertiö and Sampo Ruoppila, University of Turku, Finland.

We invite all our readers and contributors to check the IJEG call for papers page at <http://www.inderscience.com/info/ingeneral/cfplist.php?jcode=ijeg> for currently open calls for submissions to the special issues above and upcoming ones.

Alongside these developments, in our ongoing quest to expand the subject coverage of the *International Journal of Electronic Governance*, and especially so across boundary-spanning interdisciplinary topics, we are constantly looking out for regular contributions and special issues on emerging topics such as open data and big data, collaborative and co-produced governance and participation, smart local governance, DIY citizenship and many others.

At the same time, in the effort to provide our readership with a rich coverage of news and upcoming conferences of interest to the broader electronic governance constituency, we are providing a number of links to selected electronic governance-related recent developments and forthcoming conferences in our news in brief and conference calendar columns, respectively.

Leaving the floor to our special issue guest editors, we gladly invite you to read on and peruse the research papers, news in brief and conference calendar that follow.