



<http://epractice.eu/>

## European ePractice Newsletter N. 281 – 2 June 2009

### Latest Cases

- [CODICE - Interop. Components and Documents for eProcurement](#) | 2 June 2009 | Spain
- [The Belgian e-Notification platform](#) | 26 May 2009 | Belgium
- [Mobile Parking Project](#) | 11 May 2009 | Turkey

**Editor's Choice of the week:** [Catalogue and contract data synchronisation in healthcare](#)

---

### **CODICE - Interop. Components and Documents for eProcurement**

CODICE are the specifications of documents and components for the interoperability in the eProcurement developed by the Spanish Government (Spanish Ministry of Economy and Finance - DG del Patrimonio del Estado)

The analysis and modeling of CODICE was based on the Directive 2004/18/EC with the aim of becoming a suitable solution for pan-european eprocurement interoperability.

All the electronic documents involved in the pre-awarding phase of public e-Procurement have been defined and implemented.

CODICE is based on and related with international standards and initiatives such as ebXML-CCTS, UN/CEFACT-UMM, UBL, IDABC, CEN/BII.

The IDABC eProcurement XML Schemas initiative and eProcurement Functional requirements were the starting point of CODICE.

CODICE implementation is based on the reuse of existing UBL components and UBL syntax for new components and documents.

There is also a syntax independent specification following the ebXML - Core Components Technical Specifications so that these components and documents could be implemented with a different syntax binding.

A new version of CODICE will be released at the end of 2009, and hopefully it will be included in the UBL 2.1 specifications.

---

## The Belgian e-Notification platform

The Belgian Federal Public Service P&O and the Federal Public Service for IT have set up an e-Notification platform, implementing one of the modules of the larger eProcurement project. The Belgian e-Notification Platform is an open, secure, inter-operable and re-configurable system where public officers can prepare and publish public procurement notices (all 14 European standard forms are supported), upload tender documents; activate a QA forum, etc. Suppliers can use a search machine and activate an automatic e-mail notification based on a search profile.

E-Notification has also an environment, the eMarketplace, for publishing notices that stay below the national threshold.

---

## Mobile Parking Project

The project aims at solving the parking problem in Istanbul by using mobile technologies, especially mobile phones. The users subscribe to the system before they use it. After that, they use SMS function of their mobile phones to park their cars and the parking bills are sent to them within their mobile phone bills. This project was made possible by the joint efforts of Municipality of Istanbul and Turkcell Mobile Phone Company. The system is in-use in certain areas of Istanbul for now. It is expected to increase efficiency in municipal parking services in terms of cost.

---

## Latest News

- [EU: Digital Techniques improve early Breast Cancer Detection](#) | 1 June 2009 | EU Institutions
  - [EU: Europe gears up for European eGovernment Awards 2009 – Less than 2 weeks left to submit your case](#) | 29 May 2009 | EU Institutions
  - [IT: Knowledge management platform of the Public Administration goes live](#) | 29 May 2009 | Italy
  - [EU: eYouGuide: a new website on Internet users' rights is launched](#) | 29 May 2009 | EU Institutions
  - [EU/EE: Ministerial Conference initialized 'Tallin process'](#) | 29 May 2009 | Estonia | EU Institutions
  - [LU: Politics online](#) | 29 May 2009 | Luxembourg
  - [INT: Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Cookbook has been published in a wiki environment](#) | 29 May 2009 | International Organizations
  - [EU: British join French/Italian open source campaign on EP elections](#) | 29 May 2009 | Pan european
  - [EU: Grid browser finds the meaning of life](#) | 28 May 2009 | EU Institutions
  - [EU: Consultation on EMODNET – Building a European marine data infrastructure](#) | 28 May 2009 | EU Institutions
  - [HU: New framework system for standardising eGovernment developments](#) | 28 May 2009 | Hungary
  - [GR: Aid of enterprises in implementing investments regarding eSecurity](#) | 28 May 2009 | Greece
  - [EU/INT: 15th conference of the international Porvoo Group - Interoperable European Electronic Identities needed](#) | 27 May 2009 | Pan european | International Organizations
  - [HU: Electronic submission of applications for higher education increasingly popular](#) | 27 May 2009 | Hungary
  - [EU: A first glimpse at 2008 greenhouse gas emissions trading data](#) | 26 May 2009 | EU Institutions
  - [EU: Commission issues recommendations on privacy and RFID](#) | 26 May 2009 | EU Institutions
- 

## EU: Digital Techniques improve early Breast Cancer Detection - 1 June 2009

**Modern methods, through digital techniques, are at the forefront of early breast cancer detection. The European Member States are progressively adopting these modern solutions that ensure both quality and reasonable prices.**

Each year 300 000 new cases of breast cancer are detected in the European Union. While the cause of this fatal disease may not be clear, medical experts agree that if the disease is detected early the chances of survival are much higher.

The advantages of the new digitalized methods are clear: they allow different views and angles of the scanned breast on one single desktop. Doctors can share information from different tests more easily and patients will get quicker results.

Modern detection methods, such as medical imaging "MRI" scans, also have many benefits as they can identify small tumours much earlier than former methods. These new digital techniques will allow radiologists to enhance the image of a mammogram, as well as to change its contrast in order to examine the tissue deeper and thus, to detect even smaller tumours. In addition, new scanners using ultrasound methods are being developed, providing less harmful imaging as unnecessary radiation is eliminated.

The latest research regarding these new techniques is fostered by the [European Institute of Biological Imaging Research \(EIBIR\)](#) through the [HAMAM project](#) - European Highly Accurate Breast Cancer Diagnosis, through Integration of Biological Knowledge, Novel Imaging Modalities, and Modelling. The project consists of 9 partners from 7 countries with leading expertise in the field of breast imaging diagnosis, with EIBIR as the coordinating partner.

The three year project started in September 2008 and is supported by the European Commission with a financial contribution of 3, 6 million Euro.

A video further explaining the digitalization of breast cancer detection methods is available in various languages [here](#).

#### Further Information:

- [Original Press Release - Official Website of Europe's Information Society HAMAM project Official Website](#)
- [Euronews Website Article – Digital fight against breast cancer](#)
- [European Institute for Biomedical Imaging Research \(EIBIR\) official website](#)

---

## EU: Europe gears up for European eGovernment Awards 2009 – Less than 2 weeks left to submit your case - 29 May 2009

**European Commission's call for good practice cases will close on 10 June 2009. Whether local, regional, national or cross-border, submitted cases and experiences will show how ICT can improve service delivery to citizens and businesses across Europe. The finalists and winners of the European eGovernment Awards will be selected by a panel of eminent independent experts.**

#### Awards information days

The 4th European eGovernment Awards 2009 Information Day, held on 21 April in Brussels (BE), was hosted by the European Commission's Directorate-General Information Society and Media. Over 60 participants representing 17 countries and a variety of public sector (local, regional, national and pan-European) and stakeholder organisations learnt about this year's awards, the submission and selection process, and the 5th Ministerial eGovernment Conference.

Following the European information day, several local information days have been organised with the support of local stakeholders. On 6 May, the awards were presented in Stockholm to potential Swedish applicants in cooperation with VINNOVA, the Swedish Governmental Agency for Innovation Systems. The Turkish information day, organised by the e-Transformation Turkey Project, part of the Information Society Department, took place on 12 May with participation of 60 people from 40 different agencies. On 15 May, in cooperation with the Ministry of Public Administration and Innovation, was organised the Italian information day. Finally, on 20 May, the Central State Administrative Office for e-Croatia organised a national information day with 30 participants.

To encourage participation, the awards call has been presented successfully across Europe by the European eGovernment Awards Consortium in various conferences and events, such as PEP-NET meeting (Hungary), monthly forum for public administrations hosted by the Danish Commerce and Companies Agency (Denmark), ITAPA international congress on IT for public administration (Slovakia), Elektronische Verfahren conference (Austria), Eastern European eGov Days 2009 (Czech Rep.), eCLAU - Youth in Action conference (Spain) and Offentliga Rummet conference including the ceremony for the Swedish Guldlänken awards (Sweden).

## How to apply?

Submissions for the European eGovernment Awards 2009 must be received no later than 10 June 2009 at 16:00 CET. Only online submissions via [www.epractice.eu/awards](http://www.epractice.eu/awards) are eligible. All those interested to submit an application are advised to read beforehand the Guidance Notes for Submission. Early submission is recommended.

The awards categories are:

- Category 1 - eGovernment supporting the Single Market
- Category 2a - eGovernment empowering citizens
- Category 2b - eGovernment empowering businesses
- Category 3 - eGovernment enabling administrative efficiency and effectiveness

In addition, a separate public prize will be awarded based on the online votes cast by members of ePractice.eu (membership open to all).

All public administrations (national, regional, local, etc.) from EU Member States, EFTA and candidate countries that deliver eGovernment services and solutions can apply. Applications must be for cases currently in operation and supported by a public sector actor.

### Further information:

- [Awards webpage on the ePractice.eu portal](#)
- [Contact - Awards Helpdesk](#)
- [Guidance Notes for submission](#)
- [5th Ministerial eGovernment Conference, 19-20 November 2009](#)
- [VINNOVA](#)
- [Italian Ministry of Public Administration and Innovation](#)
- [Turkish Information Society Department](#)
- [e-Croatia](#)

---

## IT: Knowledge management platform of the Public Administration goes live - 29 May 2009

**'Magellano', the knowledge management web platform of the Italian Public Administration, has been operational since 8 May 2009.**

The system firstly aims to facilitate the work and the collaboration among public authorities through a virtual community offering a unique access point to the know-how and expertise acquired within the Italian Public Administration.

Through Magellano, government employees will be able to access the most updated content on a given topic, know about the ongoing and completed projects and, above all, exchange experience with the public authorities that reached the best results. Each civil servant will have the possibility to provide his/her personal input through various communication means and work towards the achievement of common projects, regardless of his/her location and of time constraints.

Secondly, Magellano is to become a core resource for all those providing citizens and businesses with multi-channel information on government services. [Linea Amica](#), the network of contact centres whose mission is to promote, through various channels, eGovernment or mobile government services will be among the primary users of such function.

The initiator of the project, the Department for Civil Service of the Ministry of Public Administration and Innovation, is currently preparing via Magellano a "government services recipe book" in collaboration with a first group of authorities providing public services.

Each "recipe" will outline in simple terms the key aspects of a given service: from the responsible entity and the contacts for obtaining answers, to the necessary elements for handling a citizen request (relevant forms, offices opening hours, instructions, procedures, etc).

Magellano therefore intends to enhance the efficiency of the services delivered to citizens while simplifying the Administrations' work. It pursues a two-fold objective: on the one hand, facilitating the citizens' access to public services; on the other hand, making the Public Administration provide standardised information on the relevant time frames, responsible authorities and procedures, for each and every service delivered.

So far, over 16 000 registered users have been already working through the platform on the key themes of the Public Administration's activities. A report based on the Magellano experience has been made available for download on the platform's website.

**Further information:**

- [Official press release - Ministry of Public Administration and Innovation \(in Italian\)](#)
- [Magellano platform \(in Italian\)](#)
- [Website of 'Linea Amica' \(in Italian\)](#)

---

## **EU: eYouGuide: a new website on Internet users' rights is launched - 29 May 2009**

**A new Internet website, [eYouGuide](#), has been launched by Zuzana Roithová, a Member of the European Parliament, and Commissioners Viviane Reding and Meglena Kuneva, aiming to inform the Internet users on their rights on the Internet. This website is temporarily functioning in 4 languages with translation services to be provided in even more languages.**

"Internet users are not always aware of their rights in the digital world, or what is allowed and what is not. Sometimes they come across a website which provides them a service under illegal conditions. The increase in confidence of Internet users in digital services will increase eCommerce business. So far, only 6% of consumers within the EU make cross-border purchases", stated Zuzana Roithová, MEP.

"I am also happy that the Commission followed my recommendations and is also focusing on the protection of children on the Internet. There are various forms of abuse and it is our duty to protect our children from the potential wrong use of the internet. In my experience in the Czech Republic, lots of parents want to know about potential dangers for their children", added Zuzana Roithová, MEP.

This initiative is one of the 60 proposals of a European Parliament Resolution, adopted in 2007, whose rapporteur was Zuzana Roithová, MEP.

**Further information:**

- [Official press release - Website of EPP-ED Group](#)
- [Official website of the European Commission - eYouGuide](#)

---

## **EU/EE: Ministerial Conference initialized 'Tallin process' - 29 May 2009**

**On 29 April 2009 the EU ministerial conference in Estonia initialized the "Tallinn process" in order to secure critical information infrastructure.**

The EU ministerial conference CIIP (Critical Information Infrastructure Protection) 2009 that took place in Tallin and focused on cyber security in Estonia, initialized the so-called "Tallinn process" and agreed to organize a joint exercise in order to upraise EU member states capabilities to protect their critical information infrastructure. The exercise will be staged by 2010, in line with the European Commission's action plan. This joint endeavor would be the first tangible

achievement leading towards a strong coordination and cooperation among member states as well as a step ahead in order to identify areas requiring immediate actions.

After two days of discussions, the European Member States and the Commissioner for Information Society and Media, Viviane Reding, agreed to organize a closer coordination between all member states and stakeholders. Looking into the future, the process should be well supported by an annual Ministerial Conference or forum on Critical Information Infrastructure Protection to review what has been done and to discuss further steps ahead.

The EU Ministerial Cyber Security Conference, Tallinn CIIP 2009, was initialized by the minister of Economic Affairs and Communications of Estonia, Juhan Parts. The conference came shortly after the European Commission presented its Communication on Critical Information Infrastructure Protection (CIIP) and started the debate on the general direction of the European efforts towards an increased network and information security for the future.

**Further information:**

- [Original Press Release - Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communication](#)
- [EU Ministerial Conference in Estonia](#)

---

## **LU: Politics online - 29 May 2009**

**A new website, [Smartvote](#), providing useful information on citizens' political preferences in Luxembourg, is launched.**

Based on an online questionnaire on political values, desirable public policies - especially in the economic, ethical and social domains - external policies and, in general, on the political life in Luxembourg, the political profiles of the candidates are gathered and stored in a database.

On this website, available in four languages, the Internet users can answer the same questions, establishing their political proximity to political candidates and / or parties. This website, hence, enables the citizens to better identify their political preferences.

In addition, this website allows the graphical representation of the positions of the voters, the candidates and the parties capturing the wide dimension of the electoral competition:

- The "smartspider" comprises seven axes (Universalism, Economic Liberalism, Order and Safety, Traditionalism, Social State, Environmental Protection and Democratic Participation); the smartspider, at a glance, summarises policy areas' positions.
- The "smartmap" shows the political positions as on a map of a bi-dimensional coordinate system. The "North-South" axis is replaced by a (cultural) Liberalism - (social) Conservatism axis and the "East-West" axis is replaced by the traditional socio-economic left-right axis.

This new website is a key element in the "Polux" project research, initiated by the Research Program on European Governance, University of Luxembourg and is coordinated by Philippe Poirier. The research project "Polux" is funded by the National Fund for Research.

**Further information:**

- [Official press release - Website of the University of Luxembourg](#) (in French)
- [Official website of Smartvote](#)

---

## **INT: Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Cookbook has been published in a wiki environment - 29 May 2009**

**The Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association (GSDI) has published in April 2009 the GSDI Cookbook in a wiki environment.**

The GSDI invites contributions to the resource from a broad community of geographic data providers and users. The Cookbook wiki provides the necessary background information to evaluate and implement existing components of SDI. The GSDI Cookbook includes topics on data development, visualization, discovery, standards, legal and economic issues, community building, and case studies.

In light of the rapidly evolving technological environment of operation of SDI, contributions and updates to the GSDI Cookbook, data discovery, and data visualization are especially encouraged in the areas of service interoperability.

**Further information:**

- [Original Official Press Release, Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association](#)
  - [SDI Cookbook Wiki](#)
- 

## **EU: British join French/Italian open source campaign on EP elections - 29 May 2009**

**The French/Italian campaign to get candidates for the European Parliament to pledge their support for free software has been joined by British open source activists this week.**

Close to a hundred candidates from France, Italy and Belgium have so far stated their support. Among the most recent signatories are the UK EP candidates Caroline Lucas and Derek Wall, reported an IT news site last week.

The IT news magazine writes that Mark Taylor, CEO of an open source IT services firm, will be approaching other UK EP candidates. "A massive amount of the politics that's relevant to free software happens in Europe", Taylor told the news agency. "Its phenomenally important for people who care to ask their MEP candidate to sign the Free Software Pact."

Two Dutch candidates for the EP, Marietje Schaake and Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy, this weekend declined to sign the software pact. However, both said to favour open source software. "When deciding on IT, public administrations should consider the importance of open source", Schaake commented.

The campaign was started in April 2009 by the free software advocacy associations "April" in France and the "Associazione per il Software Libero" in Italy.

Explaining her motive for signing the pact, French MEP Marielle de Sarnez said in April that it is essential that public administrations have an interest in free software. This improves competition in Europe's IT sector and enhances technological independence, she said.

**Further information:**

- [Original news article - OSOR.EU website](#)
  - [The Free Software Pact Initiative website](#)
  - [ePractice news item "EP candidate: Free software essential for public administrations"](#)
- 

## **EU: Grid browser finds the meaning of life - 28 May 2009**

**A web browser that can understand technical terms in life sciences and automatically find additional resources and services has been developed by European researchers. It could lead to a new generation of intelligent search engines.**

The life sciences community has built numerous databases - such as those for gene sequencing and information about diseases - that are available to researchers as 'grid' services.

"Grid computing is essentially about building virtual organisations that are independent of the physical location where they reside," says Michael Schroeder of Technische Universität Dresden.

The problem is how to link those services to other scientific information found on the web.

Schroeder is coordinator of the EU-funded [Sealife project](#) which has created a 'semantic grid browser' to make grid services for the life sciences much more accessible.

"We have the web on the one hand and then we have grid computing, with its many services, on the other," he says. A semantic grid browser seamlessly integrates them.

"It tries to understand what it finds on web pages, interprets this content and then links it, on the fly, to services that might be useful to the user."

The key to the Sealife browser is a 'semantic hyperlink' that shows up on the page to direct users to relevant services. The link is not put there by the website but by the browser itself.

**Further information:**

- [Official press release - ICT Results website](#)
- [Sealife website](#)

---

## **EU: Consultation on EMODNET – Building a European marine data infrastructure - 28 May 2009**

An [online consultation](#) launched by the European Commission seeks to collect stakeholders views on the current state of Europe's marine knowledge infrastructure and how the EU could act collectively to improve it. The consultation closes on 2 June 2009.

There is a general consensus that marine data collected with public funding are not being exploited to their full potential. A number of reasons for this have been identified - poor knowledge of what is available, difficult access conditions, limitations on re-use, high costs, little coherence, unknown quality and insufficient spatial or temporal resolution.

The EU's Maritime Policy Blue Book, welcomed by the European Council in December 2007, undertook to take steps towards a European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODNET) that would progressively improve matters.

Steps taken since then include the launching of preparatory actions, the setting up of a Marine Observation and Data Expert Group, the formulation of broad principles for marine data management and the preparation of a [roadmap](#).

These initiatives cover all marine data - hydrographic, geological, physical, chemical, biological -as well as human activity that impacts on the marine environment. Socio-economic data of coastal communities and maritime industries have not been included; not because the Commission does not feel that they are important. Rather they are the subject of a separate parallel initiative led by Eurostat - the Statistical Office of the European Communities.

All stakeholders are now invited to provide their opinion as to the state of Europe's marine knowledge infrastructure and what steps are appropriate to be taken at an EU level.

The results of the consultation will be published and fed into the process for determining what action at an EU level is appropriate to create a marine knowledge infrastructure that is fit for purpose; that improves knowledge of the planet, that enables all stakeholders to contribute towards the debate as to how its oceans should be managed, that helps authorities meet regulatory requirements and that stimulates the development of an innovative value-added industry.

Personal opinions as well as those of organisations and administrations are sought.

**Further information:**

- [Official press release - European Commission](#)
- [Link to the consultation](#)

- ['Building a European marine knowledge infrastructure: Roadmap for A European Marine and Observation Data Network'](#)
- 

## **HU: New framework system for standardising eGovernment developments - 28 May 2009**

**As part of the New Hungary Development Plan, the framework system for standardising eGovernment developments in Hungary has been elaborated. This priority project has been based on EU resources, for approximately €3.2 million (approx. HUF 900 million).**

The aim of the eGovernment Framework System project is to determine the standards, requirements and regulations covering unified technical, semantic and IT-security aspects, methodological application development and project management, as well as the monitoring of the platform for the development and operation of eGovernment.

The 20 new standards and 100 new documents elaborated during the project and the unified framework system based upon these were accepted by the Public Administration Informatics Committee on 12 March 2009. As a Recommendation of the Committee, these standards, procedures and requirements will become compulsorily applicable for the about 140 Public Administration institutions. The standards will moreover serve as a guide for at least 2000 municipalities.

The creation and consequent assertion of the framework system may give sufficient guarantee that the development of the independent sectoral and municipal sub-systems will result in the establishment of an interoperable, safe and modern eGovernment. This way, the efficiency and standards of public services can be improved, and the administration's procedures that have been office- and case- centred so far can become really client-centred.

So far, separated and isolated IT sub-systems hardly suitable to interoperate and back office procedures made electronic at a low level have been typical of the Hungarian Public Administration. A new and standardised eGovernment development can put an end to this state.

The elaborated standards have been made available on the home page of the Senior State Secretariat for Informatics, [www.ekk.gov.hu](http://www.ekk.gov.hu), in a list of requirements accessible by all the developers.

### **Further information:**

- [Official press release - Hungarian Senior State Secretariat for Informatics \(in Hungarian\)](#)
- 

## **GR: Aid of enterprises in implementing investments regarding eSecurity - 28 May 2009**

**The objective of the action is to subsidize enterprises in order to implement investments related to eSecurity, and to prevent digital risks and threats against important sources, even more effectively.**

The enterprises to be financed are selected automatically and on a priority basis, depending on the order of electronic submission of the proposed investment plan. Projects will be financed up to the running out of each regional subsidy budget. Small to medium-sized enterprises that satisfy all the conditions and the terms of eligibility can be beneficiaries regardless of their legal status.

The percentage of financing per approved project reaches up to 70% of its budget. The maximum amount of the budget is defined by the rules of the Action itself and cannot in any case exceed of €70 000. The total public expenditure foreseen for this action reaches €10 500 000 and corresponds to the implementation of approved projects of a total value of €15 000 000.

### **Further information:**

- [Original Press Release - infosociety.gr](#) (in Greek)

- [Digital Aid S.A. official website](#) (in Greek)
- 

## **EU/INT: 15th conference of the international Porvoo Group - Interoperable European Electronic Identities needed - 27 May 2009**

**On 27-28 May 2009, the international Porvoo Group will convene in Vienna, Austria, to discuss electronic identity, interoperability and development of eServices in Europe, with delegates from several European countries as well the United States and Japan attending the conference.**

The main organisers of Porvoo 15 are the Support Unit ZMR of the Austrian Ministry of the Interior, Digital Austria, Secure Information Technology Center - Austria (A-SIT) and the Population Register Centre of Finland.

Issues addressed by the conference include identity management and the population registers required for identification, interoperable electronic signatures, pan-European public e-procurement system, preparation underway in the EU, barriers to development and methods of overcoming them, and standardisation and biometrics, including the integration of biometric identification in ID cards, passports and banking cards.

National electronic identity development projects will be presented by Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Sweden and the UK, and a global perspective will be brought by the USA and Japan.

The conference will also address the STORK pilot project with the aim of ensuring cross-border recognition of national electronic identity systems, thereby enabling easy trans-border access to eServices utilising national existing systems. The aim is to enable businesses, citizens and government employees to use their national electronic identity in various EU countries.

### **Background information:**

The Porvoo Group is an international cooperation network coordinated by the Population Register Centre of Finland and established in the Finnish city of Porvoo, as the name suggests, in spring 2002 in connection with the eEurope 2002 programme. The primary goal of the Group is to promote a trans-national, interoperable electronic identity based on PKI technology (Public Key Infrastructure) and smart cards and chip ID cards as well as secure e-services in Europe.

The Porvoo Group is widely recognised as a significant actor and relevant contributor to informed public dialogue in this area. The Group has seen constant expansion. The majority of its members represent their respective national authorities, but representatives of the business community as well as the European Commission and the UN have also contributed to its work. The US and Japan are closely involved in the Group alongside some thirty European nations. Porvoo Group conferences have been attended by as many as approximately one hundred delegates.

The Porvoo Group's conferences have been held every six months in different European countries. The next conference will be held in France in autumn 2009.

### **Further information:**

- [Website of the 15th conference of the international Porvoo Group](#)
- 

## **HU: Electronic submission of applications for higher education increasingly popular - 27 May 2009**

**Year by year, an increasing number of applicants choose the electronic way for submitting their application forms to Hungarian higher education institutions.**

10 % of the applicants applied electronically in 2007 while 13 % did so in 2008. There has been a considerable leap forward in 2009, with more than one third of the applicants (38 %) having made use of this possibility.

This step forward is presumably the result of the more and more widespread computer and Internet use. However, there is a paradox since the younger generation, which makes intensive use of ICT, stands for a low proportion of the users of this service. Hence the service's growing popularity is probably rooted in some other facts too, such as a governmental campaign to popularise the service, and the extension of the possible ways of paying the application fee.

Among those who submitted their application by electronic means, men represent a higher rate than women (43 % against 31 %), and there are similar rates for those living in the capital or elsewhere (43 % and 33 %).

As mentioned above, it is, somewhat surprisingly, not the younger generation but the elder group of those already having a degree who primarily used the electronic procedure. Although this tendency has not changed, one third (35 %) of those without a degree - that is, submitting their application forms to their first institution - have used this possibility in 2009.

So the classic dimensions of digital divide are present in the use of this service as well. So is the Hungarian tendency that the middle-aged use the electronic public services more intensively. At the same time, the low representation of youngsters can also be a consequence of the schools practice to help their students to fill in the paper-based application forms, which makes it the simplest way of submission for these students.

#### **Further information:**

- [Official press release - National Higher Education Information Centre \(in Hungarian\)](#)

---

## **EU: A first glimpse at 2008 greenhouse gas emissions trading data - 26 May 2009**

**The European Environment Agency (EEA) has launched a revamped version of its EU Emission Trading Scheme (ETS) data viewer, allowing users to retrieve easily the latest greenhouse gas emissions covered by the EU ETS up to 2008. The data available as of 29 April 2009 covered 85 % of the emissions encompassed within the EU ETS.**

This preliminary data indicates that a reduction of emissions has taken place in the main emitting sectors between 2007 and 2008. [The data viewer](#) can generate customised graphs and tables showing emissions released by combustion plants, oil refineries, coke ovens, iron and steel plants, and factories making cement, glass, lime, brick, ceramics, pulp and paper in any EU Member State. Data comes from the [CITL](#) (Community Independent Transaction Log) and will be updated once 2008 emissions data are complete.

The viewer shows, for the first time, emissions data from the second trading period (2008-2012) of the EU ETS. This phase corresponds to the initial commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol during which EU Member States must meet their targets for limiting or reducing emissions of greenhouse gases.

The EU ETS viewer has a similar look and feel to some of the popular data viewing tools released by the European Environment Agency, such as the greenhouse gas viewer.

#### **Background information:**

The EU ETS is the largest multi-country, multi-sector greenhouse gas (GHG) emission trading scheme world-wide. It is based on the [Directive 2003/87/EC](#) and started operating in January 2005. The ultimate goal of the EU ETS is to help combat climate change under the [Kyoto Protocol](#) and is the first international trading system for GHG in the world.

The Community Independent Transaction Log (CITL) checks and records all transactions of emission allowances between operators in the Scheme.

#### **Further information:**

- [Official press release - European Environment Agency](#)
- [EU ETS data viewer](#)
- [Community Independent Transaction Log \(CITL\)](#)

---

## EU: Commission issues recommendations on privacy and RFID - 26 May 2009

On 12 May 2009, the European Commission (EC) issued a [Recommendation](#) to make sure that everyone involved in the design or operation of technology using smart chips (or radio-frequency identification - RFID) respects the individual's fundamental right to privacy and data protection.

The Recommendation aims to respond to the public's expectations while seeking to create a level-playing field for the European industry. It lays down the following principles:

- Consumers should be aware of whether products they buy in shops use smart chips or not. When consumers buy products with smart chips, these should be deactivated automatically, immediately and free-of-charge at the point of sale, unless the consumer explicitly opts-in by asking to keep the chip operational. Exceptions can be granted to avoid unnecessary burden on retailers, for example, but only after an assessment of the chip's impact on privacy.
- Companies or public authorities using smart chips should give consumers clear and simple information so that they understand if their personal data will be used, the type of collected data (such as name, address or date of birth) and for what purpose. They should also provide clear labelling to identify the devices that 'read' the information stored in smart chips, and provide a contact point for citizens to obtain more information.
- Retail associations and organisations should promote consumer awareness on products containing smart chips through a common European sign to indicate whenever a smart chip is used by a product.
- Companies and public authorities should conduct privacy and data protection impact assessments before using smart chips. These assessments, reviewed by national data protection authorities, should ensure that personal data is secure and well protected.

The Recommendation was elaborated by consulting all stakeholders from both the supplying and using industries, standardisation bodies, consumers' organisations, civil society groups, and trade unions.

The EU Member States now have two years to inform the EC on the steps they intend to take to make sure that the objectives of the Recommendation are met. Within three years, the EC will report on the Recommendation's implementation, including an analysis of its impact on companies and public authorities using smart chips as well as its impact on citizens.

### Background information:

In 2006, the EC launched a public consultation on the development and use of smart chips. Based on this, it then adopted a Communication in March 2007 showing that further action was expected by the public in terms of privacy and data protection.

The individual's fundamental right to privacy and data protection is contained in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union proclaimed on 14 December 2007.

### Further information:

- [Official Rapid press release - Europa website](#)
- [EC Recommendation in the ePractice Library](#)

---

## New Factsheets

The 11th Edition of the eGovernment factsheets for Czech Republic and Denmark are now available online. We invite you to visit the [relevant section](#) for regular and/or ad hoc updates related to the factsheets.

---

## Latest Publications

- [EU: Recommendation on privacy and data protection in applications supported by radio-frequency identification](#) | 12 May 2009 | EU Institutions
  - [DE: The German Shared Environmental Information Portal, PortalU®](#) | 31 March 2009 | Germany
  - [FI: JHS recommendation to promote interoperability in IT systems in public administration](#) | 30 March 2009 | Finland
- 

## **EU: Recommendation on privacy and data protection in applications supported by radio-frequency identification - 12 May 2009**

### **Description (short summary):**

The Recommendation lays down principles which aim to make sure that everyone involved in the design or operation of technology using smart chips (or radio-frequency identification – RFID) respects the individual's fundamental right to privacy and data protection.

**Number of pages:** 10

### **Related article:**

[EU: Commission issues recommendations on privacy and RFID](#)

---

## **DE: The German Shared Environmental Information Portal, PortalU® - 31 March 2009**

### **Description (short summary):**

This paper is part of the proceedings of the European conference of the Czech Presidency of the Council of the EU, "Towards eEnvironment. Opportunities of SEIS and SISE: Integrating Environmental Knowledge in Europe". The German Environmental Information Portal, PortalU®, provides one-stop access to government-owned environmental information in Germany. PortalU® gives access to more than 2 500 000 web pages and more than 500 000 data and metadata sets from different national, regional and local authorities. Organisationally, PortalU® is the result of a cooperation of the federal government and the 16 German states. PortalU® is built up by the modular software InGrid®. It includes several interfaces including WMS, CSW and OpenSearch. The portal has a set of viewing components for the visualisation of search results, maps and metadata content. A metadata catalogue, the InGrid®Catalog, is integrated in the software. Core component of this catalogue is the ISO- and INSPIRE-compliant InGrid®Editor for collection and maintenance of metadata. A concept for the exchange and visualisation of monitoring data on the basis of the OGC-defined sensor observation service (SOS) is under development. According to the report, this concept could be a model for the data exchange in a European Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS). The integration of SOS-services for data exchange and visualisation is the next step of advancement of InGrid® and PortalU®. From an organisational, as well as from a technical point of view, PortalU® could be a prototype for a pan-European shared environmental information system.

**Number of pages:** 6

---

## **FI: JHS recommendation to promote interoperability in IT systems in public administration - 30 March 2009**

### **Description (short summary):**

The Advisory Committee on Information Management in Public Administration (JUHTA) has issued a JHS public administration recommendation on XML schema in public administration. The recommendation aims to promote uniform use of XML schemas in public administration and interoperability in IT systems. It should be adhered to especially when developing interface solutions for information exchange between different organizations.

The main purpose of the recommendation is to bring conformity to the way in which XML structures are formatted and named. To make IT systems more interoperable, a catalogue for common core types and core elements in public administration will be published later, describing common data, such as personal details, to all public authorities. Organizations should use the JHS recommendation when designing their XML schemas. This is an important step towards semantic interoperability between organizations.

**Number of pages:** 15

---

## Upcoming Events

- [PL: European Forum on Electronic Signature 2009](#) | 03 - 05 June 2009 | Poland
  - [CH: LinuxDays 2009](#) | 03 - 05 June 2009 | Switzerland
  - [UK: AEGIS User Forum and 1st Pan-European Workshop](#) | 04 - 05 June 2009 | United Kingdom
  - [PL: ICVP09 - International Conference on Virtual Patients](#) | 05 - 06 June 2009 | Poland
  - [IT: Cross-border e-he@lth](#) | 10 June 2009 | Italy
  - [BE: eDemocracy and eParticipation Workshop](#) | 12 June 2009 | Belgium
  - [ES: Adaptive interface techniques and their use for people with special needs](#) | 15 June 2009 | Spain
  - [FI: International Conference: Beyond the dawn of Innovation \(BDI\)](#) | 15 - 17 June 2009 | Finland
  - [NL: INSPIRE Conference 2009](#) | 15 - 19 June 2009 | Netherlands
  - [DE: Access to Environmental Information - Freedom of Information in Favour of Environmental Protection?](#) | 18 - 19 June 2009 | Germany
  - [IT: Cybertherapy 14 and Cyberpsychology 2009](#) | 21 - 23 June 2009 | Italy
  - [RO: E-Health and Bioengineering Conference 2009](#) | 17 - 18 September 2009 | Romania
  - [FR: Smart Event 2009](#) | 22 - 25 September 2009 | France
- 

## PL: European Forum on Electronic Signature 2009 - 03 - 05 June 2009

The European Forum on Electronic Signature (EFPE) is dedicated to the issues of Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) and e-signature related services. The main topic of the 9th edition of the Conference will be "Role of electronic signature in the Information Society".

The conference will consist of main panel and workshops and will be composed of three main modules, namely: Law, Technology, Applications. It will be attended by representatives of Government authorities, Public administration, IT firms, PKI users, Customers of e-signature-related services.

The honorary patronage of the EFPE in previous years was assumed by the Minister of Economy of the Republic of Poland (whose competences include e-signature issues), the Minister of Science and Information Technology, the European Committee for Standardisation (CEN), and the Federal Agency of Information Technologies of the Russian Federation (FAIT).

Registration to the event can be performed [online](#) with the payment of a fee. Further information about the conditions for participation is available [here](#).

The languages of the event are English, Polish and Russian.

Event email: [info@efpe.pl](mailto:info@efpe.pl)

Event website: <http://www.efpe.eu>

Country: Poland

City/Location: Miedzyzdroje

Organiser: Unizeto Technologies, National Clearing House SA (KIR SA), West Pomerania University of Technology, Polish Security Printing Works SA

---

## CH: LinuxDays 2009 - 03 - 05 June 2009

LinuxDays 2009 provides an environment to foster collaboration through knowledge sharing, facilitated discussions with real deliverables and opportunities to network with others that have either «been there and done it», are in the process of planning, developing and implementing, or are providing technology and professional services to help organizations leverage from open source assets.

This year, there will be 4 tracks, with the following themes:

- Public Administrations (June 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>): The track is dedicated to public sector initiatives in the field of open source software. On one hand this is because in Europe this sector is often the engine in the broad acceptance and understanding of open source software, and on the other because the State of Geneva has for several years expressed its willingness to move in this direction. The following themes have been selected to exchange and gather leads this year: Change Management, Forges and communities, Legal aspects and public.
- Education (June 3<sup>rd</sup>): Private, public, primary, secondary and higher education areas use open source. Thus, developing open source applications and implementing technology will improve the way children are being educated to be able to grow within a fast changing environment. Open Source in education is also critical to helping the developing world break down the technology divide.
- Open for Business (June 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup>): The track is for commercial enterprises of all sizes, not-for-profit international bodies and Non Governmental Organisations who want to see what others have done and what technological possibilities there are to help organisations meet their tactical needs and strategic objectives.
- Grid solutions (June 5<sup>th</sup>): The track is designed to illustrate how IT strategists from a broad spectrum of businesses and public administration can gain greater advantage through the adoption of grid computing with insight from developers and experts from the grid arena.

The event is open and free. Registration can be performed [online](#). Further information regarding the program of the conference is available [here](#).

Event email: <http://2009.linuxdays.ch/content/contact-form>

Event website: <http://2009.linuxdays.ch/>

Country: Switzerland

City/Location: Geneva

Organiser: Linalis, with the State of Geneva as a partner

---

## UK: AEGIS User Forum and 1st Pan-European Workshop - 04 - 05 June 2009

AEGIS (Open Source-based Generalised Accessibility Support for Mainstream ICT) aims to make devices like desktop computers, mobile phones and internet applications more accessible to people with disabilities: the end-users. The project will produce assistive software that can be built into mainstream devices. It will also create tool kits for software developers; accessible solutions developed using Open Source technologies. AEGIS is placing users and their needs at the centre of all its ICT developments, and focuses in particular on users with visual, hearing, motion, speech, language and cognitive impairments.

The AEGIS User Forum, to take place on 4 June 2009, aims at having fruitful discussions between both end-users and application developers, thus better understanding user's needs when wanting to use accessible desktop, mobile and internet applications. It will ensure that future technologies and services will meet the needs of the end-users, and both mainstream and assistive technology developers.

The User Forum's Agenda includes the following topics:

- AEGIS project at a glance
- AEGIS technical presentation
- Demos
- Interactive (via discussion) generic use case user scenario presentation

In the same framework, supported by the 7th Framework Programme on Research and Technological Development of the European Union, the ÆGIS Workshop, to take place on 5 June 2009, will present the preliminary findings of the ÆGIS project related to the Use Cases selection and preliminary user requirements, thus stimulating discussions on these issues between both end-users and application developers. Its outcome will be taken into account by the ÆGIS Consortium during the further course of the project. Key stakeholders from relevant areas are expected to participate (such as end users' representatives and organisations, EC representatives, technologies developers, etc.). Experts from relevant fields will have the chance to meet at this workshop.

Some of the topics to be discussed during the Workshop are the following:

- EU Policies on eInclusion
- Demos and Technical Overview
- ÆGIS Draft Use Cases and discussion
- Standardisation and Demonstration Issues on eInclusion

Participation both to the ÆGIS User Forum and Workshop is free of charge and registration may be performed by filling the [User Forum](#) and [Workshop form](#) which should then be sent either by fax to +32 2 736 86 22 or [email](#) before 30 April 2009. However, due to space limitation, participation will be on a first-come first-served basis.

Event email: [info@aegis-project.eu](mailto:info@aegis-project.eu)

Event website: <http://www.aegis-project.eu/>

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: Slough, Berkshire

Organiser: ÆGIS (Open Source-based Generalised Accessibility Support for Mainstream ICT)

---

## **PL: ICVP09 - International Conference on Virtual Patients - 05 - 06 June 2009**

The significance of eLearning in academic curricula is constantly taking on. This trend is particularly noticeable in medicine, where various specialized forms of computer aided learning emerge.

Among them are virtual patients - computer simulations of real-life clinical scenarios for the purpose of education in medicine, nursing or dentistry. Representing logically consistent clinical cases, they offer effective means of facilitating problem-based sessions on various learning stages (pre-clinical, clinical years, CME).

Virtual patients grow in importance due to the decreased time spend by patients in hospitals, time constraints of clinical teachers or difficulties in presenting rare diseases. It is very likely that one day, training on virtual patients will become for medical students as natural as flight simulators are for pilots.

The aim of this conference is to promote the usage of virtual patients in medical curricula. It offers a unique opportunity to discuss a wide range of topics related to creation and application of virtual patients.

The conference is open to participants with considerable experience in the field of virtual patients, as well as for those who just started considering including problem-based learning tools at their schools. Registration can be performed [online](#) at the event's website.

Event email: [icvp09@gmail.com](mailto:icvp09@gmail.com)

Event website: <http://icvp09.cm-uj.krakow.pl/>

Country: Poland

City/Location: Krakow

Organiser: under the auspices of the Polish Ministry of Health

---

## **IT: Cross-border e-he@lth - 10 June 2009**

The aim of the meeting is to discuss the opportunities and challenges regions face when applying new technologies to health across regional and national borders in Europe. Regions will exchange their experiences and best practices and discuss with other regions possible cooperation and funding opportunities, find partners or join projects.

The Assembly of European Regions (A.E.R) e-he@lth Network is looking for regions to present the initiatives adopted in their territories in relation to cross-border e-health.

Contributions to the e-health Seminar are to be sent [here](#).

The registration is open and free and should be performed by 25 May; the registration form as well as practical information can be found on the [event's website](#).

Event email: [c.meschede@aer.eu](mailto:c.meschede@aer.eu)

Event website: <http://www.aer.eu/en/events/health-social/2009/ehealth-fvg.html>

Country: Italy

City/Location: Trieste

Organiser: Assembly of European Regions (A.E.R) e-he@lth Network

---

## **BE: eDemocracy and eParticipation Workshop - 12 June 2009**

eDemocracy is an emerging field of activity inspired by advocates of direct democracy (political level) and ICT (technical level). Despite this, there has already been considerable research in the field (from the political science, social science, technology, information theory and computer science domains). Of the different fields constituting eDemocracy, eParticipation appears to be both the most dynamic and the most promising with regard to enhancing the democratic process. Nevertheless eParticipation is a relatively young field as far as research is concerned, despite of the continuously growing needs.

This workshop will gauge the status of current research both conducting actual eDemocracy and eParticipation experiments and in studying (observing) various aspects of such activities. The latter includes studying and identifying the barriers to greater online citizen engagement in policy-making.

Topics of interest include but are not limited to:

- Direct democracy examples such as eVoting, electioneering and polling.
- eParticipation experiment design.
- Assessment of impact and comparative research.
- Tools and practices for eConsultation, ePetition, conflict resolution and mediation, eDeliberation and others.
- ICT for argumentation support, collaboration and content management.
- National policy issues and initiatives.
- Risks associated with eDemocracy.
- Two thirds of the workshop's duration will be devoted to presentations and one third to discussion on future research issues. The detailed agenda will be made available to all participants once contributions by perspective speakers have been received and finalised.

Additional information can be found in the workshop's [call for participation](#).

The workshop is open to all eGovernment stakeholders and in particular to:

- Representatives of eGovernment research projects in FP6 and FP7.
- Researchers, interested practitioners and promotion experts.
- The event is open to all, but places are limited. Short abstracts of no more than 150 words from those wishing to give a presentation are accepted. All submissions are to be sent via email to [eGovR@eurodyn.com](mailto:eGovR@eurodyn.com) not later than the 29 May 2009.

Event email: [eGovR@eurodyn.com](mailto:eGovR@eurodyn.com)

Event website: [http://ec.europa.eu/information\\_society/activities/egovernment/studies/trendswatch/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/egovernment/studies/trendswatch/index_en.htm)

Country: Belgium

City/Location: Brussels

Organiser: European Commission ("ICT for Government and Public Services" Unit, Directorate-General Information Society and Media) along with the "Bringing Together and Accelerating eGovernment Research in the EU" study

---

## **ES: Adaptive interface techniques and their use for people with special needs - 15 June 2009**

The international workshop on "Adaptive interface techniques and their use for people with special needs" is sponsored by the INREDIS Consortium dedicated to basic research in accessible, interoperable and ubiquitous technologies. This workshop will be delivered by Professor Alfred Kobsa, an international expert in the field of adaptive interfaces.

The following topics will be addressed:

- user modeling and personalized systems (with applications in the areas of information environments, expert finders, and user interfaces for disabled and elderly people);
- privacy and information visualization, and
- their connections with the research held in the INREDIS project.

The INREDIS project is a **CENIT** (National Strategic Consortia in Technological Research and Development) project which is part of the Spanish government's INGENIO 2010 initiative managed by **CDTI** (the Industrial Technology Development Centre). INREDIS is carrying out basic research in the field of accessible interoperable technologies over the period 2007-2010 with a budget of €23.6 million.

Event email: [info@inredis.es](mailto:info@inredis.es)

Event website: <http://www.inredis.es/noticias/detalle.aspx?id=200&tipo=3>

Country: Spain

City/Location: Madrid

Organiser: The INREDIS project consortium

---

## **FI: International Conference: Beyond the dawn of Innovation (BDI) - 15 - 17 June 2009**

New innovations rise every day around the globe, both socially and technically-oriented. Therefore, it is of an utmost importance to stay focused and keep on track.

The Conference will bring together academics, business leaders and other professionals from both private and public sectors in order to discuss and share knowledge on innovation-related matters. It will contain competitive paper presentations, inspiring keynote sessions, and panel discussion; special session proposals are welcomed. The BDI event will contain competitive paper presentations, inspiring keynote sessions together with luncheon speeches, interactive panel discussion, and conference tutorial.

The submissions of innovation-related papers may include, but are not limited to, the following sub-themes:

- New Innovative Education Opportunities
- Entrepreneurship as an Innovation Process
- Innovation as Competitive Advantage
- Innovative Revenue Sharing and Business Models
- Innovation Networks and Alliances
- Developing Societies as Innovators
- Best Practices in Innovation Processes
- Innovation Management Policy and Practice
- Innovative Service Concepts (including Public Sector)
- Seamless R&D in Innovation Process
- Incremental and Radial Innovation Strategies
- Building Innovation Corporations
- Innovation Efficiency as Firm Behavior
- The Many Faces of Innovation: Knowledge-Based, ICT-Enabled Strategic, Open, New Product, Sustainable and Social

- Innovation as a State of Mind
- Innovative Organizational Culture
- Facilitating and Sustaining Innovation Environments
- Tools for Innovation
- Idea Management
- Commercialization of Innovation
- Breaking the Innovator's Block
- Creativity Busters and Boosters
- Scalability of an Invention

Registration requires the payment of a [fee](#) (special rates are available for students and accompanying guests). The number of expected participants is around 100.

#### **Call for Abstracts:**

Posters and oral presentations based on abstracts welcome. Abstracts of 500- 1500 characters are to be submitted **before 10 April 2009** to [bdi.papers@laurea.fi](mailto:bdi.papers@laurea.fi).

The abstracts must indicate whether the submission is to be presented in a poster format or as an oral presentation at the Conference. The submissions should apply a novel approach of some sort in relation to the subject in hand and present fresh ideas and/or innovative research results. The submission for poster session and other oral presentations (besides competitive paper manuscripts) are not subject to refereed, double-blind peer review.

Event email: [bdi.info@laurea.fi](mailto:bdi.info@laurea.fi)

Event website: <http://www.laureap2p.fi/bdi/index.html>

Country: Finland

City/Location: Hyvinkää

Organiser: Laurea University of Applied Sciences

## **NL: INSPIRE Conference 2009 - 15 - 19 June 2009**

The third INSPIRE conference takes place in conjunction with the [Eleventh International Conference of the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure \(GSDI\) Association](#) entitled "Building SDI Bridges to Address Global Challenges" and the National conference on Dutch SDI: Results and Challenges.

The INSPIRE Conference provides a forum for stakeholders from government, academia and industry to hear about and discuss the latest developments of the INSPIRE Directive.

This year, by teaming with the GSDI and Dutch National conferences, the INSPIRE conference encompasses a conference programme, technical tutorials and workshops, a programme of demonstrations and an exhibition to provide an ideal opportunity to learn and network with like-minded colleagues from around the world.

The focus of the INSPIRE sessions and workshops will be placed on reviewing the progress of the implementation of the [INSPIRE Directive](#) and on the development of Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDIs) in general.

The event's objectives are to:

- View the current state of progress of the INSPIRE legislation;
- Share knowledge on the progress of transposition of the INSPIRE Directive in the Member States;
- Offer an opportunity to the INSPIRE Drafting Teams and Thematic Working Groups to report on the development of the INSPIRE Implementing Rules;
- Further the understanding of the implementation challenges, costs, and benefits of SDIs at national, regional, and local level;
- Identify key issues and opportunities for European SDI projects;
- Build SDI Bridges to Address Global Challenges.

Participation requires prior [online registration](#) at the website of the 11th GSDI Conference. Various fees apply and early rates are available for those booking by 15 March 2009.

Event email: [ec-gis@jrc.it](mailto:ec-gis@jrc.it)  
Event website: [http://inspire.jrc.ec.europa.eu/events/conferences/inspire\\_2009/](http://inspire.jrc.ec.europa.eu/events/conferences/inspire_2009/)  
Country: Netherlands  
City/Location: Rotterdam  
Organiser: European Commission Joint Research Center (JRC)

---

## **DE: Access to Environmental Information - Freedom of Information in Favour of Environmental Protection? - 18 - 19 June 2009**

The Symposium will be hosted by the Brandenburg State Commissioner for Data Protection and Access Information. Public bodies are obliged to release information useful for engagement to the environment under the Environmental Information Act in order to support the citizens' commitment to environmental protection. In practice, the act's implementation gives rise to several questions: What exactly does "information about the environment" mean? To what extent are private bodies subject to the act? How far does the Environmental Information Act overlap with the general Freedom of Information legislation?

The International Symposium analyzes the basis of the Environmental Information Act in European law and focuses on the practice in separate states. The use of the right to environmental information by Non-Governmental Organizations, the significance of judicial decisions as well as different legal and institutional models will be portrayed. The conference also will deal with the obligatory publication of environmental information and its realization by means of environmental information systems. Experts from Brandenburg, the federal level, the European Union and its member states will give insights into current projects and discuss the role of transparency in the field of environmental protection.

The programme of the conference can be downloaded from [here](#). There is no registration fee. Early registration though is recommended as seating is limited; further information on the registration procedure can be found at the event's [website](#).

Event email: [Poststelle@LDA.brandenburg.de](mailto:Poststelle@LDA.brandenburg.de)  
Event website: [http://www.lda.brandenburg.de/sixcms/detail.php?id=bb2.c.550422.de%20&template=allgemein\\_Ida](http://www.lda.brandenburg.de/sixcms/detail.php?id=bb2.c.550422.de%20&template=allgemein_Ida)  
Country: Germany  
City/Location: Potsdam  
Organiser: Alcatel-Lucent Stiftung, the German Association for Law and Information Technology, the Independent Institute for Environmental Concerns

---

## **IT: Cybertherapy 14 and Cyberpsychology 2009 - 21 - 23 June 2009**

The CT14 brings together researchers, clinicians, policy makers and funding agencies to share and discuss advancements in the growing disciplines of CyberTherapy & CyberPsychology. The deadline for the call for abstracts is 15 January 2009.

The conference will seek input from a wider segment of the scientific community, and is interested in attracting experts in clinical therapy and rehabilitation, cognitive sciences, social sciences, and computer sciences interested in the meeting's core topics: emerging applications, design and effects of New Media.

There is also an interest in continuing to design, evaluate and apply cutting edge technologies such as: Ambient Intelligence, Augmented and Mixed Reality, Avatars, Shared Virtual Worlds, Video Game Virtual Reality (VGVR), Web 2.0 and 3.0, 3G and 4G mobile phones.

Oral presentations, posters and symposiums are sought in the following areas: Adaptive Displays; Addictions; Advanced user interfaces; Ambient Intelligence; Anxiety disorders; Augmented reality; Autism; Avatars and autonomous agents; Brain Computer Interfaces; Cognitive assessment; Cyberaddiction; Cyberbullying; Cybersickness; Distance Learning and learning communities; Eating disorders, obesity and body image disturbances; Education; Haptics; Internet; Internet Addiction; Mobile Computing; Mobile Phones; Motor Rehabilitation ; Multiplayer

on-line game; Neuropsychological assessment; Pain reduction; Physiological measurement and imaging during immersion in VR; Posttraumatic Stress Disorder; Presence; Psychotherapy; Rehabilitation; Robotics; Schizophrenia; Science 2.0; Serious Gaming; Social Networking; Telehealth and videoconferencing; Training; Videogame applications; Virtual reality applications; Web 2.0.

The accepted abstracts will be published in a regular issue of the journal *Cyberpsychology and Behavior* (indexed in Medline and PsychInfo) and presentations will be available in PDF on the CT14 web site shortly after the conference. The Proceedings, an important record of the each year's conference, are published by IOS Press in Amsterdam (<http://www.iospress.nl>) as part of its Studies in Health Technology and Informatics (SHTI) series, in hard copy and online (<http://www.booksonline.iospress.nl>). The complete series has been accepted in Medline.

This year's conference will feature three awards delivered in a luncheon ceremony on 23 June 2009:

- the Annual 'CRC-Clinical Cyberpsychology New Investigator Award' for a presentation of outstanding research quality. The aim of the new Award is to reward the presentation of strong methodological studies at the CyberTherapy conference. It includes a certificate and a check of \$1 000 (approx. €540);
- the 5th Annual 'CyberTherapy Excellence in Research Award', honoring a person who has demonstrated outstanding achievements in the fields of virtual reality and behavioral healthcare;
- three 'Student Poster Awards – Today's students are tomorrow's leaders'. Accompanying this honor will be three \$250 (approx.€185) - National Institute of Education (Singapore) <http://www.nie.edu.sg>

Registration and abstracts submission are to be performed [online](#) by 15 January 2009. The registration fees range from €290 to €600. Participation is open to all those interested. Approximately 150 attendees are expected.

Event email: N/A

Event website: [www.e-therapy.info](http://www.e-therapy.info)

Country: Italy

City/Location: Verbania-Intra

Organiser: Interactive Media Institute and Istituto Auxologico Italiano

---

## **RO: E-Health and Bioengineering Conference 2009 - 17 - 18 September 2009**

The main focus of EHB 2009, the second edition of the EHB conference, is placed on ehealth and bioengineering in general. Its goals are to promote concepts and advanced hardware and software technologies in the emerging domains of ehealth, telemedicine, medical devices/equipment, medical informatics, biomechanics, biomaterials, biotechnologies and healthcare management.

Another objective is to strengthen the interdisciplinary synergy between medical and technical researchers and practitioners, within the generous framework of medical bioengineering, in order to establish and promote advanced scientific concepts, methods and technologies for medical services and healthcare in Romania and enlarged Europe. In this respect, a special attention will be granted in the next years to targeting research to the real needs of patients, through different national and international projects and partnerships.

Last but not least, EHB 2009 represents a new "official" occasion to show that telemedicine in Romania and particularly in Iași exceeds the level of other more or less theoretical approaches and demonstrative issues. Its maturity was already proven by real time transmission and analysis of some vital biosignals of patients, performed by using the facilities offered by the first Romanian Telemedical Regional Centre located at the Faculty of Medical Bioengineering of the „Gr.T. Popa" University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Iași, which was developed by a local team within two research pilot projects - TELMES and TELEMON - financed by the Romanian Ministry of Education and Research.

The intention is therefore to promote procedures for teleconsultation, telediagnosis and telemonitoring, providing an alternative to be employed in the healthcare system that could be made available "every time and anywhere" for those persons who need such a public service.

The [topics to be covered](#) and the [full papers' submission guidelines](#) can be viewed online.

The organisers expect to attract over 200 attendees. The registration fee is 300 RON (approximately €70).

Event email: [ehb2009@bioinginerie.ro](mailto:ehb2009@bioinginerie.ro)

Event website: <http://www.bioinginerie.ro/ehb2009>

Country: Romania

City/Location: Constanta

Organiser: "Gr. T. Popa" University of Medicine and Pharmacy Iasi, the Romanian Society of Medical Bioengineering and "Ovidius" University of Constanta

---

## FR: Smart Event 2009 - 22 - 25 September 2009

Smart Event is as an international forum of knowledge-sharing, learning and networking in the fields of e-ID, e-mobility and Smart Security. It has proven to be a meeting place for world-class researchers, innovators, developers and business decision-makers. The event encompasses 3 international conferences covering complementary areas:

- The future of digital security technologies, e-Smart.
- The building of trusted mobile applications, Smart mobility
- The next generation of e-ID management technologies and services, World e-ID.

The relevant calls for papers are open until 13 March 2009.

Smart Event features contents combining scientific and strategic presentations of Industry experts, researchers and academics, as well as governmental and institutional representatives.

The *Smart University* advanced educational programme as well as a series of workshops and meetings complete the agenda.

Smart Event 2009 addresses high level professionals that foster research and innovation the e-ID, e-mobility and Smart Security fields. Based on a steady growing audience, the target for 2009 exceeds 800 attendees. Regardless their activity - Academia, eGovernment, Institutions, Standardisation, Research, Integrators/Consultancy, Manufacturer/hardware, Security Solutions Providers, Content Service & Telecoms Operators – they all play an important and crucial influence on major decisions in the mobility, trusted technologies and services marketplace.

Registration will be performed online with the payment of a fee, and it will commence in April 2009.

Event email: [info@strategiestm.com](mailto:info@strategiestm.com)

Event website: <http://www.strategiestm.com/conferences/smart-event/09/index.htm>

Country: France

City/Location: French Riviera

Organiser: Strategies Telecoms and Media

---

*The European ePractice Newsletter is published under a contract with the European Commission. The views expressed may not in any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position. Neither the European Commission nor any person acting on its behalf is responsible for the use that might be made of the information provided.*

© European Communities, 2009. Reproduction is authorised, except for commercial purposes, provided the source is acknowledged