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## European ePractice Newsletter

**N. 211 – 13 November 2007**

### >> ePractice.eu most active member

[Mark Hol](#), a Dutch schoolteacher relocated in Belgium, is currently ePractice.eu's most active user. Member of our online community since October, he has achieved the record number of 1,786 kudos by submitting three cases, proposing several library items and, as he explains to us, "rating almost every item I read in the site". "Obviously, the rating system is there for a reason: it gives people an insight about what items have valuable content", he adds. A project coordinator for the City of Kortrijk, Mark spends an average of one hour per day navigating through ePractice.eu, where he likes to contact other users from across Europe and to gather useful information for his job. The portal "also gives me the opportunity to tell others about what we are doing in Kortrijk. I have received many reactions, ranging from a student who wanted to use a case for an end-paper to a magazine that wanted to write an article about one. Personally, by reading the cases, the news, the library items and the blogs I have already gained much more insight about what other Europeans are doing in the field of eGovernment".

If you want to know more about ePractice.eu most active members, visit the People section at [www.epractice.eu/people](http://www.epractice.eu/people)

### >> cc:eGov workshop

As well as unveiling the manifesto for citizen-centric eGovernment, the final cc:eGov event scheduled for November 19th in Brussels will feature four master classes, designed to inspire delegates and reinforce the citizen-centricity message. The guest speakers will be Matt Poelmans, from the Dutch e-citizen programme; Christoforos Korakas, highlighting the results of local participation in Trikala (Greece); Martin Brown, from the Scottish Local Government programme, and Lene Hartig Danielsen, from Aarhus (Denmark), talking about how that municipality is leading the way.

For free registration and more information, please visit [www.epractice.eu/workshop/cceGov](http://www.epractice.eu/workshop/cceGov)

Please feel free to forward [epractice.eu/newsletter](http://epractice.eu/newsletter) to whom it may be of use. You are welcome to send suggestions that may help us to improve the portal and enrich its content. We invite you to [become a member](#) of ePractice.eu in order to use all our services.

## Latest Cases

- [Digid@k, public ICT learning environments](#) 9 November 2007 | Belgium
  - [The "icom" centre, by Handicap International Programme France](#) 7 November 2007 | France
- 

### Digid@k, public ICT learning environments

The main goal of this project is to provide tools and advice to those groups of people not yet disposing of ICT basic skills. By creating innovative basic ICT learning environments within functioning organisations, associations and neighbourhoods we want to lower the threshold for people to access new media. Hereby we especially focus on reaching those groups described as victims of the digital divide. As the local project proved to be a working formula, in cooperation with other organisations we have expanded the project to the provinces of Limburg and Vlaams Brabant.

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### The "icom" centre, by Handicap International Programme France

The icom ICT's and disability resource centre is a project run by the French Program of Handicap International. It provides at local, regional, national and international levels, tools (software and pedagogical), resources (studies, qualified contents) and support (training, accompaniment) to promote the use of ICT's by people with disabilities in order to facilitate their access to education, training, work, culture, communication, etc.

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## Latest News

- [ES: WiFi for the wise](#) 12 November 2007 | Spain
  - [DE: OPENLiMiT signatures](#) 12 November 2007 | Germany
  - [UK: Tapping into the eXperience of the older generation](#) 12 November 2007 | United Kingdom
  - [DE: Big support for eHealth cards](#) 12 November 2007 | Germany
  - [AT: HELP for youth](#) 12 November 2007 | Austria
  - [AT: Data-retention law on the way](#) 12 November 2007 | Austria
  - [BE: The 'virtual local councillor'? Elementary, my dear Watson!](#) 12 November 2007 | Belgium
  - [PT: eLegislators](#) 12 November 2007 | Portugal
  - [EU: Microsoft to comply with March 2004 Antitrust-Decision](#) 7 November 2007 | EU Institutions
- 

### ES: WiFi for the wise

The Spanish government is promoting wireless internet links between more than 60 000 university students, professors and staff in Seville. The scheme will soon cover 44 universities nationwide and will link into a European network.

More than 60 000 students on six sites, about 4 200 teaching staff and around 2 300 other university workers in Seville are receiving wireless connections through the 'Campus en Red' programme ('Networked Campus'). This scheme is part of the Plan Avanza programme for the development of the information society in Spain and has a budget of €7.8 million.

Forty-four universities are to join the wireless network, which will soon introduce value-added services such as eLearning, localisation and VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol). Across Spain, some 1 283 000 students, 90 000 teaching staff and 40 000 administrative and service workers will eventually be networked. Nine universities have already signed up. Behind the scheme is the Spanish Industry Ministry, with support from network provider red.es and the European Regional Development Fund.

To mark the opening of the service, a 'chill-out space' was created in Seville's IT Technical College. During a WiFi Day there, students were able to visit a website specially created for the occasion and win prizes in on-line games.

Campus en Red intends to promote student mobility by linking into eduroam, a mutual roaming network which already covers most of Europe and is currently expanding into the Asia-Pacific region. Eduroam aims to link up Europe's various research and educational computer networks.

**Further information:**

- [Campus en Red](#)
  - [eduroam](#)
- 

## **DE: OPENLiMiT signatures**

Two German states have opted for OPENLiMiT software solutions to produce qualified electronic signatures.

The states of Baden-Württemberg and Brandenburg have signed purchase agreements for OPENLiMiT signature software which they will integrate into their service portals. "Only the qualified electronic signature has been legally equated to a person's handwritten signature," OPENLiMiT points out. It "enables the unequivocal identification of the sender of an electronic document". Uses include "the legally-binding signature of forms made available via the internet, electronic invoicing, administrative processes (eGovernment), or the participation in on-line tenders (eProcurement)".

OPENLiMiT is currently working with Microsoft to enable users of browser-based forms on InfoPath and Microsoft Office SharePoint Server to produce documents with legally binding electronic signatures. The move is being "driven by numerous public sector requirements around the electronic signing of documents, particularly in the European Union".

OPENLiMiT has developed a viewer, a component of its new product generation currently undergoing an IT certification process, for the legally conformant display of documents. The technology also includes components for XML signatures. The goal is to "enable signing InfoPath browser-based forms with fully qualified signatures across browsers and to certify the technology via the German Federal Office for Information Security (BSI)".

**Further information:**

- [OPENLiMiT](#)
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## **UK: Tapping into the eXperience of the older generation**

The UK [Department for Work and Pensions](#) is piloting a new on-line forum aimed at reaching out to the country's older generation.

The pilot scheme, generationXperience, is being developed in conjunction with the Hansard Society – a non-profit organisation for the promotion of democracy – as part of the government's Generation Xperience campaign, which staged the first ever UK Older People's Day on 1 October 2007. The new service aims to address issues affecting older people and to encourage social networking and debate between senior citizens. It is being piloted for six months with the aim of establishing better communication between the government and older people.

"Older people are increasingly using the internet. Of course, many of the popular social networking sites have been oriented towards young internet users. This site fills a gap in the market by providing an on-line forum for older people to get their views heard," said UK Pensions Minister Mike O'Brien.

Web staff from the Department for Work and Pensions will oversee and update the site, start new discussions or contribute to existing ones. Other interest groups such as Age Concern and Help the Aged are also expected to

introduce themes and facilitate discussions. The site will be linked to other well-known social networking sites including Myspace, Facebook, YouTube and Flickr.

**Further information:**

- [Kable](#)
  - [Department for Work and Pensions \(DWP\)](#)
  - [Directgov](#)
  - [Hansard Society](#)
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## **DE: Big support for eHealth cards**

A recent poll shows that more than 90 % of Germans want to put their medical details on the planned new electronic healthcare entitlement cards.

The great majority of citizens want to store data, such as their blood group, on Germany's new eHealth cards when they are launched next year, according to the poll for IT industry association BITKOM. Five percent of Germans are opposed to the idea, and 2 % are unsure. The current medical insurance cards cannot store data of this kind.

A representative sample of 1 001 Germans over the age of 18 was polled. Ninety-three percent in Germany's western states, and 91 % in the eastern ones, approve of the new cards: 90 % want to put their blood group on their card, 84 % would add vaccination details, 78 % would store data on medication, 66 % on prescriptions and 62 % on ailments.

The nationwide roll-out of the new cards is planned for the second quarter of 2008. Once the data storage option is activated, the bearer of each card will be able to decide which medical details, if any, are stored on it, and which doctors can access them. To retrieve the data, the doctor will have to use an electronic certificate and both the doctor and the patient will have to input separate PIN codes. Only emergency data will be exempted from this procedure. Health insurers will have no access to the information. Supporters say that patients' data will be more secure than under the present set-up.

The eCards are expected to save the German health system over €500 million per year – for example, by making paper prescriptions unnecessary. The stakes for the IT industry are high. According to BITKOM, it has already put more than €200 million into developing the cards.

**Further information:**

- [Bitcom](#)
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## **AT: HELP for youth**

HELP, Austria's on-line guide to administrations, has launched a new section for young people.

The youth section has its own homepage and provides onward links to sites and downloads that are likely to interest young people. Four main subjects are covered: work, education and training, leisure and mobility, and rights and democracy.

The pages on work, for instance, start with the basics: what is a job and why is it a good thing to have one? They go on to give practical advice for job-seekers. An on-line 'application coach' explains step-by-step how to write a well-presented job application and a CV. Similarly, those opting for an apprenticeship will find advice on choosing skills that will suit them and which open up good future prospects. And if unemployment looms nonetheless, there are links to coaching and job-placement services as well as to details of benefits and allowances.

Teenagers who want to ride a moped or a quad can find out how to get a permit. Those aiming for a full driving licence can learn how to start working towards it from the age of 16. A 'youth rights' page gives details of youth

protection laws and other rights and duties affecting young people – for instance, at what age they can conclude valid contracts and when they need their parents' agreement. The site also has an interactive element. Young users can send in their reactions and suggestions anonymously.

**Further information:**

- [HELP.gv.at](http://HELP.gv.at)
- 

## **AT: Data-retention law on the way**

Austria is working on new legislation to bring it into line with the EU Directive on data retention.

Data retention is controversial in Austria, but the word from the Infrastructure Ministry is that a new draft law is almost ready. The deadline for transposition of the EU Directive into national law was missed on 15 September, because an initial draft of the Austrian legislation left a number of open questions about costs, the period of retention and the penalties envisaged for non-compliance.

More than 90 comments were received on the first draft, some of which were highly critical. Business organisations in particular have complained about a lack of consultation. Other objectors include telephone helplines. And privacy campaigners have voiced fears of automated data-mining, leading to detailed profiles of telecommunications users. Until now, Austrian law has specifically forbidden the storage of personalised telecoms traffic data.

Designed as a measure against terrorism and organised crime, the EU Directive requires all Member States to retain data on telephone and internet traffic, including dynamic IP addresses, for at least six months. For the retention of internet traffic data, as opposed to that for telephones, Austria and some other Member States have a longer deadline. Austria is supposed to comply by March 2009.

**Further information:**

- [futureZone – ORF.at](http://futureZone-ORF.at)
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## **BE: The 'virtual local councillor'? Elementary, my dear Watson!**

The 'Commune' of Waterloo, in Belgium, has launched a European first – Watson, the 'virtual local councillor'.

The new service was launched on 4 October after several months of preparation by the Commune's IT team. Baptised Watson, the 'virtual councillor' is available to answer questions asked by the citizens of Waterloo 24 hours a day. The service uses innovative technologies which represent a major contribution to the promotion of greater interactivity between local authorities and their citizens.

In order to communicate with Watson, users need simply to open Windows Live Messenger (MSN) and add [watson@waterloo.eu](mailto:watson@waterloo.eu) to their list of contacts. They will then be able to put their questions whenever they wish. Questions concerning matters dealt with by the local authorities can be posed in normal everyday language. Watson is then able to direct users to the relevant information on the Commune's website through an intuitive recognition of key terms.

The virtual agent responds rapidly to the questions asked. It is linked to a dynamic database which is automatically improved as the system is used. Unanswered questions are rapidly detected and the database is updated and extended to address the issue in question.

The project has involved several partners, including Microsoft, Wygwam and the Wallonia Agency for Telecommunications (AWT).

**Further information:**

- [EASI-WAL](http://EASI-WAL)

- [@wt.be](#)
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## PT: eLegislators

Portugal is to test the use of secure electronic document transmission in the drafting, adoption and publication of laws.

The Electronic Legislative Procedure will use a secure dedicated telecommunications network called Redelex. This will link up Portugal's four 'sovereign bodies' which play a part in the legislative process – the Presidency of the Republic, the Assembly of the Republic, the Government and the Constitutional Court. The network will apply the principles and rules already set out in the law on Portugal's State Electronic Certification System. This will ensure strong authentication of identities and signatures throughout the legislative procedure.

The circulation of electronic documents is to take place within an integrated communications system which incorporates a viewing platform similar to a website, but accessible only to the sovereign body which is directly involved in the legislative process at each particular stage.

The electronic circulation of legislative texts is seen as a further important step in Portugal's drive to "virtualise procedures". Similarly, the official legislative gazette, the *Diário da República*, has now gone electronic and the expectation is that the publication of acts and decrees on paper will soon be a thing of the past.

### Further information:

- [Citizen's Portal](#)
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## EU: Microsoft to comply with March 2004 Antitrust-Decision

Microsoft has finally agreed to comply with its obligations under the 2004 Commission decision, upheld last month by the Court of First Instance.

On September 17, the Court of First Instance [essentially upheld](#) the [2004 Commission decision](#) and confirmed the totality of the fine imposed. Under this decision, Microsoft was fined with 497 million euros for infringing the EC Treaty rules on abuse of a dominant market position (Article 82) by leveraging its near-monopoly in the market for PC operating systems onto the markets for work group server operating systems and for media players.

As the European Commission [stated](#) on October 22, Microsoft agreed to comply with its obligations under the decision. Among other obligations, Microsoft is to provide the information that will allow third-party developers of work group server operating systems to develop products that interoperate with the Windows desktop operating system. The Commission has ensured that Microsoft will now take the necessary steps to this end, such as to disclose the interoperability information to "open source" software developers.

'...the measures that the Commission has insisted upon will benefit computer users by bringing competition and innovation back to the server market' said EU Competition Commissioner Neelie Kroes. 'The Commission will remain vigilant to ensure that Microsoft continues to respect its compliance obligations and does not engage in other anti-competitive behaviour.'

### Further information:

- [Hot Topics: Microsoft](#)
- [European Commission press release Nr. 104/07](#)
- [News.com](#)
- [European Union Press Release](#)
- [European Court of First Instance Press Release on Ruling](#)
- [Rapid Press releases](#)

- [Commission Decision of 24.03.2004](#)
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## Latest Publications

- [FR: Report on dematerialisation in Public Procurement](#) 7 November 2007 | France
  - [NL: e-Citizen Charter v.2.2](#) 31 December 2006 | Netherlands
- 

### FR: Report on dematerialisation in Public Procurement

**Complete title:**

**The perception of dematerialisation – Report on a quality study**

La perception de la dématérialisation – Rapport d'étude qualitative

**Authors:**

TNS Sofres

**Description (short summary):**

The second phase of the works carried out by the French Workshop on dematerialisation (“Atelier de réflexion dématérialisation”) resulted in the preparation of a report on a survey conducted in the first six months of 2007, to identify obstacles and leverages for an actual adoption of dematerialisation in the French Public Procurement.

The report provides an analysis of the attitude to dematerialisation of the Contracting Authorities in the public sector and of the suppliers, and suggests actions to be implemented to foster the adoption of dematerialisation.

This study has been conducted by TNS SOFRES for the French ministry of Economy, Finances and Employment. The report is available only in French.

**Original URL:**

<http://www.telecom.gouv.fr/rubriques-menu/entreprises-economie-numerique/dematerialisation-marches-publics/perception-dematerialisation-1289.html>

**Languages available:**

FR

**Number of pages:**

83

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### NL: e-Citizen Charter v.2.2

**Complete title:**

**Workbook e-Citizen Charter**

Werkschrift BurgerServiceCode

Arbejdshæfte Kodeks for e-Borgerskab

Arbeitsbuch e-Bürger Charta

Cahier de travaux Charte du e-Citoyen

Agenda Carta e-Cidadão

**Authors:**

Burger@Overheid

**Description (short summary):**

The Dutch e-Citizen Charter was developed by Burger@Overheid (e-Citizen Programme), an independent platform which stimulates the development of eGovernment from the citizen's point of view. Burger@overheid is an initiative of the Ministry of the Interior.

The e-Citizen Charter consists of quality standards that define the digital relation between citizen and government (both in the field of information exchange, service delivery and political participation). These standards are formulated as rights citizens are entitled to, and matching obligations by government bodies. This Charter has been adopted as a standard for public service delivery on all levels of Dutch government.

**Related articles(s):**

[e-Citizen charter case at ePractice](#)

**Copyright information:**

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**Original URL:**

[http://www.burger.overheid.nl/service\\_menu/english?ref=72](http://www.burger.overheid.nl/service_menu/english?ref=72)

**Languages available:**

Full Charter: DE, DK, EN, FR, NL, PT

Summary: DE, DK, FR, GR, PT, SI

**Number of pages:**

32 (EN version)

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## ePractice Workshops

ePractice.eu combines online and offline activities. Workshops are held on a monthly basis, giving participants the opportunity to discuss the latest issues and cases face-to-face. Registration, agenda and participant bios are available online before each workshop.

[cc:eGov study](#) 19 November 2007 | Brussels (Belgium)

[elidentity workshop](#) 14 February 2008 | Brussels (Belgium)

[eInclusion: Users voice](#) 21 February 2008 | Brussels (Belgium)

[Management - eHealth](#) 6 March 2008 | Brussels (Belgium)

[eInclusion: Ageing well](#) 14 April 2008 | Brussels (Belgium)

[ePractice](#) 19 May 2008 | Brussels (Belgium)

[eInclusion: Digital literacy](#) 16 June 2008 | Barcelona (Spain)

[eProcurement workshop](#) 10 July 2008 | Brussels (Belgium)

[eInclusion: Special needs groups](#) 25 September 2008 | Brussels (Belgium)

[Administrative burden](#) 23 October 2008 | Bremen (Germany)

[eGov services to business: the state of the play](#) 17 November 2008 | Cork (Ireland)

Co-branding your event with ePractice.eu is possible. Please read our terms at [epractice.eu/workshops](http://epractice.eu/workshops)

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## Upcoming Events

- [NL: 3rd eBusiness Interoperability Forum Conference](#) 15 - 16 November 2007 | Netherlands
- [BE: Conference on the delivery of a secure e-environment for mobile European citizens](#) 15 November 2007 | Belgium
- [BE: cc:eGov study workshop](#) 19 November 2007 | Belgium

- [BE: Workshop on eGovernment Research](#) 23 November 2007 | Belgium
  - [LV: International Conference Regno 2007](#) 26 - 27 November 2007 | Latvia
  - [ES: Tecnimap Gijón 2007](#) 27 - 30 November 2007 | Spain
  - [DK: International RoboBraille Conference](#) 30 November 2007 | Denmark
  - [SI: Mid-term IDABC Conference 2008](#) 12 - 13 February 2008 | Slovenia
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## **NL: 3rd eBusiness Interoperability Forum Conference**

"Accelerating process improvement and innovation via eBusiness standards"

The 3rd annual eBusiness Interoperability Forum Conference (eBIF Conference) is organised by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) under the title "Accelerating process improvement and innovation via eBusiness standards".

With the conference main thread being "Standards and Interoperability in eInvoicing and eProcurement", participants of this year's edition will be informed and share experiences about opportunities, benefits, problems and solutions related to eBusiness interoperability in Europe today.

Following two keynotes dedicated respectively to the 'Single European Electronic Market' and to the 'Single European Payment Area' (SEPA), the conference programme will break into four separate sessions to be spread over its two days:

- Business benefits – as researched and in practice
- Enabling Interoperability – Issues and approaches
- eBusiness interoperability strategy
- Tutorial Session on strategic policy and technology developments

The event is of interest for representatives from any company or organisation that is or will get into contact with these business topics. Examples are IT vendors, end-users from industry, SME's, public administrations, etc. Participation to the conference is free of charge, but requires pre-registration. Registrations are now possible [online](#).

### **Event website:**

[http://www.cen.eu/cenorm/businessdomains/businessdomains/iss/activity/ebifconference2007\\_announcement.asp](http://www.cen.eu/cenorm/businessdomains/businessdomains/iss/activity/ebifconference2007_announcement.asp)

### **Venue:**

EQUENS  
Eendrachtlaan, 315  
3526 LB Utrecht  
The Netherlands

**Contact:** E-mail: [emmanuelle.ramaz@cen.eu](mailto:emmanuelle.ramaz@cen.eu)

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## **BE: Conference on the delivery of a secure e-environment for mobile European citizens**

A Digital Europe: Delivering a secure e-environment for mobile European citizens

Security goes hand in hand with the development and delivery of Pan-European eGovernment Services. This conference is organised within the framework of the EU supported secureEgov study project whose aim is to support the development and activities of a European strategy for secure e-government services.

To take place in Brussels on November 15, the event will present the key issues that need to be addressed,

prioritise them, and recommend appropriate policy actions. High level speakers will set the boundaries for where the vision should be going and what is required to make it happen. Multi-stakeholder round tables will ensure a measured and insightful debate.

The conference will deliver:

- Base line overview of key security issues and research needs for developing secure pan-European eGovernment services;
- Greater awareness of the importance of security in the development of cross-border eGovernment services;
- Policy recommendations: Security guarantees required to create a trusted environment for mobile European citizens.

Registration to this free event can be performed [online](#).

**Event website:** <http://www.securegov.eu/>

**Venue:**

Centre Borchette  
Rue Froissart 36  
1040 Brussels

**Contact:** E-mail: [neilr@rand.org](mailto:neilr@rand.org)

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## **BE: cc:eGov study workshop**

cc:eGov study workshop

The cc:eGov project was asked to look at the relationship between organisational change and the delivery of citizen-centric eGovernment services. What was a seemingly simple proposition has led to examine the nature of organisational change, the meaning of citizen-centricity, and the complex policy and organisational scenarios that come under the broad heading of 'transformational government'.

A series of 'think papers' reviewing key research and policy issues have been developed and three interactive workshops have already been held in Warsaw, Athens and Aarhus. Several in-depth interviews with projects and people around Europe, going deeper into the procedures, policies, cultures, and relationships between service providers and citizens has also been carried out. It was in these interviews that it became very clear that there was not a generic relationship emerging between organisational change and citizen-centricity. This rich body of material is available on the dedicated website at <http://www.ccegov.eu/>.

To argue that there is unequivocal heterogeneity will be just as naïve as saying there is a single organisational model that will deliver citizen-centric services. More likely, there are a series of 'genres' within which organisational models, citizenry and trust, culture and political system, and information policy and transparency all interact. The qualitative findings have also been set in the wider context of available statistical classifications of eGovernment production and consumption, trust and transparency. This is now guiding us towards the final outputs of the study including a handbook, designed to help citizens and organisations address citizen-centric readiness. This will be no less than a manifesto for citizen-centric governance.

Designed as a learning experience, the final cc:eGov event will advance some powerful messages. The launch and presentation of the handbook will be followed by a series of master classes, led by practitioners who can demonstrate successful citizen-centric approaches in action.

This free one-day event will be a great opportunity to hear a manifesto for citizen-centric eGovernment and learn about all the strands of the work done during the project. Experts and practitioners will be there to share their views.

Please register for this workshop at: <http://www.epractice.eu/workshop/cceGov>

**Event website:** <http://www.ccegov.eu/?Page=Workshops>

**Venue:**  
Brussels  
Belgium

**Contact:** E-mail: [ccegov@ecotec.com](mailto:ccegov@ecotec.com)

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## **BE: Workshop on eGovernment Research**

“eGovernment research: the making of a success story”

Organised by the General Directorate for Information Society and the Media of the European Commission (unit H2) together with the “Bringing Together and Accelerating eGovernment Research in the EU” study ([eGovR study](#)), this workshop will be held in Brussels, Belgium, on 23 November.

Several success stories of eGovernment research in FP6 will be presented and discussed. A general discussion on “what makes a success story?” will take place afterwards. The role of the eGovR study in bringing out a success story will also be addressed.

The workshop is open to all eGovernment stakeholders and in particular to representatives of eGovernment research projects in FP6, as well as researchers, interested practitioners and promotion experts.

Places are limited to 25 participants. Registration is mandatory by sending a message with name and affiliation to: [eGovR@eurodyn.com](mailto:eGovR@eurodyn.com). Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Presentations will be selected by the organisers on the basis of short submitted abstracts.

**Event website:** N/A

**Venue:**  
European Dynamics  
123 A, Chaussée de Charleroi  
1060 Brussels  
Belgium

**Contact:** E-mail: [eGovR@eurodyn.com](mailto:eGovR@eurodyn.com)

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## **LV: International Conference Regno 2007**

Sixth Regno Conference

The Regno Conference, now in its 6th edition, is organised by the Secretariat of Special Assignments Minister for Electronic Government Affairs of Latvia together with the Population Register Centre of Finland. The event is supported by the IDABC programme of the General Directorate for Informatics of the European Commission.

The purpose of the Regno Conference is to provide participants from over 25 countries with an opportunity to exchange information about the situation of base registers and public eServices development in different countries and to discuss about future strategies in that area as a part of eGovernment. Around 200 participants are expected to attend, including ministers, leading specialists of the registers, eGovernment policy makers, eService providers, as well as representatives of the academic sector, businesses and representatives of NGOs.

The 2007 edition of Regno will cover the following topics:

- All aspects related to the role of Registers in the provision of qualitative and modernised eServices for administrations, citizens and business;
- Use of registers data, integration of state registers, development of eArchives, implementation of eSignature, legislation on eDocuments, validity of electronic data; business process rearrangements, and other similar issues;
- EU-wide possibilities with regard to the improvement and development of collaboration, such as Interoperability, secure exchange of information between registers and service providers, trust and security of public eServices provided by Registers.

Moreover, a thematic meeting on 'Information management, standards and data quality' will be held during the conference. This meeting is organised in the frame of the ePSIplus Thematic Network, funded by the eContentplus programme, to support the implementation of the European Directive on Public Sector Information (PSI) Re-use, in the period leading up to its review in 2008.

Attendance is free and registration can be performed online at the event website.

**Event website:** <http://www.regno2007.lv/eng/index.php?p=0>

**Venue:**

Reval Hotel Latvia  
55 Elizabetes Street  
Riga  
Latvia

**Contact:** E-mail: [toms.celmlers@eps.gov.lv](mailto:toms.celmlers@eps.gov.lv)

## **ES: Tecnimap Gijón 2007**

10th Congress on Information Society for the Modernisation of Civil Services – 'Administration 2.0: New services, New rights'

The 10th edition of Tecnimap will take place over four days in Gijón, Spain. It is organised by the government of the Principality of Asturias and Gijón City Council in association with the Spanish Ministry of Public Administrations. Every year, this event brings IT representatives from different levels of public administration together with eGovernment experts and the industry for those to exchange experiences, ideas and projects in the field of information technologies and public services.

Over 5 000 participants are expected to attend this edition together with 250 companies and news agencies. During four days of lectures, roundtables and workshops, eGovernment issues will be addressed and discussed. This year's edition theme is 'Administration 2.0: New services, New rights'. Focus will be placed among others on laying down the foundations of Spain's recently adopted Law on Citizen's access to public services. The exhibition area will again feature demonstrations of concrete solutions to problems facing public authorities.

For the first time, a forum will be held at Tecnimap for citizens to present their opinions and suggestions regarding the electronic modernisation process of public administrations. Another novelty in this year's edition is the granting of three awards; one for each level of government in Spain. The awards winners will be the most outstanding initiatives that enable communications between citizens and administration, promote and simplify access to public services and allow for citizen participation.

Participation is free-of-charge both for Spanish civil servants at any level of government and for public sector representatives from other countries. The deadline for papers submissions will be announced in due time.

**Event website:** <http://www.tecnimap.es/Tecnimap/default.aspx>

**Venue:**

Gijón Trade Fair  
Paseo del Doctor Fleming, no. 481

33203 Gijón  
Spain

**Contact:** E-mail: [secretaria.tecnimap@gijon.es](mailto:secretaria.tecnimap@gijon.es)

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## **DK: International RoboBraille Conference**

RoboBraille – Towards an accessible and inclusive information society

An eTEN project, RoboBraille is an email-based translation service capable of translating documents to and from contracted Braille and to synthetic speech. Users submit documents (e.g., text files, Word documents, HTML pages) as email attachments. The translated results are returned to the user via email, typically within a matter of minutes. The service is available free of charge to all non-commercial users.

This conference, to take place in Sorø, Denmark, on 30 November, is organised by The RoboBraille consortium and Synscenter Refsnæs, the Danish Center for Visual Impairment for Children and Youth, with the support of the European Commission.

Following the successful validation of RoboBraille amongst visually impaired users throughout Europe, a handful of speakers will intervene at the event to give their views and perspectives on how the RoboBraille-service and similar ICT solutions can be used to create a more accessible and inclusive information society.

Participation to the conference is free. Those wishing to participate are invited to send a mail with their contact details to: [conference@robobraille.org](mailto:conference@robobraille.org). Seats will be allocated on “first come, first served” basis.

### **Event website:**

<http://notesnet.dk/websites/acj/robobraille.nsf/all.lookup/7ADC188D5EDE0657C125737D007A21A2?OpenDocument>

### **Venue:**

Banquet Hall (Festsalen)  
Sorø Akademis Skole  
Hovedbygningen  
Akademigrunden 8  
4180 Sorø  
Denmark

**Contact:** E-mail: [conference@robobraille.org](mailto:conference@robobraille.org)

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## **SI: Mid-term IDABC Conference 2008**

European eGovernment Services Conference: IDABC and beyond

The mid-term IDABC conference is a part of the eGovernment days (11-13 February 2008) organised jointly by the Slovenian Government and the European Commission. The eGovernment days will first feature the [Slovenian Presidency's eGovernment conference "Alliance with users"](#) on 11 February. The IDABC mid-term conference will follow on the next two days (12-13 February). Both conferences will be held in the same venue.

Taking place under the theme “IDABC and beyond”, the mid-term IDABC conference aims to demonstrate the achievements of the IDABC programme so far and to introduce a vision for a possible future follow-on programme. Two plenary sessions will cover both aspects.

Keynote speeches are to be delivered by Mr. Virant, Slovenia's Public Administration Minister, Mr. Kallas, Vice-

President of the European Commission, and Mr. García Morán, Director General for Informatics of the European Commission.

Topics to be covered are likely to include eIDs, the mutual recognition of eSignatures, European Interoperability Framework, Services Directive, the new ePractice portal, Projects of Common Interest, Open Standards, etc. Furthermore, a set of three parallel sessions will respectively address the themes of: Security & Infrastructure; European eGovernment Services; and Collaborative platforms.

The expected number of participants of the mid-term IDABC conference is 250. Registration for the event will be on-line, by invitation only. In case places are available, registration will open as of January 2008 to the public.

More information is to be available shortly at the IDABC website.

**Event website:** <http://ec.europa.eu/idabc/conference2008>

**Venue:**

Brdo  
Slovenia

**Contact:** E-mail: N/A

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