

- it is possible to receive information using one's voice;
- access information in the field using a PC, Smart Phone or PDA;
- establish contact in emergency situations;
- share information between operators;
- offer real time assistance;
- provide short cuts to access information that is not readily available.

MAP is a complete set of very flexible services that could be adapted to existing scenarios with the aim to facilitate (on the move too), the work for civil servants in two main ways:

- Providing shortcuts to common practices, one-stop-shop and procedures;
- Capitalising the experience among the working team transforming them in "practices".

MAP initial deployment is going to address services in three main areas:

- Civil security;
- Social services;
- Citizen Relationship Office (CRO).

MAP services, for the above areas are going to:

- Support public civil servants during interaction with citizens (CROs);
- Improve quality, speed and efficiency in gathering answers and operational information (all areas);
- Remove employee skill barriers among internal departments within the public administration through advanced collaboration and communication services (all areas);
- Integrate data from diverse sources (laws and decrees repositories, procedures and guidelines) seamless and transparent (all areas);
- Capitalise knowledge through the possibility to store and share retrieval paths and the contribution by other employees tracing the problem resolution process and expert advice (all areas).

MAP services will be deployed to public administrations in France and Italy. Services addressed will be focused in France on social services and citizen relationship management and in Italy on civil security and citizen relationship management.

VoiceS-Integrating Semantics, SS and Serious Games in eParticipati

VoiceS is a complementary project, integrating a serious game and a semantic search function into the existing German and Spanish VoicE platforms.

The consortium comprises experts from the field of eParticipation, game development, communication and policy analysis from five European countries. VoiceS will update and complement the VoicE internet platforms in order to further promote the dialogue between citizens from European regions and "their" regional policy makers from the European Parliament, thus creating a direct link between citizens and the representatives from their region. The project will continue to focus on the policy area of consumer protection in the EU, a field of high relevance to each citizen. It will build on the community and contacts that have been firmly established in the framework of the VoicE project.

Verfahrensmanagement für Großraum- und Schwertransporte

VEMAGS stands for German "Process Management for Abnormal Road Transport" ("VEerfahrensMAagement für Großraum- und Schwertransporte") and is an internet-based application to execute the approx. 150 000 permit procedures p.a. with about 400 000 hearings for abnormal road transports. Typical examples are transports of

transformers, wind energy plants, truck-mounted cranes, parts for industrial facilities or buildings, log, construction and agricultural vehicles, yachts or vehicles for fairs.

VEMAGS is funded by all 16 Federal German States ("Länder") with the State of Hesse as overall project manager and was implemented as an official e-government project under the national programme "Deutschland Online" in 2007.

Connecting about 6 000 parties, the online-based application processes the communications of applications, hearings and permits of about 3 000 applicants and 1 700 traffic or road-building authorities. For the first time ever, applicants enjoy 24/7 online access to their ongoing and past applications and permits, including status displays of the connected hearings at all authorities involved.

Hauliers, crane and construction companies have to register their abnormal transportation projects with their initial traffic authority. There the project's feasibility is examined, often so in cooperation with additional relevant authorities like the police or German Rail (Deutsche Bahn) and every single road authority along the entire route of the transport. A decision can only be issued when all written statements of those have reached the initial permit authority. Application input as well as maintenance of business and vehicle master data is carried out by the applicant himself and remains completely in his responsibility. The application data is given online at the disposal of the authority. The authority examines and decides which additional authorities are to be involved in the permit process (along the submitted route) and initiates the necessary hearing assignments. The affected authorities can process them directly and parallelly in real-time. Over 80% of these transports are transit transports, meaning their routes cross borders of different Federal States of Germany and therefore involve numerous authorities on different levels of administration. Only then if all hearing partners have submitted their consent statements and requirements, the initial authority can create and issue the formal permit, delivering it to the applicant electronically signed via internet.

Before VEMAGS, this procedure was based on fax and very time-consuming (14 days upwards), which was highly risky to cause major delays for hauliers, because their customer orders often have to be dealt with in short terms. This is one of the major reasons why 50% of transports are guessed to take place without any authorization. These illegal transports distort competition and are a serious threat to traffic safety.

Editor's Choice of the week: [eDischarges](#)

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-

CH: Building permission via the Internet - 22 June 2009

Since the beginning of June 2009, five of the municipalities of the Swiss canton of Schaffhausen have been providing, through their respective websites, a new electronic procedure that integrates all the necessary interactive forms for obtaining a building permission.

The communes of Neunkirch, Siblingen, Thayngen and Trasadingen and the city of Schaffhausen joined forces in a project whose aim is to harmonise their respective services delivery procedures in a way to put them online, so as to simplify the life of businesses and citizens.

Thanks to the wide range of online information and the new eService, the procedures to be followed for obtaining a building or renovation permission are more transparent and more accessible, in particular for the layman.

Likewise, the Public Administration benefits from improved quality data. The information being incorporated in a dynamic system, the communes no longer need to manage and update it individually on the various websites.

The "smart" forms offer the advantage of a greater user-friendliness. Among other functionalities, they manage calculations and notify data entry mistakes or missing information. It is thus hoped that their use will shorten the time needed to complete the procedure.

The new eService usable regardless of time and location comes in addition to traditional service provision channels (physical offices and phone). As the digital signature has not yet been sufficiently established in practice (although it now complies with security requirements), paper forms submissions remain receivable.

The project is the fruit of an initiative of the IT services centre of the canton of Schaffhausen which furthermore supported the five pilot municipalities in the achievement of the technical aspects. It is being implemented under the aegis of State Secretariat of Economic Affairs (SECO). The "Reference eGov" team of SECO and the Federal Chancellery both brought their support.

Other municipalities of the canton are welcome to participate. The services offered by the pilot municipalities have been considered to be easily adaptable to other communes. The "Reference eGov" project is hence continuing the positive results it has achieved so far in the cantons of Neuchâtel and Fribourg which have been already providing a wide range of eGovernment services.

Further information:

- [Original press release - ch.ch portal \(in French, German and Italian\)](#)
-

IT: Towards the "University objective" of the E-Gov Plan 2012 - 22 June 2009

On 20 May 2009, the Italian Minister for Public Administration and Innovation, Renato Brunetta, and the rectors of three Roman universities held a press conference on the implementation of the "University objective" of the Italian eGovernment Plan (E-Gov Plan 2012).

This objective aims to ensure that, by 2012, all Italian universities provide advanced services to the students, the teachers and the administrative staff, based on full WiFi coverage and the availability of a VoIP service in each

university premise. By that year, the objective's implementation is expected to result in bridging the digital divide between universities by doubling the spread of WiFi networks in the campus of the South of the country while increasing it by half in those of the Centre and the North.

This "University objective" relies on two projects:

- "Online services and WiFi networks": €21 million investment (€9 million of which will be financed by the Ministry of Public Administration and Innovation while the remaining €12 million will be injected by the universities).
- "Digital University" whose budget is €5.5 million (€3.3 million to be financed by the Ministry of Public Administration and Innovation, and €2.2 million to be mobilised by the universities).

In the framework of the "Digital University" project, Minister Brunetta has already signed three protocols with the universities of "Tor Vergata", "La Sapienza" and "Roma Tre" respectively. The aim is to develop the VoIP communication technology, digitise administrative processes and better online services. Representing approximately €2million (funded with €1.3 million by the Ministry of Public Administration and Innovation, and with €650 000 by the three universities) the initiative seeks to put these State universities on an equal footing, creating synergies and fostering efficiency. The protocols pursue the following goals:

- Complete and improve the Internet coverage of the entire university area and the neighbouring zones;
- Adopt new generation wireless technology (WIMAX);
- Introduce VoIP for both the land and mobile phones lines of the administrative staff, teachers and students;
- Simplify and digitise the administrative relationship between students and university, through the adoption of authentication and service access tools and the attribution of a certified mailbox to each student;
- Introduce online systems for the management of payments and micro-payments;
- Digitise documental flow between universities, as well as among these and the Ministry of Education, University and Research.

The success of the "Digital University" project and of the entire E-Gov Plan 2012 depends upon the ability to impact on organisational processes while promoting the re-use of success stories and of proven solutions.

Background information:

The E-Gov Plan 2012 consists of 80 projects, structured around 4 priority areas. Launched in January 2009, it aims at promoting government innovation, spreading online services and reinforcing the accessibility and transparency of the Public Administration, so as to bring it closer to the needs of citizens and businesses.

Further information:

- [Official press release - Ministry of Public Administration and Innovation \(in Italian\)](#)
- [More information on the E-Gov Plan 2012 \(in Italian\)](#)

EU: Developing a methodology framework for assessing the effectiveness of telemedicine applications - 22 June 2009

The European Commission (EC) has commissioned a one-year study called "MethoTelemed" to develop a methodology framework for assessing the effectiveness of telemedicine applications. The first of the two events organised as part of the research work was held on 17 June 2009.

MethoTelemed brings together academics of international renown, policy makers, European networks (patients, healthcare professionals...) and the World Health Organisation in order to develop academically rigorous and practically useful guidance for a methodology to assess telemedicine applications in Europe.

From the outset, the study highlights the range of relevant stakeholders and interests. It takes this diversity into account through an extensive literature review combined with stakeholder involvement in two workshops, and endeavours to produce outputs of wide relevance and practical use.

The first workshop sought to gather the views of users and providers of telemedicine services on the possibility of developing such a methodology. More than 30 experts from different countries involved in decision making took part. An overview of the literature review and several case studies of existing telemedicine projects were presented at the beginning of the workshop as inspiration for the debate.

The second workshop will take place at the end of 2009. It will aim to validate the draft MethoTelemed Guidance.

Further information:

- [Official press release - European Commission](#)
 - [MethoTelemed study website](#)
-

UK: Government Procurement Service goes online - 22 June 2009

A new online portal for government procurement professionals has been recently launched by the Government Procurement Service (GPS) based in the Office of Government Commerce (OGC).

A part of the wider Reform Programme launched in 2007, the Government Procurement Service (GPS) aims to raise professional skills and capability across the central government procurement community.

The new portal provides a networking and knowledge sharing forum for central government procurement practitioners. Information to support professional development and career management is also available. Procurement vacancies, discussion forums, a resource library, a contacts directory, events and live news feeds are also accessible through the portal. GPS promotes further activities and initiatives for the government procurement community by gathering members' feedback and maintaining correspondence with them.

According to Nigel Smith, OGC Chief Executive and Head of the GPS: "The new portal is one of many initiatives through which the GPS is supporting the government's agenda of building a strong procurement profession with high calibre professionals who have the skills and capability to deliver greater value for money on behalf of the taxpayer."

The portal is open to all members of the central government procurement community and it's being hosted on the Improvement and Development Agency Communities of Practice (I&DeA).

Further information:

- [Original Press Release - Office of Government Commerce Official website](#)
 - [Government Procurement Service \(GPS\) online website](#)
 - [Government Procurement Service \(GPS\) initiatives website](#)
-

EU: European Commission launches BUILD UP web portal - 22 June 2009

On 16 June 2009 the European Commission launched the [BUILD UP](#) web portal, to the update of which will also contribute regularly its same users, aiming at sharing information on reducing the energy consumption of building.

A wide range of topics, regarding good practice cases in energy reduction and information on the relative legislation, will be covered on this website. Given that buildings are responsible for about 40% of the total energy consumption in Europe, improvements in buildings' energy performance are important to achieving EU energy-savings targets and combating climate change.

Energy Commissioner Andris Piebalgs underlined that "the BUILD UP portal will enable anyone from home owners to builders to share best practice for information. At the same time, it will inform and update the market about the legislative framework. BUILD UP can be an extremely useful tool to improve building performance".

The Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) adopted by EU in 2002 provided the Member States with an integrated approach towards efficient energy use in the buildings sector. In November 2008, a recast of the EPBD was proposed in order to generate additional energy savings amounting to 60-80 million tones of oil per year by 2020. As a result, in April 2009, an even more ambitious and demanding legislative resolution was adopted by the European Parliament. The position of the Council of the European Union is still being expected.

Further information:

- [Original Official Press Release, Europa Rapid website](#)
- [The BUILD UP web portal](#)
- [The BUILD UP initiative, MEMO/09/278 webpage](#)
- [Directive 2002/91/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2002 on the energy performance of buildings](#)
- [Commission proposal for a recast EPBD - MEMO/08/693 webpage](#)

UK/ EU: APPSI's response to the Consultation of the transposition of the INSPIRE Directive 2007/2/EC - 19 June 2009

The Advisory Panel on Public Sector Information (APPSI) - a Non-Departmental Public Body of the Ministry of Justice - comments on the consultation of the transposition of the INSPIRE Directive 2007/2/EC into UK law. Their response consists of an overview of APPSI's role, overall comments on consultation and answers to the consultation questions.

Overall comments on consultation:

- The Impact Assessment (IA) looked generally well-prepared, covering many of the impacts that needed to be measured. The benefits assessment has been undertaken in a conservative manner minimising the risk of optimism. However, it is important that steps are taken to ensure that the benefits are actually realised.
- APPSI is concerned that Statutory Instruments (SIs), and the IA, may be not aware that the geographic area relevant to the Directive is wider than the UK - the Directive includes all areas where the UK has or exercises jurisdictional rights. Hence, for example, it appears to include surrounding sea areas and the atmosphere above them. The position of other areas, such as the Falklands (and surrounding areas), Gibraltar and the Channel Islands is not clear.
- For clarity, the SIs should note that INSPIRE includes data held on behalf of Public Authorities - thus data collected by the private sector may well be included if it is part of a statutory requirement.
- As a clarification, the Consultation Document should have made clear, in Annex 5 (on Related UK legislation) that the EIR does not require all information to be made available electronically and hence INSPIRE will not apply to such information.
- The underpinning idea of providing better access to information is strongly supported by APPSI; however, this approach can easily become over-bureaucratic as well as expensive; therefore, safeguards are essential in order to avoid this bottleneck.

APPSI's complete response to the consultation of the transposition of the INSPIRE Directive can viewed [here](#)

Further information:

- [Original News Item - Advisory Panel on Public Sector Information Website](#)
 - [Complete ASSPI Response to the Consultation of the transposition of the INSPIRE Directive 2007/2/EC](#)
-

EU: Call for tenders - Study on User expectations of a Life Events approach for designing eGovernment services - 19 June 2009

The European Commission is calling for tenders for the production of a "Study on User expectations of a life events approach for designing eGovernment services". The call will close on 28 August 2009.

This study will investigate and document possibilities for a life events approach to the provision of eGovernment services as well as other new and possibly complementary ways of providing services and the consequences of these for the service architecture.

The context for this study is the so-called Web 2.0. The study team will therefore have to, throughout the whole project, take into account how eGovernment services may benefit from Web 2.0 features.

Further clarifications regarding the tender specifications and/or the model contract can be requested at info-h2@ec.europa.eu.

Further information:

- [More information on the call for tenders](#)
-

EU: The first official multilingual website on EU press releases is launched - 19 June 2009

A new portal PRESSEUROP.EU is launched; the first multilingual website compiling press articles on EU affairs. This website is an open network and fully interactive with thematic forums, online surveys and the possibility for visitors to comment on published articles.

A multilingual selection of articles complemented with analyses, comments and illustrations will be published at PRESSEUROP covering at least 10 languages (English, German, Spanish, French, Italian, Dutch, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian and Czech) and, progressively, all the 23 EU official languages. This consortium is bound to expand and include new members. Partnerships are already foreseen, notably with the European Radio Network - EuRaNet - and the future EU TV Net.

A network of freelance journalists in different countries daily monitors 250 titles. There is also a group of 10 full time journalists (7 in Paris, 1 in Warsaw, Lisbon and Rome); each full time journalist is responsible for 1 of the 10 languages of the website. Translations are made by professionals and revised by the journalists whose task, among other, is also to comment on them. The chief editor and his deputy assistant have the final word on the selection of the press releases. They usually write the editorials. Even though the core of the journalists is in Paris, editorial activity is coordinated among its various members and all the decisions made (including finances and new members' selection) are collegial.

PRESSEUROP.EU will display:

- articles from the European and international press (newspapers, magazines and online), selected according to pertinence and liability criteria, and covering various domains of EU news topics: politics, economy, society, world, environment, sciences and culture among other;

- press reviews, summaries and news syntheses;
- illustrations (graphic, pictures, videos, cartoons, etc.);
- a daily newsletter on the most recent news;
- press archives.

Only papers covered by a copyright agreement can be published or archived. If an article is considered interesting, it is automatically used if it comes from one of the 50 titles with a yearly agreement. If this is not the case, the copyright on demand agreement is used.

Further information:

- [Official press release - website of Press Releases Rapid - Europa](#)
 - [Official website of Presseurop.eu](#)
-

IE: A new website on information for people with a life-threatening illness is launched - 19 June 2009

The new Irish **Care** (Care, Advice, Resources at End of Life) website is launched. Organisations including the Irish Hospice Foundation, Care Alliance Ireland and the Health Service Executive (HSE) have contributed to this new website, which provides information for people with a life-threatening illness.

This website has been developed to provide practical information and guidance for all those who care for someone diagnosed with a life-threatening illness and it is most probable that the patient will die within six months either at home, hospital or other residential setting. This website aims to act as an information and support resource for carers, family members and friends to assist them in the various stages of this painful ordeal.

The Care website information is grouped under headings relating to the Practicalities of Caring, As Death Approaches, Specific Diseases, Working and Caring, Legal Matters, Money Matters, Bereavement, Links, Publications and Contacts.

Further information:

- [Official press release - Irish website of Citizens Information](#)
 - [Official website of CARE](#)
-

TR: Online Academic Journals Manuscript Submission and Evaluation System by TÜBİTAK - 19 June 2009

As of 1 June 2009, the Academic Journals Manuscript Submission and Evaluation System is available online on the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) official website. All the processes, from manuscript submission to publication of the [12 academic journals](#), published by TÜBİTAK, can be carried out on the web.

TÜBİTAK publishes 12 peer-reviewed scientific journals indexed by various international abstracts. Authors, referees, editors and all persons involved in the publication process can now carry out their tasks taking advantage of the Internet's speed and efficiency.

The interface of the system is both in Turkish and English. In order for non-Turkish authors to submit a manuscript, they need to create a new account. Turkish authors can sign-in using their ARBIS username and password. ARBIS is one of the largest information systems on the web in Turkey containing information about the Researchers,, run by TÜBİTAK.

The system, developed in-house, can accommodate a new journal having a similar publication processes with the existing 12 journals.

Further information:

- [Original Official Press Release - Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey \(TÜBİTAK\) website](#)
 - [TÜBİTAK, Academic Journals Submission and Evaluation System website](#)
 - [TÜBİTAK, 12 Scientific Journals webpage](#)
-

MT: eConnecting Local Councils - 18 June 2009

Parliamentary Secretary for Public Dialogue and Information, Hon. Chris Said launched a [web portal for Local Councils](#), coordinated by the Department for Local Government, aiming at empowering their role and assisting citizens in easily accessing local councils' services.

More precisely, the main objectives for the creation of this web portal -according to Dr. Said- are firstly, encourage local councils to effectively interact with the community in general, and, secondly, provide international users with a valuable tool allowing them to better understand the geo-cultural composition of the Maltese Islands, with their different specificities that prevails in each locality. The portal also promotes the advantages of standardisation, opening the channels of locality-based prioritisation and differentiation. Additional positive characteristics of this web portal refer to user-friendliness, accessibility, training and knowledge-sharing among local councils. The easier collection and assessment of information across the 68 local councils is an extra benefit provided by the portal for Local Councils.

According to Dr. Chris Said "If local councils invest sufficient commitment and time in this project, the joint result of this portal can serve as an automatic promotional tool earmarked to generate stronger dynamics in the domestic and inbound tourism. Moreover, this portal will add value to the inherent customer-care services and will help local councils reduce the pressures related to queries".

The Director of Local Government, Mr. Natalino Attard, who presented the new portal, states that web-users may find it more convenient accessing this portal to retrieve the necessary information related to local council services, avoiding queuing at the local council offices or phoning in. To a great extent, local councils have realized the benefits of this portal and have positively contributed towards it. Training was provided to all local councils in order to ensure ongoing maintenance of the portal. The concise format of each locality gives a good opportunity to develop this bi-lingual portal to a multi-lingual one, which could include Italian, French and German.

Further information:

- [Original Press Release - Department of Information-Malta Official Website](#)
 - [Local Councils Portal Website](#)
-

EU: 259 submitted cases aspire to win the European eGovernment Awards - 18 June 2009

The European Commission call for good practice cases in the field of eGovernment closed on 12 June 2009. The call received a total of 259 submissions which will now compete in four categories for the prestigious European eGovernment Awards title.

The European eGovernment Awards, organised every two years, support the implementation of European eGovernment policy and action plans within the wider framework of information society policies and strategies (i2010) and the overall objectives of the Lisbon Agenda to promote growth and jobs in the European Union. In this context,

the awards play a major role in the European Commission's good practice exchange initiative in the field of eGovernment.

This year, 259 cases from 31 of the 34 eligible European countries (*) were received by the call deadline.

The start of the evaluation phase

Following an eligibility screening, a panel of independent experts will evaluate the applications in order to select 52 finalists (short-listed cases). Experts from a variety of backgrounds are drawn from across Europe to ensure the broadest possible coverage in terms of geographical balance and specialist knowledge. Submissions will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- Relevance (10 points)
- Impact (25 points)
- Innovation (20 points)
- Potential for sharing good practice (25 points)
- Management approach (10 points)
- Communication and dissemination approach (10 points)

All eligible cases will be assessed exclusively on the basis of the information provided by the case owner(s) according to the six evaluation criteria above. Scores are weighted in relation to their relevance. The total maximum score that can be achieved is 100.

All applicants will receive electronic notification of the outcome of the evaluation by mid-August at the latest, i.e. once the short-list of finalists has been established in accordance with the first two steps of the evaluation process described above. The selected finalists will receive invitations to exhibit at the 5th Ministerial eGovernment Conference, to be held from 19 to 20 November 2009 in Malmö (SE).

Public prize

In addition to the four winners selected by the jury, a public prize will be awarded to the case that receives the most votes by ePractice.eu members. This category was introduced during the 2007 edition of the awards and consists of a vote by ePractice.eu members on the best case among the 52 short-listed finalists. All registered members of the ePractice portal can vote and submit comments. The online voting rules will be published on the ePractice.eu portal in due course.

Further information:

- [European eGovernment Awards website](#)
- [Guidance notes for submission](#)

(*) Applicants from the following countries are eligible: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

EU: SEMIC.EU celebrates its first birthday - 18 June 2009

The [Semantic Interoperability Centre \(SEMIC.EU\)](#) celebrated its 1st anniversary on 17 June 2009.

One year ago, the European Commission launched the SEMIC.EU platform as part of a comprehensive service to support European eGovernment projects in their efforts for meaningful data exchange.

During the last 12 months, the project of enhancing Europe's communication capabilities has proven to be a vast field and a rewarding venture at the same time.

The Centre has built bridges for and with the help of more than 50 partner [projects](#) and [initiatives](#) and 550 registered users.

Better means of exchanging data and preserving its exact meaning have already borne fruit in domains as diverse as waste management, employment services, registry data, justice, health and many more.

At one year of age, the collaborative service SEMIC.EU has only just begun its work. With the help of partners and users, the groundwork has been laid for more cases of successful reuse of interoperability assets and, thus, better eGovernment in Europe.

SEMIC.EU takes this opportunity to thank its supporters and users.

This goes along with a new call on projects and professionals across Europe to find out the potential of existing solutions for their own causes and to contribute by sharing their ideas, concerns and interoperability assets of any kind - ontologies, taxonomies, thesauri, code lists.

The Semantic Interoperability Centre Europe heads into its second year with a number of key objectives:

- fostering the discourses on technical issues like ontology development;
- new partnerships;
- new cases of reuse and cooperation among projects, within as well as across domains;
- comprehensive exchange of knowledge on research in semantic technologies.

Wishes and suggestions for improvement are always [welcome](#). Stakeholder requirements determine the future development of the service.

Further information:

- [SEMIC.EU platform](#)

NL: Public online consultation for the Charter of Responsible Citizenship - 18 June 2009

On 2 June 2009 Minister of Interior and Kingdom Relations Guusje Ter Horst gave the kick-off for a broad discussion on responsible citizenship through the publication 'Responsible Citizenship: A Matter of Give and Take'. With the presentation of this publication, she launched the [online](#) contribution of each citizen to the creation of a Charter of Responsible Citizenship.

According to the government, respect, involvement, focus on the future and commitment to the society are the four most important elements of citizenship. In this light, the Minister has symbolically presented the publication to representatives of business and political organizations.

In her speech the Minister stressed that the Dutch society has become more complex and diverse during the last few decades and rules and laws fail to serve it in the right way and thus be respected. She added that there is a larger variety of external influences, new forms of cohesion and other lifestyles and that the government had the responsibility of ensuring social cohesion. In a letter to the Second Chamber, the Minister also outlined her plans to draft a Charter regarding Responsible Citizenship.

Since 2 June 2009 the website <https://www.handvestburgerschap.nl/> is online with discussions on the subject. The outcomes of the discussions will eventually be grouped together, analysed and published as a Charter on

Responsible Citizenship; thus representing the common idea of what a responsible citizenship should be. Furthermore, the Ministry organizes conferences between June and October, in all parts of the country. Information on the place and time of these events is available on the [website](#).

Further information:

- [Official Press Release - Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations official website](#) (in Dutch)
 - [Charter of Citizenship website](#) (in Dutch)
-

UK: Reforming Public Services - 18 June 2009

The [Minister for the Cabinet Office](#), Liam Byrne, announced a new **Innovators Council website that will play the role of a forum where creative thinkers from public services, charities and businesses will make suggestions on how to steer public service reform.**

The aim of the Council is to fast track ideas generated by frontline staff and citizens in order to deliver better and more efficient services. The institution of this Council comes in the context of a number of reforms, mainly initiated by the Cabinet office, aimed at the evaluation of innovation in the various departments and the relevant adaptation in the training of policy makers.

Also in this context the report '[Working Together - Public services on your side](#)' was published in March 2009. The report in question focuses on the vital role public services will play in enabling the country to come out of the recession stronger and puts innovation at the heart of this reform.

In addition to the aforementioned initiatives, there are two pilot schemes currently being run by the Government. The first one is the 'Tell Us Once' service, which helps people to contact the Government only once when circumstances in their lives change (e.g. birth or bereavement). The information will then be shared between the relevant authorities. The idea developed from a project that helped people cope with bereavement, where frontline employees discovered how distressing it was to have to contact many agencies in case of a death. This new service saves time, money and effort for all actors involved.

The second pilot scheme run by the British Government is the Online Free School Meals, joining the forces of the central government with local authorities in order to minimize the time needed to process an application (currently six weeks) to just a few hours. Thus, people will get the help they need quicker and with fewer administration costs.

The Innovators Council, constituted by members from the private, public and third sector, will meet for the first time in June and will be in charge of finding ideas similar to those mentioned above.

Further Information:

- [Original Press Release - The Cabinet Office Official Website](#)
 - [Innovators Council Website](#)
 - [Working Together - Public Services on your side Report](#)
-

CH: The Swiss National Library goes digital - 18 June 2009

Over 5 million documents of the [Swiss National Library](#) (SNL) are available online and free of charge to all interested parties. This year the SNL has made satisfactory progress in the extension of its electronic collection, while also extending its paper collection by adding one more stack area in its basement.

The use of the SNL, both at its premises and through online requests, increased last year; resulting to the SNL's decision to digitise selected collections and enhance its online initiatives. Three of SNL's foremost online services are being presented as follows:

The "HelveticArchives" database, SNL's new online platform, has been operating since May 2008, concentrating collections of the Prints and Drawings Department and of the Swiss Literary Archives. The database is updated with new online documents every three months. Electronic collections grow further as SNL has launched a professional information platform for Swiss libraries' and archives' digitisation projects under the name "Digicoord" {a joint project between the SNL and the "Library Network of Western Switzerland" (RERO)}. Moreover, the "*Journal de Genève*" - the first Swiss French-language newspaper - has been accessible online free of charge since the end of 2008 as a result of SNL's cooperation with "*Le Temps*" and the "*Bibliothèque de Genève*". The aforementioned digital applications (the "HelveticArchives", the "Digicoord", and the "*Journal de Genève*") have actually granted citizens online access to valuable documents from Switzerland's cultural heritage. In addition to the digitisation of printed documents, SNL's major concern was to develop a collection of electronic publications that exist in no other form. This is also being implemented thanks to the vital collaboration of cantonal and university libraries, publishing houses, and individual federal offices.

The Swiss National Library is funded by the Confederation and in 2008 its operations amounted to CHF 32 million (approximately € 21 million). Some 61 % of these funds were used for collection maintenance, and the rest 39 % for users' services. The [Annual Report 2008](#) documents in more detail what has already been achieved.

Further information:

- [Original Press Release - Official Website of Switzerland's federal authorities](#)
- [Swiss National Library - Official Website](#)
- [Swiss National Library - Annual Report 2008](#)

UK: GEMINI2 metadata standard will be available soon - 18 June 2009

A new version of the GEMINI metadata (GEMINI2) standard has been prepared to meet the requirements of the INSPIRE Metadata Implementing Rules and will be available shortly.

UK GEMINI specifies a core set of metadata elements for use in a geospatial discovery metadata service. It is a definitive metadata standard for describing geographic information and it allows immediate creation of metadata content with the assurance of stability.

The first version GEMINI, (v1.0) which is the currently used version of the standard, was published in 2004 and is used in the Glgateway metadata service. GEMINI2 is a revised version and compatible with the requirements of the INSPIRE metadata Implementing Rules (IR), conforming to the international metadata standard for geographic information, ISO 19115. It is intended for use in a future UK geospatial discovery metadata service.

Further information:

- [Official press release - website of Glgateway](#)

LU: Official presentation of new 'eLuxemburgensia' portal - 17 June 2009

On 26 May 2009, the State Secretary for Culture, Higher Education and Research, Ms Octavie Modert, and the Director of the National Library of Luxemburg (BnL), Ms Monique Kieffer, presented the new '[eLuxemburgensia](#)' web portal which will eventually gather all the documents that will be digitised by the National Library.

Like its European counterparts, the BnL started digitising its collection. The launch of 'eluxemburgensia' marks a new step forward in this direction. Over 100 000 pages and 800 000 articles, images, death notices and ads from two daily newspapers have been already made accessible via the portal.

State Secretary Modert stressed the need for supporting the digital revolution upstream, which "requires raising the citizens' awareness of the ICT results" offering advantages in terms of duration, conservation and communication, as well as access to knowledge. "By rendering cultural heritage accessible to the wider public" the State Secretary moreover hopes "to contribute to democratising the access to knowledge and learning."

The project's main novelty lies in the digitisation of old editions of daily national newspapers "Luxemburger Wort" (published from 1848 to 1869 - over 4 200 editions) and "Tageblatt" (published from 1913 to 1950 - over 11 300 editions). Thanks to optical character recognition (OCR), Internet users can perform search for words through the newspaper's full text.

Furthermore, a new consultation module allows users to navigate through the table of contents of each newspaper. "An additional step has been taken by structuring the articles and rebuilding the tables of contents" the BnL Director said. A web viewer makes it possible to view the newspaper directly in one's Internet browser. Ms. Kieffer indicated on this occasion that the BnL is the first national library in the world to use this consultation module.

The aim of the digitisation of both newspapers is twofold: to facilitate access to newspapers featuring a wealth of historical information on the one hand, and, on the other, to preserve old, fragile paper versions which often present a risk of disappearance.

The totality of the digitised content can be found on the www.eluxemburgensia.lu website.

The project is the result of teamwork and provides access to several centuries of knowledge. It will be continued with the gradual integration of later editions of "Luxemburger Wort", until the editions of the year 1950 included. The BnL is also planning to include contents which have been already digitised, such as pictures and postcards, in the database of the portal, in the aim to eventually achieve the full digitisation of the copyright-free heritage.

Further information:

- [Official press release - Government of Luxembourg \(in French\)](#)
- [eLuxemburgensia portal](#)

BE: The eID card to serve as a paperless train ticket - 17 June 2009

Since 4 June 2009, it has been possible for those traveling the Belgian railways to use their Belgian electronic identity card (eID) as a valid train ticket. The new eService is the first of its kind in Europe.

The procedure is convenient, simple, fast and environment friendly. The user buys a train ticket online via the website of the national railway company (SNCB) without having to print the ticket, as the latter goes automatically transferred to his/her eID card. Once on the train, the traveler shows his/her eID card to the ticket collector who will scan it and thus view the ticket.

This system is expected to be used in future for all types of subscriptions, or even to enable passengers to directly benefit from the discounts they are entitled to.

The SNCB management and Federal ministers Steven Vanackere (Minister for Public Companies) and Vincent Van Quickenborne (Minister for Simplification) welcomed the achievement: "Many people say they only use their eID card once a year. Thanks to the new application, they will be able to use it more often" Minister Van Quickenborne said.

Minister Vanackere stressed that this use of the eID card is complementary to that of MoBIB, the new Brussels public transportation pass which gathers one's transportation contracts (subscriptions, multiple travel cards or preferential tickets).

Since March 2004, the SNCB has sold over 1 million train tickets by electronic means. The railway company forecasts to sell several millions of paperless tickets in the medium term thanks to the eID.

Further information:

- [Official press release - eAdministration and Simplification Unit - EASI-WAL \(in French\)](#)
 - [SNCB website](#)
-

RO: Courses on Electronic Public Procurement - 17 June 2009

The [Centre of Excellence -The Agency for Information Society Services \(ASSI\)](#) has provided since its launching, training sessions on Electronic Public Procurement to almost 730 trainees in order to optimize the use of electronic public procurement.

52 % of the participants were representatives of contracting authorities that use e-procurement services, whereas 48% were representatives of economic operators. Along with the training, ASSI makes available to system users the [Electronic System for Public Procurement](#), a portal specialized in customer support. This gateway provides information on system functionality, ensures that public procurements can be efficiently and transparently managed, offers better access to public contracts, and simplifies tendering procedures for both suppliers and contracting authorities.

ASSI, also operator of e-Auction, shall make efforts to assist contracting authorities in complying with legal provisions, so that by the end of 2009, 20 % of the total annual value of procurement will be conducted through electronic means.

Further information:

- [Original Press Release - Agency for Information Society Services \(ASSI\) Website](#)
 - [Centre of Excellence-ASSI Website](#)
 - [Romanian Electronic System for Public Procurement Website](#)
-

New Factsheets

The 11th Edition of the eGovernment factsheet of Sweden, the 6th Editions for Romania and Turkey as well as the 3rd Edition for Switzerland 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: Electronic Signatures as Obstacles for Cross-Border eProcurement in Europe](#) | 15 June 2009 | Czech Republic | France | Germany | Spain | Sweden | EU Institutions
- [EU: eHealth Monthly Focus on MicroActive](#) | 12 June 2009 | EU Institutions
- [EU: Functional and non-functional requirements specification for the VCD](#) | 19 May 2009 | EU Institutions
- [EU: Requirements for Use of Signatures in Public Procurement Processes](#) | 30 April 2009 | Pan european
- [EU: eHealth Monthly Focus on the Personalised Information Platform for Life & Health Services \(PIPS\)](#) | 3 April 2009 | EU Institutions

EU: Electronic Signatures as Obstacles for Cross-Border eProcurement in Europe - 15 June 2009

eProcurement is considered one of the most promising services within e-government in terms of cost and time efficiency. Within the European Union, the Internal Market requires cross-border eProcurement. The European Council has issued directives and guidelines for this purpose. While eProcurement works on national levels, cross-border eProcurement in Europe does not. This is mainly due to lacking technical interoperability and legal harmonisation in particular concerning the use of e-signatures. Through a comparative study of the different legal provisions in the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Spain and Sweden, this article provides an overview of the current state-of-play and makes suggestions on how to overcome the remaining obstacles to pan-European eProcurement.

This article starts with a brief definition of the main concepts and a review of the contents of the official (legal) documents and studies that relate to the use of eSignatures in eProcurement. Then, success-factors and barriers for their cross-border adoption are discussed from a legal point of view. Based on a comparison of the national profiles from Germany and the PROCURE pilot participants Czech Republic, France, Spain, and Sweden, recommendations for European legislation and individual measures to better align national regulations and the mutual recognition of electronic signatures in eProcurement among the Member States are made.

Number of pages: 33

EU: eHealth Monthly Focus on MicroActive - 12 June 2009

Description (short summary):

Recent developments in the area of "point of care" diagnostics may allow the transfer of molecular diagnostics from central laboratories to the doctor's office and to the homes of the patients. The vision of the European funded project MicroActive has been to develop an integrated system based on microtechnology and biotechnology for automated diagnosis of a wide range of diseases. In the project, the developed system was tested successfully for the "proof-of-principle" detection of biomarkers indicative of cervical pre-cancer.

Number of pages: 2

EU: Functional and non-functional requirements specification for the VCD - 19 May 2009

According to the description of Pan-European Public Procurement Online (PEPPOL) work, the overall aim of Work Package 2 (WP2), 'Virtual Company Dossier - VCD', is "to provide interoperable solutions for economic operators in any European country to utilise company information already registered somewhere and to submit this information electronically to any public sector awarding entity from a different Member State when these economic operators decide to apply for public contracts".

As a first step to specify and implement such interoperable solutions for economic operators, WP2 investigated existing studies and solutions, as well as legal frameworks at European and national levels which may frame such a VCD specification and implementation. Therefore, the first activities of WP 2 comprised the analysis, synthesis and assessment of existing company dossier structures of individual Member States along with the achievements of previously run studies from the Directorate General Internal Market and Services or other relevant EU bodies, and initiatives like the EU-co-funded BRITE project with its BriteCBD (Common Business Dossier for eProcurement take-up) and other standard specifications. The initial investigation kept going with understanding what already exists and

what the legal, organisational and semantic requirements are. Based on that, a concept for the overall VCD was defined and elaborated.

This report documents the results of these activities; at this stage, the current deliverable is pending for EU approval.

Number of pages: 127

EU: Requirements for Use of Signatures in Public Procurement Processes - 30 April 2009

The D1.1 deliverable is the first version of functional specifications for cross-border interoperability of e-signatures in Europe. The specifications are specifically targeted at cross-border public procurement, the topic of Pan-European Public Procurement On-Line (PEPPOL). PEPPOL is a three-year (May 2008 - April 2011) large scale pilot under the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP2) initiative of the European Commission.

Signature interoperability in PEPPOL focuses on verification of eSignatures and their associated eIDs. Interoperability of signing solutions is not handled as it is assumed that all actors are capable of signing documents within their corporate infrastructure.

The specifications guide the implementation, testing, and piloting of eSignature interoperability solutions to be done by PEPPOL.

The specifications are publicly available and comments from any interested party are most welcome. Since the specifications of D1.1 by necessity will evolve as a result of further work in PEPPOL, any party using or referring to the specifications must ensure that the latest version is used. Further information can be provided by contacting the PEPPOL project.

The deliverable has been issued by the PEPPOL project and it is pending for EU approval.

Number of pages: 213

EU: eHealth Monthly Focus on the Personalised Information Platform for Life & Health Services (PIPS) - 3 April 2009

Description (short summary):

The ultimate challenge of PIPS project is to exploit the most advanced information technologies in order to encourage healthier individual choices in every day life by providing the 'individual' precise information. It also aims to improve one's well-being and quality of life, to prevent and to keep under control diseases, and to guarantee continuous support to treatments to chronically ill patients or to people that have being discharged from the hospital.

The overall PIPS strategy of innovative personalized services, researched and tested in the PIPS project, is now feeding a rich pipeline of innovative eServices that San Raffaele Scientific Institute (HSR) is actively pursuing. PIPS innovative services aimed at prevention and improvement of Individual's lifestyle are part of the challenging HSR initiative "Quo Vadis". Quo Vadis is an innovative healthcare site, currently under advanced stage of design, dedicated to the delivery of predictive and preventive medicine-based services for Well-Being offered to the citizen.

Number of pages: 2

Upcoming Events

- [FR: ICGIS 2009](#) | 24 - 26 June 2009 | France
- [SI: Urban Data Management Symposium](#) | 24 - 26 June 2009 | Slovenia
- [UK: European e-Identity Management Conference](#) | 25 - 26 June 2009 | United Kingdom
- [SE: Conference on solutions for eSignature Interoperability](#) | 26 June 2009 | Sweden
- [FR: 4th Rencontres of Regional Dynamics in Geographic information](#) | 29 - 30 June 2009 | France
- [UK: ECEG 2009](#) | 29 - 30 June 2009 | United Kingdom
- [DE: HealthGrid Conference 2009](#) | 29 June - 01 July 2009 | Germany
- [ES: 5th Internet, Law and Politics Conference](#) | 06 - 07 July 2009 | Spain
- [IT: European Telematic Administrative Procedure](#) | 10 - 11 July 2009 | Italy
- [RO: E-Health and Bioengineering Conference 2009](#) | 17 - 18 September 2009 | Romania
- [FR: Smart Event 2009](#) | 22 - 25 September 2009 | France

FR: ICGIS 2009 - 24 - 26 June 2009

The International Conference on Geographic Information Systems aims to bring together researchers, scientists, engineers, and scholar students to exchange and share their experiences, new ideas, and research results about all aspects of Geographic Information Systems, and discuss the practical challenges encountered and the solutions adopted.

Topics of interest for submission include, but are not limited to:

Address Geocoding; Automated cartography; Automotive navigation system; Cartographic modelling; Cartography; Computer Sciences; Crime Mapping Digital raster graphic; Data capture; Data creation; Data modelling; Data output and cartography; Data representation; Geomarketing; Geodatabases; Geodesy; Geographic Data Files; Geographic Encoding and Referencing; Geographic information science; Geoinformatics; Geoinformation; Geomatics; Geosciences; Geostatistics; GIS software; Graphic display techniques; Information Science and Systems Science; Location mapping; Management and analysis; Map database management; Map overlay; Mobile GIS; GIS Networks; Non-spatial data; Projections, coordinate systems and registration; Remote sensing; Reverse geocoding; Semantics and GIS; Spatial analysis with GIS; Spatial ETL; Surveying and Mapping Technology; Statistical GIS; Topological modelling; Vehicle navigation; Virtual globe; Web API; Web mapping.

Authors and Listeners should completely fill out the online conference registration form: [Online Author Registration Form](#); [Online Listener Registration Form](#).

Event email: info@waset.org

Event website: <http://www.waset.org/wcset09/paris/icgis/index.html>

Country: France

City/Location: Paris

Organiser: World Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology

SI: Urban Data Management Symposium - 24 - 26 June 2009

The Urban Data Management Society (UDMS) organizes this international symposium aiming at promoting the development of information systems in local governments. An important aim of UDMS throughout these years of organizing international symposia has been to provide a forum for people to discuss new approaches, to consider new technologies and to share practical experiences in the field of urban data management.

The symposium consists of 3 workshops on the 23 June and a main conference from 24-26 June.

A few of the main topics that will be presented in the conference are as follows:

- EURADIN - The harmonization of European Addresses: a strategy for building u access services to national or regional addresses infrastructures (Workshop 3, 23 June).
- Complying with the INSPIRE Implementation Rules - A Case Study (Conference, 24 June).
- Quantifying Transaction Costs of Geoinformation: Experiments in National Information Structures in Sweden and Germany (Conference, 24 June).
- Collecting, producing and maintaining core 3D geo-information in an integrated workflow (Conference, 24 June).
- Supporting the development of shared situational awareness for civilian crisis management with Geographic Information Science - research plan (Conference, 25 June).
- Collaborative E-Governance: Describing and Pre-Calibrating the Digital Milieu in Urban and Regional Planning (Conference, 26 June).

More information regarding the conference programme can be found [here](#).

The number of participants is expected to be around 150. Registration can be performed [online](#) with the payment of a fee.

Event email: e.m.fendel@geo.tudelft.nl

Event website: <http://www.udms.net/cms/>

Country: Slovenia

City/Location: Ljubljana

Organiser: The Urban Data Management Society (UDMS)

UK: European e-Identity Management Conference - 25 - 26 June 2009

The conference aims to tackle head-on the issues surrounding e-identity as a core enabler of today's personal, business and government processes. eema and OASIS have joined forces to produce this two-day event which will comprise a variety of presentations, panel discussions, round table sessions and accompanying workshops covering the key challenges faced and strategies available to effectively manage employee, citizen and corporate identities.

The conference is an essential date for those in business, public sector and government who are involved in the policy, security, systems and processes surrounding identity management. In conjunction with the main conference there will be an exhibition of some of the leading identity management and security vendors, who will be on hand to demonstrate the industry's latest technological advances.

The eema stream will focus on:

- Managing Identity - Exploring the management of network and physical access/ID management and the supporting technological, data and personnel issues.
- Securing Identity - Looking at how we can help protect identities and make our systems more robust.
- Federated Identity - Exploring effective strategies and practical case studies to deploy and manage federated identity systems.
- e-ID Cards - Covering Member State e-ID card interoperability issues, latest technological solutions, standards and cultural challenges.
- Mobile e-ID - exploring identity issues for those on the move.

The OASIS stream will focus on:

- Service Oriented Architecture (SOA) – Helping administrators and organisations with citizens, customers and employees unlock the door to shared services and the deployment of foundation systems.

Registration is now open and can be performed [online](#). The event is open to all. Participation can be performed with the payment of a [fee](#).

Event email: f.hawkins@eema.org

Event website: <http://www.revolutionevents.plus.com/eema/index.htm>
Country: United Kingdom
City/Location: London
Organiser: eema

SE: Conference on solutions for eSignature Interoperability - 26 June 2009

Chambers of Commerce in 13 European countries developed eSignature related services. With the Wesign project supported financially by the European Commission, Chambers teamed to promote the development of eBusiness and eGovernment applications relying on digital certificates. Project partners succeeded among others to demonstrate the potential of some interoperable tools such as the Trust service Status List.

The conference will report on Wesign results and look at identifying the next challenges for reaching interoperability of eSignature In Europe:

- Identification of key drivers such as the Services Directive implementation or eProcurement;
- Standardisation challenges ahead;
- The role for Supervisory Authorities or other bodies such as the European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA), the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) and the industry;
- The implementation of Trust service Status Lists and its exploitation by certification service providers.

The primary target audience for this conference is public authorities, representatives from EU institutions, business associations but also researchers and other specialists in the field of eSignatures.

The event is open and free. Registration can be performed by sending an email to Ms. Habla Mihoub, Assistant European Affairs at mihoub@eurochambres.eu. Name and organisation should be provided.

Event email: mihoub@eurochambres.eu
Event website: <http://www.eurochambres.eu/Content/Default.asp?PageID=1&DocID=1833>
Country: Sweden
City/Location: Stockholm
Organiser: Eurochambres together with ChamberSign and the Swedish Chambers

FR: 4th Rencontres of Regional Dynamics in Geographic information - 29 - 30 June 2009

For four years, the French Association for Geographic Information (AFIGÉO) has been organising "Rencontres" gathering the actors of geographic information working at various administrative levels towards the sharing of spatial data, for those actors to meet and exchange on common issues.

The 2009 edition of this event aims to bring out the best of the experience of the field practitioners who form a genuine knowledge and competence network that will serve as the core base of the future national spatial data infrastructure (IDG). The event will focus on the outcomes and the evolution of the relevant sharing platforms in the European context. Under the framework of the eSDINET+, the AFIGEO carried out a full study of the use, networking modes, organisation and technical aspects of about 50 sharing dynamics at county, regional and national levels.

Feedback on European experiences of the set up of IDG will allow assessing the progress made in preparing the implementation of the INSPIRE Directive. A roundtable will be dedicated to debating on the key indicators for evaluating the social and economical impact of IDG. Moreover, several thematic workshops will aim to highlight the links between the platforms and the reforms/projects (national and European), as well as with the private sector.

Each day will be devoted to, respectively:

- Assessment of spatial data infrastructure in France and in Europe (29 June)
- Accessibility of spatial data in the INSPIRE context (30 June)

The programme of the conference is available [here](#). The event is free. Registration to the event should be performed [online](#) before 15 June 2009.

Event email: afigeo@afigeo.asso.fr

Event website: http://www.afigeo.asso.fr/page_276.html?AfigeoSession=54ca01106140bc114a5235f8b4e4937f

Country: France

City/Location: Lille

Organiser: French Association for Geographic Information (AFIGEO)

UK: ECEG 2009 - 29 - 30 June 2009

Over the years, the European Conference on e-Government (ECEG) has become a major arena for critical discussion of the latest research in the rapidly evolving field of eGovernment and eGovernance.

As governments seek to remodel and restyle their services, eGovernment continues to arouse interest and attention. New dynamic issues such as eDemocracy, eCitizenship, eIdentity and eVoting have become core elements in the development of public sector delivery. The multi-tier nature of eGovernment, relevant at local government, central government but also at the supranational level such as the European Union, makes it of importance to academics and practitioners alike. Vital questions are posed which link technological development and a streamlining of government services to more social based values of inclusion, accessibility and power relationship ratios.

The advisory group for the conference invites submissions of papers on both the theory and advanced practice in respect of the conference themes outlined below, from academics, government departments and practitioners in the public and private sector. The conference is also seeking case studies and reports of work-in-progress.

Topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Applications of eGovernment;
- Challenges to eGovernment;
- The eVoting issue;
- eDemocracy;
- Measuring eGovernment/Economics of e-Government;
- Legal, agency, trust and governance issues in e-Government.

In addition to the main conference, submissions are welcomed to two mini tracks; one is the dedicated to 'eTax & eRevenue Administration', the other to 'e-Justice'. The specific call for papers for this track can be found at <http://www.academic-conferences.org/eceg/eceg2009/eceg09-minitrack.htm#eJustice>.

Submissions are to be performed [online](#) by 8 December 2008.

Over 120 persons are expected to attend the conference. Registration is also to be performed online via <http://academic-conferences.org/eceg/eceg2009/eceg09-registration.htm>. The registration fees range from £199 (approx. €251) to £599 (approx. €755). Earlybird rates end on 20 April 2009.

Event email: info@academic-conferences.org

Event website: <http://academic-conferences.org/eceg/eceg2009/eceg09-home.htm>

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: London

Organiser: Westminster Business School, University of Westminster

DE: HealthGrid Conference 2009 - 29 June - 01 July 2009

HealthGrid is an interdisciplinary community of computer scientists, physicians, medical educators and students, epidemiologists, bioinformatics and medical informatics experts, military medicine specialists, security and policy makers, economists and futurists.

The HealthGrid conference is the premier conference on the transformation of biomedical research, education and medical care through the application of Grid technologies. More precisely the conference aims at:

- Enhancing biomedical research and healthcare delivery
- Creating an open collaborative virtual community
- Communicating the collective knowledge of the HealthGrid community

The conference sessions address the multidisciplinary educational and professional development needs of the community, including Grid middleware and Grid applications developers, biomedical and health informatics users, security specialists and policy makers. The [programme of the conference](#) includes a number of high-profile presentations, complemented by a set of refereed papers, which will be selected through the present call for papers.

The event is expected to host an estimated number of 120 experts. The registration is open and can be performed [online](#) with the payment of a fee.

Event email: contact-hg2009@healthgrid.org
Event website: <http://berlin2009.healthgrid.org/>
Country: Germany
City/Location: Berlin
Organiser: HealthGrid

ES: 5th Internet, Law and Politics Conference - 06 - 07 July 2009

Recently, social networking sites have, in the opinion of many, become the flagship of the so-called Web 2.0, overtaking blogs and other platforms. This has been the case thanks to the ease with which a wide-ranging audience, with little knowledge of the technology, can upload all kinds of content (text, photos, audio or video) to the web and linking them to themselves and their social setting: family, friends, colleagues and, definitively, the whole world. This ease and immediacy, together with the overcoming of the barriers of space and time, have undermined the regulations and practices traditionally linked to legal and political jurisdictions.

The 5th IDP Conference aims to act as a forum for finding out about and debating the impact of social networking sites (SNS) in areas such as intellectual property, personal data protection, privacy and intimacy policy and governance of the web, the right to access public information, or the democratic action on the web. The event intends to offer thoughtful reflection through balanced discussions of the legal and political problems SNS pose.

The four previous IDP conferences have consolidated the Conference's position as an annual meeting point for researchers, academics and professionals interested in the consequences of the use of information and communication technologies on the different ambits of law and politics.

The conference programme may be found [here](#).

Participation in the conference is open and free. The registration form can be completed [online](#). The number of participants is limited to the capacity of the auditorium.

The conference languages are Catalan, English and Spanish.

Event email: sactivitats@uoc.edu

Event website: <http://www.uoc.edu/symposia/idp2009/engl/>

Country: Spain

City/Location: Barcelona

Organiser: Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Law and Political Science Department within the framework of the Internet Interdisciplinary Institute (IN3)

IT: European Telematic Administrative Procedure - 10 - 11 July 2009

Following the International Congress in [Telematic Administrative Procedures in Europe](#), 14-15 November 2009, the project continues on with the "comparison of ideas and proposals", and the drafting of a possible text of law.

The final conference will start from a basis for further discussion of the above mentioned text. Its aim is to discuss the draft, modify it, if necessary, and declare it as a shared document among the community of academics who confront the issue of administrative telematic procedure within the European domain.

The text will be presented to the European Commission as the result of scientific studies, so that its content be examined, reviewed and presented to the Parliament and Council.

Contributions can be sent to the following email address: jurispo@unica.it. The relevant form to write the documents is available [online](#).

The conference is open and free and registration can be performed [online](#).

Event email: jurispo@unica.it

Event website: <http://spol.unica.it/teamm/2008/luglio2009-en.html>

Country: Italy

City/Location: Sardinia

Organiser: University of Cagliari, Italian Court of Cassation, National Center for ICT in Public Administration (CNIPA)

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

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

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

Country: France

City/Location: French Riviera

Organiser: Strategies Telecoms and Media

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