
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 this third issue of the *International Journal of Electronic Governance* for 2022, featuring a set of research papers from the journal's subject coverage.

In our opening paper, 'Adaptability among e-governance projects in India: extending the adaptive capacity wheel framework', Aeron and Jain depart from the observation that lack of adaptability is identified as a major roadblock in the success of in e-Governance projects and address this issue from the side of e-Governance project owners. Using the adaptive capacity wheel framework and cross-checking findings with a fuzzy AHP approach, the authors analyse adaptive capacity across four e-Governance projects in India and find adaptive capacity to comprise multiple abilities, from conceptualising a problem across multiple stakeholders, all the way to learning, project monitoring, improvisation and cost control.

Continuing this discussion for important factors for the success of electronic governance projects, Alkhaldi, in 'A comprehensive model for examining multi-dimensional users' trust of m-government services', examines the importance of end-user trust. The authors approaches trust as a wide-ranging and multi-dimensional factor, and at the same time a major indicator of user perceptions in online transactions. As a result of this approach, the author proposes a multi-dimensional trust model for better understanding the possible determinants of trust in users' intention to use m-government services. Structural equation modelling is used to study trust sub-dimensions such as governmental capabilities, m-government systems, perceived risk, the government's involvement, mobile internet and service quality, personal technical literacy as well as mobile phone capabilities.

The next paper in our current issue, 'A systematic review of technological innovation and e-government on public management reforms in developing countries' by Nguar, moves on to the broader discussion on the links between e-government, technological innovation and public management reforms. Adopting the Technological Acceptance Model and New Public Management as conceptual basis, and analysing some

150 peer-reviewed published works spanning the 2000–2019 periods, the author finds that, beyond the unanimous consensus on the ability of technological innovation and e-government to significantly accelerate public management reforms, Europe and America stakeholders mostly exploit technological innovation to create public value, whereas Africa and Asia publics are more interested in e-government to create efficiency. As one more finding, the need for more research on technology culture and on the exclusion of rural communities is identified.

This line of thinking moves on to the level society as a whole in the following paper on ‘Information society of Iran in comparison to Turkey: progress and achievements’, by Moghaddas and Tajafari. Departing from the premise that formation of an information society is a driving factor behind overall growth, the authors embark to compare two specific cases at the country level, those of Iran and Turkey. Taking stock of published ITU reports in the 2012 to 2019 timeframe, and analysing ITU’s respective Measuring Information Society and Measuring Digital Development rankings, the authors conclude that Iran, despite the growth of index scores, still has a number of areas in which to further progress.

Last but not least, in ‘Overhauling democracy by switching to corporate-like governance’, which concludes our current issue, Bitros focuses on a discussion at the crossroads of electronic governance and democracy. As the author notes, representative party democracy is struggling with a number structural deficiencies stemming from group dynamics, information asymmetry, administrative polycentrism and others. On these grounds, it is posited that a combination of key elements from the direct democracy of classical Athens, aspects of governance in multinational corporations, and capabilities of digital Information and Communication Technologies may be best positioned to make policy choices better matching citizen preferences, offer institutional flexibility and efficiency, as well as tackle problems of asymmetric information and management coordination.

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