
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.

We gladly welcome our readers to the opening double issue of the *International Journal of Electronic Governance* for 2022, with our best wishes for a year that may see the Covid-19 effects healed, a more effective adaptation to the fastly arriving climate change, more measures at a global level for energy justice and, above all, peace and respect for human rights in the world.

Our current issue features the special issue on *Safeguarding Democracy and Human Rights in the Digital Age*, guest edited by Prof. Sokratis Katsikas, NTNU, Norway, and Dr. Vasilis Zorkadis, Hellenic Data Protection Authority, Greece, with a very rich set of interesting research papers that provide coverage and insights in this important field.

During the months that follow, IJEG will continue with alternating regular and special issues, with respective calls for papers to be announced. In this respect, we invite our readers and contributors to check our call for papers page at <http://www.inderscience.com/info/ingeneral/cfplist.php?jcode=ijeg> for upcoming calls for submissions to IJEG.

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 electronic governance with public value innovation, and so much so innovation for the sustainable development goals agenda, be it through digital government, open government, public participation, social solidarity, humanitarian technology and innovation, we are constantly looking out for regular contributions and special issues on emerging topics. Research submissions touching upon the open response to and open recovery of governments worldwide from the Covid-19 pandemic, as well as to their adaptations to the Covid-19 shock, are especially welcome in this respect. The same is true for contributions on the crossroads of e-governance and open government with climate change and energy justice effects, as well as with the broader agenda of sustainable development, with a special focus on cities, territories and mobilities.

Meanwhile, 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. And, in our current issue, we are happy to continue our Book Reviews column, with a review of *Researching Internet Governance – Methods, Frameworks, Futures* by Laura DeNardis, Derrick Cogburn, Nanette S. Levinson and Francesca Musiani (editors).

Leaving the floor to our guest editors for their own introduction to the special issue, we welcome you to read on and peruse the research papers, news in brief, conference calendar and book review that follow.