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## Editorial Note

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**Biographical notes:** Dimitris Gouscos is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication and Media Studies at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and a Research Fellow at 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 welcome our readers to this concluding issue of Vol. 10 of the *International Journal of Electronic Governance*, which accommodates research papers on a number of themes from the journal's subject coverage, from topics more traditionally related to electronic governance, to topics touching upon government action in broader contexts.

In *Open Government Implementation: An Exploratory Survey of Public Administration Officials*, Wirtz et al. attempt to identify factors that may be critical to success (or lack of success) of open government implementations. The authors present an exploratory expert survey of public administration officers dealing with open government issues in German municipalities, looking at the importance of positive and negative aspects of open government implementation derived from a systematic literature review. According to findings, factors related to the perceptions of responsible employees towards open government may have an important significance for implementation outcomes.

Štepančič and Blažič, in the research paper that follows, focus on electronic identification technologies which are now established as a pillar for the advancement of e-government service provision. In *Exploring European Digital Single Market: user adoption and preferences for eID services*, the authors discuss how novel platforms in the EU are allowing users to identify themselves for seamlessly using national public e-services at home and abroad. Based on the findings of a user survey, the authors identify a number of services whose value is clearly recognised by frequent e-identification users, and propose that the enhancement of such services with eID facilities be prioritised in upcoming developments of a unified digital market.

Moving on to broader contexts of government initiatives for quality of living improvements, *Developing a Maturity Model for Government Community Broadband Projects*, by Bahri and Fauzi, discusses the broadband penetration divides between urban and rural areas. The authors propose a maturity model for government community broadband projects that allows to identify successful projects and enabling factors behind

them, so that governments may be able to uptake these as cases of good practice. Staying in this broader agenda, *Review of Rural Development Policies for ICT Enabled Planning of Villages in West Bengal, India*, by De, takes the case of India to discuss how rural development programmes may fail due to corruption and politicisation. The author, taking stock of longitudinal findings, emphasises the value that participatory approaches may provide as an alternative way to development planning, and proposes an appropriate diamond model.

In Vol. 11, to be published during 2019, 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

- *Potential of Participatory Urban Planning and Governance*, guest-edited by Anastasia Stratigea, National Technical University of Athens, Greece and Beniamino Murgante, University of Basilicata, Italy; and
- *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.

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 that reach out to bridge public governance with society and innovation, we are constantly looking out for regular contributions and special issues on emerging topics. And we continue to provide our readership with a coverage of news and upcoming conferences of interest to the broader electronic governance constituency, in our news in brief and conference calendar columns, respectively.

We gladly welcome you to read on and peruse the research papers, news in brief and conference calendar that follow.