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## European ePractice Newsletter N. 294 - 15 September 2009

### >> eGovernment good practices transfer between regional authorities

ePractice encourages its members to take part in the workshop organised by the INTERREG IVC Fast Track network "Promoting Innovation and the Knowledge Economy" (PIKE) on 24 September 2009 in Brussels. During this free event, participants will learn about the award-winning eGovernment and Wireless broadband good practices which form the basis of the PIKE project. The workshop will furthermore be an opportunity to share and discuss the issues surrounding the transfer of good practices into mainstream EU Structural Funds programmes. Registration is open at <http://www.epractice.eu/en/workshops/pike>.

### >> Public eID workshop

This free event of the [European eID Observatory](#) will take place in Brussels on 29 September 2009. It aims to encourage the sharing of good practice in the area of public electronic identity, with a specific focus on citizen-related issues as well as cross-border and cross-sector applications. Abstract submissions are open until 15 September 2009. Online registration has been already made available. Please view the full information on the workshop page at <http://www.epractice.eu/en/workshops/publiceid>.

### >> IDABC Open Source Event 2009: The Power of Communities

The IDABC event is part of the Open World Forum and takes place in Paris on 2 October 2009. Its objective is to focus on how and why European Public Administrations invest in Open Source Communities. It will highlight the key aspects of Free, Libre and Open Source Software (FLOSS) sustainability and present seven practical cases, closing with a panel discussion. The keynote of the day will focus on the economical aspects of sustainability. Registration is free and can be performed at: <http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/ipm/forms/dispatch?form=OSORevent2009&lang=en>.

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## Latest Cases

- [Simple Procedures Online for Cross-border Services](#) | 14 September 2009 | Austria | France | Germany | Greece | Italy | Netherlands | Poland | United Kingdom
  - [www.jugend2help.gv.at - its your life - its your government](#) | 10 September 2009 | Austria
  - [Gwynedd Council Takes Advantage of Collaborative Procurement](#) | 9 September 2009 | United Kingdom
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## Simple Procedures Online for Cross-border Services

Pilot project launched by the European Commission which aims to remove the administrative barriers that European businesses face before offering their services abroad. SPOCS is expected to further enhance the quality of electronic procedures completion and has been designed for businesses that have an interest in cross-border activities. It will allow them to meet all the administrative obligations through a single contact point that will be available online in all EU Member States by the end of 2009.

It will initially involve at least two professional categories of service providers and its results will be widely promoted to raise awareness and to encourage innovative solutions for administrative simplification. A special effort will be placed on the dissemination of open specifications, the sharing of knowledge and best practices, as well as the encouragement for further cooperation. A wide range of organisations is represented among the partners in order to ensure that the value chain - from decision makers to service providers and IT solutions - is well balanced, and to allow contributions from different backgrounds.

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## www.jugend2help.gv.at - its your life - its your government

jugend2help.gv.at represents an eParticipation procedure for young citizens for the development of relevant concepts for the Austrian citizen platform "HELP.gv.at" following the "Multi-stage model for citizen participation" (former: 3-step model for citizen participation):

1. contribution or deliberation,
2. evaluation and concept-elaboration,
3. prioritisation, and
4. integration.

The project focuses on young people living in Austria including all young Austrians and also those who are somehow related to Austria. jugend2help.gv.at was a project initiated by the Austrian Chancellery with partners from the public sector, developed by the Federal Computing Centre of Austria.

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## Gwynedd Council Takes Advantage of Collaborative Procurement

Gwynedd Council has embarked on a major long-term programme to increase the use of electronic procurement throughout the authority, with the aim of saving a large slice of its £90 million (103 million euros) annual spend on goods and services. The Council believes that the xchangewales eTrading for Schools system will be a distinct advantage to the education sector.

xchangewales eTrading for Schools is an online service that allows individual schools to select value for money goods and services from a range of electronic catalogues through a secure, simple ordering portal, which can be integrated with existing schools' finance management systems. ProcServe was appointed by the Welsh Assembly Government to deliver this key part of the eProcurement platform for the xchangewales programme.

One of the main objectives for Gwynedd Council is to introduce eProcurement into the county's 120 schools, who currently buy goods and services in a variety of ways, including manual paper ordering. The initial pilot at two secondary and six primary schools was completed in March 2009. Implementation to all secondary schools in Gwynedd was concluded in July 2009, and the remaining 100 primary schools will be coming on board throughout the rest of this year.

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Editor's Choice of the week: [Rising International Awareness on Biometrics and Security Ethics](#)

## Latest News

- [EU: European Commission urges EU countries to implement eCall voluntarily](#) | 11 September 2009 | EU Institutions
- [DE: Promoting healthy nutrition and physical activity on NRW website](#) | 10 September 2009 | Germany
- [UK: Directgov helps people to avoid traffic and transport inconveniences](#) | 10 September 2009 | United Kingdom
- [IE: New bathing water quality monitoring website launched by the Irish Environmental Protection Agency](#) | 10 September 2009 | Ireland
- [HU: Crime reporting by email gains full legal value](#) | 10 September 2009 | Hungary
- [Kosovo: 'Ownership of eGovernment code a step towards open source'](#) | 9 September 2009 | Other european countries
- [HU: New information system for vehicles technical control](#) | 9 September 2009 | Hungary
- [BE: Online Awareness Campaign on discrimination against foreign job-candidates](#) | 9 September 2009 | Belgium
- [BR: 'Using free software improves relation between State and society'](#) | 9 September 2009 | Central and South America
- [UK: Information on rent and mortgage arrears goes online](#) | 9 September 2009 | United Kingdom
- [UK: Launch of an updated advice website for mediation in family disputes](#) | 8 September 2009 | United Kingdom
- [EU: A new EFFIS application is launched](#) | 8 September 2009 | EU Institutions

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## EU: European Commission urges EU countries to implement eCall voluntarily - 11 September 2009

**The European Commission has made a last call to all EU countries to accelerate the voluntary implementation of the new in-car communication technology, 'eCall'.**

The Commission has presented a policy document with a strategy for introducing an affordable in-car emergency call system in all the new vehicles across Europe by 2014. This system, triggered automatically, dials [112, Europe's single emergency number](#), when a car has a serious accident and sends its location to the nearest emergency service. This can reduce in half emergency response times, minimise the severity of injuries and save the lives of people who either do not know or cannot say where they are. The deployment of eCall by the public authorities, car companies and mobile phone operators, is still voluntary.

The Commission however warns in the policy document, adopted on 21 August 2009, that should no significant progress be made in rolling out the system by the end of 2009, it could propose regulatory measures to make this life-saving technology available all over Europe, as soon as possible. The measures proposed by the Commission would ensure that eCall works in all EU countries and in cars of all brands and countries of origin. Implementing eCall needs the full collaboration of the car and telecom industries, as well as of national administrations in all EU countries, ensuring that their emergency services are equipped to handle eCalls.

Preparing phone networks and emergency services for the roll out of eCall, in cars across Europe, has the [full support of the European Parliament](#) and of 15 EU countries which have signed the eCall Memorandum of Understanding (Austria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the Netherlands and Sweden) including three other European countries (Iceland, Norway and Switzerland). Another six countries (Belgium, Bulgaria, Hungary, Luxembourg, Romania and Poland) support eCall and are willing to sign the agreement in due time. Before making eCall fully operational across the EU, countries have to agree on common standards and guidelines for a harmonised deployment of the system and perform field tests putting it into practice (pilots have been launched in some EU countries, including Finland, The Czech Republic, Germany, Austria, Italy and The Netherlands).

Through its [Competitiveness and Innovation Programme](#), the Commission may financially support such pilots, as well as public awareness campaigns on how this technology works. Introducing this device will not only benefit consumers but also businesses, by enabling the car and telecom industries to offer new upgraded applications and

services (like digital tachographs or electronic tolls) based on eCall to be installed in all vehicles and using satellite positioning technology.

**Further information:**

- [Official press release of Europa - Press Releases Rapid](#)
  - [Official website of Europe's Information Society - 112: the European emergency number](#)
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## **DE: Promoting healthy nutrition and physical activity on NRW website - 10** September 2009

**The federal government increases its activities on the central Internet platform of 'North-Rhine/Westphalia' (NRW) by introducing a new portal dedicated to healthy nutrition and physical activity.**

All projects of the NRW portal related to the area of healthy nutrition and exercise were summarized in the new "[NRW in Shape](#)" website. The projects come from the individual departments of the Federal government.

All citizens have the opportunity to find out simply and clearly about how children can grow up in a healthier way, how adults can live healthier increasing quality of life and efficiency. The goal of the federal government is to clearly reduce disease caused by physical inactivity.

The promotion of a healthy lifestyle becomes even more important. "Nutrition, exercise and relaxation are the basis for a healthy lifestyle" said Minister for the Environment, Conservation, Agriculture and Consumer Protection, Eckhard Uhlenberg. "Unbalanced nutrition and little exercise is predominant already during childhood and cause many illnesses". In addition, the Minister of Interior Affairs and Sports, Dr. Ingo Wolf, speaking on NRW website gave advice on healthy nutrition. "We want to encourage people to introduce more sport and physical activity in their daily lives. The foundations for this must be already given in childhood", said Wolf.

**Further information:**

- [Original News Article - Ministry of the Environment and Conservation, Agriculture and Consumer Protection of the German State of North Rhine-Westphalia, Website](#) (in German)
  - [North-Rhine/Westphalia In Shape website](#) (in German)
  - [North-Rhine/Westphalia website](#) (in German)
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## **UK: Directgov helps people to avoid traffic and transport inconveniences - 10** September 2009

**The United Kingdom's national eGovernment portal [Directgov](#) provides traffic and transport updates which are accessible online and from one's mobile phone.**

Directgov hosts a range of quick-and-easy transport and traffic tools so all travellers can plan the most time effective route. The service was launched shortly before the bank holiday week-end of 29-31 August 2009.

For those travelling by car, drivers can access real-time information on traffic congestion, accidents, and roadworks nationwide as well as see information on future roadworks and predicted delays.

For those using public transport, Directgov links straight through to live departure boards and information on planned changes to the advertised schedules.

And for those already on the move, a mobile service keeps travellers up-to-date with the traffic or departure information - they just need to text TRAVEL to 83377.

**Further information:**

- [Original news article - New Distribution Service \(CDS\) for Government and the Public Sector](#)
- [Directgov - Information on traffic and road congestion in the UK](#)

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## **IE: New bathing water quality monitoring website launched by the Irish Environmental Protection Agency - 10 September 2009**

On 30 July 2009 the Irish [Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#) launched a new online bathing water quality monitoring website named "[Splash](#)".

Splash is a map-based website, whose main objective is to provide the latest information on bathing water quality status and standards in 131 bathing areas throughout the country. The website presents the latest bathing water sampling results for various bathing areas as well as historic data showing how the water quality of a certain bathing area has performed from 2003 onwards.

According to Dr. Mary Kelly, EPA Director General, "The website is intended to provide up to date information about bathing areas across the country. Anyone setting out for the beach will be able to log on and see the latest results of water quality at their favourite bathing spot. We are also giving details about lifeguard availability, blue flag status, tides and weather forecast so that both Irish people and tourists will have information about safe bathing areas. We want to ensure that bathers can be confident of the quality of the bathing waters."

The website was developed in co-operation with a private company, [the National Trust for Ireland 'An Taisce'](#), (the body responsible for awarding Blue Flags to Irish bathing areas) and the [Irish Water Safety Body](#). Bathing water quality uploaded directly to the site by local authorities will be used by the EPA, to assess the overall compliance of a bathing area with the EU standards, and by An Taisce, in their assessment of bathing sites for Blue Flag status. The public can easily find out which bathing areas have good, sufficient or poor water quality based on their sampling results for the bathing season.

**Further information:**

- [Original Press Release - Environmental Protection Agency - Website](#)
  - [Splash - Website](#)
  - [An Taisce - Website](#)
  - [Irish Water Safety - Website](#)
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## **HU: Crime reporting by email gains full legal value - 10 September 2009**

**According to a statement by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Civil Rights (the Ombudsman), in Hungary crime reporting by email has the same legal value as that performed by traditional means.**

Under the relevant regulations, each document submitted to the police has to be filed and a police decision on whether to further investigate or to reject the case has to be taken within the three following days.

The Ombudsman stated that the documents communicated by electronic means have to be handled similarly, thus doing away with the legal uncertainty associated to this reporting means and its processing by the police forces.

**Further information:**

- [Ombudsman's Statement \(in Hungarian\)](#)
  - [Original news article - The Hungarian News Agency \(in Hungarian\)](#)
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## **Kosovo: 'Ownership of eGovernment code a step towards open source' - 9 September 2009**

**The Ministry of Public Administration of Kosovo now owns the source code to many of the country's applications that offer electronic government services. This is progress towards open source, said the Deputy Minister of Energy and Mining, Blerim Rexha, speaking at the Software Freedom Kosova Conference. "Previously, the Government only had the executables, not the source code."**

The Government of Kosovo earlier this year has begun a project to implement all public administration services in electronic form. This plan is to be carried out over the next six years.

Most of these eGovernment services are based on proprietary software, minister Rexha said. "The Government lacks knowledge on free and open source software, and there are many international IT companies increasing their presence in emerging markets."

The Software Freedom Kosova Conference took place during the last week of August 2009 in capital Pristina. It was organised by the University of Pristina and the Free Libre Open Source Software Kosovo (FLOSS Kosova - FLOSSK).

Minister Rexha, who is also a professor at the university, called the conference the first step of a long journey. "This shows Kosovo has the human capacity for a modern approach." He said he expects the conference will help to show the country's public administrators that there are alternative ways to offer eGovernment services, which could help to save public resources.

In a recorded interview available on the conference website, Rexha points out that the main sponsor of the conference is the Prime Minister's office. "There is a lack of technology know-how in the Government, therefore the Government supports such initiatives."

He announced that the Government will soon propose to Parliament a law regarding intellectual property rights.

According to one of the organisers, the conference had more than 500 attendees. They plan to hold a second Software Freedom Kosova Conference in 2010.

**Further information:**

- [Original news article - OSOR.EU](#)
  - [Software Freedom Kosova Conference 2009](#)
  - [FLOSSK](#)
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## **HU: New information system for vehicles technical control - 9 September 2009**

**Mid-July 2009, the Hungarian National Transport Authority (NTA) introduced new software which allows all the control centres taking part in vehicle technical controls to gain access to an IT system managing united, closed and secure data.**

The modular system started by the NTA and named 'KÖKIR' provides more developed solutions for the technical control of vehicles on the one hand, and a closed and secure electronic data exchange for the NTA on the other hand. Almost 1 000 bodies can access the system.

Most of the technical control centres do the so-called "green card examination"; an assessment of the environmental friendliness of vehicles. So far, this examination has been performed separately from the traditional technical control.

In the future, the new modular system may be able to receive the documents of the green card examination too. According to the plans, 1 January 2010 will be the starting date of a transitional period for harmonising the validity of the technical control and the green card examination, in the aim to integrate the environmental check in the technical control in the longer term.

The planned changes bring several advantages for the vehicle owners. The necessary examinations will be made in one place and at one time, within the framework of a unique procedure, which will allow sparing considerable time. The integration of the green card control would furthermore ensure costs reduction.

**Further information:**

- [Original press release - eGovernment portal 'Magyaroszag.hu' \(in Hungarian\)](#)
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## **BE: Online Awareness Campaign on discrimination against foreign job-candidates - 9 September 2009**

**The Centre for Equal Opportunities and Opposition to Racism** recently launched an online awareness campaign regarding discrimination against young people of foreign origin on the labour market.

For many young, educated people the intermediate stage between studies and employment might be the beginning of a long waiting period. The duration of the job-hunting process depends on the determination of the candidates, their skills but also, sometimes, on their origins.

The online campaign revolves around two phases: the first phase was launched in May 2009 with an audition to find the person who will play the role of a young, foreign candidate who encounters difficulties in finding a job; this short film aims to raise awareness on discrimination against young people of foreign origins.

The second phase started on 31 August 2009. Two identical curricula vitae were written with only one semantic differential element: the first includes the photo and the name of a young woman of African origin, while the second one has a Belgian-sounding name and a photo of the same woman, made up and revamped to make look more "European". Both curricula will be sent to more than 100 000 employers with a link to the campaign website: [www.discriminationemploi.be](http://www.discriminationemploi.be).

**Further information:**

- [Official press release - eGovernment portal 'Belgium.be' \(French\)](#)
  - [Discrimination in employment sector - Portal \(in French and Dutch\)](#)
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## **BR: 'Using free software improves relation between State and society' - 9 September 2009**

**"There is a new relationship developing between the state and its citizens. Free software is rejuvenating these social relations this century",** said the president of Brazil, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva in his opening

## **speech of the second edition of the International Free Software and Electronic Government (Consegi) in the capital, Brasília, on 26 August 2009.**

Lula said that Brazil's ministry of Education has begun the world's largest programme for distribution and education on Linux. This four-year program will next year bring open source software to 93 percent of schools, reaching some 70 000 schools and 800 000 PCs.

"It is important to know that we are not only users of free software, we are also developing it and sharing our solutions. The educational content that supports our extensive school computerisation programme, can be used and modified by any citizen. The same occurs with applications for public administration. So, major programs created in Brazil for use of the federal government, can be modified for use in civil society organisations in municipalities and states, or even outside the country."

Brazil's public administrations regularly turn to open source software. Lula pointed to calculations that since 2003 the government saved 370 million Brazil reais (€140 million) on proprietary software licences. "And all that we save, we reinvest in developing new technological solutions."

According to him, Brazil's Portal of Public Software, which is maintained by the Ministry of Planning, Budget and Management, now has 50 thousand active users and its collection of open source applications is worth an estimated 50 million Brazil reais (19 million euro). Applications developed on this forge are used by 5 560 municipal administrations, said Lula.

Brazil's open source activities are bringing the country international recognition, Lula said. "More people use Internet search engines to look for our open source software than they do to find information about our soccer."

The three-day conference had 23 tracks specifically targeting open source applications for public administrations. These included a presentation of a national system for public administrations, a discussion on web site accessibility and a case study on the use of business intelligence tools.

### **Further information:**

- [Original news article - OSOR.EU](#)
- [Consegi Conference website \(in Portuguese\)](#)

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## **UK: Information on rent and mortgage arrears goes online - 9 September 2009**

**Britons are now able to access information and advice on issues related to mortgage or rental payment arrears online, after the Ministry of Justice added a series of new videos, articles and interview clips to the [Directgov website](#).**

People encountering difficulties in paying their rent or mortgage will have a new way of finding the best solution to their arrears problems, with the publication of information and advice by the Ministry of Justice. New animated videos, interview clips and articles, to be featured on Directgov, go from the point where there may just be a problem, to communicating with landlords or mortgage lenders, or helping in the preparation for court and describing what happens during and after a court hearing.

Justice Minister Bridget Prentice said: 'The government has taken considerable steps to ensure people struggling to pay their rent or mortgage get the help they need to stay in their homes.' 'Mortgage repossession figures released earlier this month show that the number of people facing repossession has considerably reduced since this time last year, but we're not complacent. The information being made available today is easy to understand and accessible via the Directgov website and aims to help people find a way out of their financial difficulties and avoid repossession.'

District Judge Stephen Gold, who appears in several of the videos, added that 'The worst thing you can do if you are in arrears is ignore the problem. Get impartial advice from an expert. Free advice should be available to you.'

Find out about the court process - it's not as complicated as people think and, most important of all, talk to your mortgage lender or landlord. You may be able to reach an agreement about clearing the arrears and avoid court altogether.

**Further information:**

- [Original Press Release - British Ministry of Justice - Website](#)
- [Directgov website - mortgage arrears webpage](#)
- [Directgov website - rent arrears webpage](#)

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## **UK: Launch of an updated advice website for mediation in family disputes - 8 September 2009**

**Justice Minister of the United Kingdom, Bridget Prentice, has recently launched an updated advice website on the [Directgov portal](#) for families involved in disputes, aiming to avoid resorting to courts by offering help from a mediator.**

The rationale behind the website is to make courts the last resort for people involved in family disputes. Mediation is an alternative to litigation and can be cheaper, quicker and less stressful. It is a voluntary process where a neutral third party helps both sides to agree on the outcome. The mediator helps the parties reach an agreement without taking sides. The family mediation page gives advice on how to avoid damaging and expensive court battles by using mediation.

As Minister Prentice said, "The government is committed to the promotion of family mediation as in many cases mediation can offer considerable advantages over going to court. It is particularly helpful in cases involving children where ongoing conflict between the parents is more likely than not to impact negatively on their development. This is about getting the best outcome for children - who are so often the ones damaged during these court proceedings."

Her Majesty's Courts Service launched the Family Mediation Helpline in May 2006. Families can call the helpline on 0845 602 6627 or visit the [Family Mediation Helpline website](#).

The Family Mediation Helpline is staffed by specially trained operators who provide:

- general information on family mediation;
- advice on whether your case may be suitable for mediation;
- information about eligibility for public funding, and;
- contact details for mediation services in your local area.

**Further information:**

- [Original News Article - Ministry of Justice, Website](#)
- [Directgov website](#)
- [Family Mediation Helpline website](#)

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## EU: A new EFFIS application is launched - 8 September 2009

**A new EFFIS application is launched providing more detailed information on the status of serious fires across Europe.**

The European Forest Fire Information System (EFFIS) is established by the Joint Research Centre (JRC) and the Directorate General for Environment (DG ENV) of the European Commission. It constantly monitors fires and supports forest fire-fighting services in EU and neighboring countries, the European Commission's Monitoring and Information Centre (MIC), based in Brussels, and other organisations in the field.

EFFIS addresses forest fires in Europe in a comprehensive way, providing EU level assessments from pre-fire to post-fire phases, thus supporting fire prevention, preparedness, fire fighting and post-fire evaluations. The core of EFFIS consists of a scientific and technical infrastructure at the JRC conducting research on forest fires and operating a web based platform. In addition, EFFIS is supported by a network of Experts on Forest Fires from 22 EU countries that meet regularly with the EC services.

The JRC has recently implemented a new EFFIS application that provides detailed information on the situation of serious fires across Europe to the European Commission's Monitoring and Information Centre (MIC), using local information on the areas in question such as populations at risk, nearby villages or towns, road networks and hospitals. This application allows the comparison of the status of several simultaneous fires in Europe and supports MIC decision-making when dispatching reserve fire-fighting aircrafts.

### Further information:

- [Official press release of Europa - Press Releases Rapid](#)
- [Official website of the Joint Research Centre- European Forest Fire Information System](#)

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## Latest Publications

- [US: Comparing Technology Innovation in the Private and Public Sectors](#) | 30 June 2009 | North America
- [EU: Report on the public consultation on European e-Inclusion Policy](#) | 31 May 2009 | EU Institutions
- [UK: Power of Information Taskforce Report - February 2009](#) | 28 February 2009 | United Kingdom
- [UK: Interim Progress Report on the Power of Information Review](#) | 31 March 2008 | United Kingdom

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## US: Comparing Technology Innovation in the Private and Public Sectors - 30 June 2009

### Description (short summary):

Many argue that the private sector is more entrepreneurial and innovative than the public sector. Commercial enterprises-responding to market pressures and the need to stay competitive-incorporate new technologies into their operations as a way to boost efficiency and productivity. In contrast, government agencies don't have customers in the traditional sense and aren't required to show a profit on their revenues. Most public departments have multiple constituents, such as voters, taxpayers, legislators, administrators, the media, advocacy organizations, and nonprofit organizations. Still, to understand the real factors facilitating technology innovation and advancing entrepreneurship, systematic data evaluating innovation in business and government is needed.

The following paper evaluates the websites of leading U.S. corporations with state and national governments, grades their overall performance, and examines nearly two dozen features of digital innovation, including: personalization, interactivity, transparency, PDA access, disability access, language translation, number of online services, privacy, security, and user feedback. The authors found that many government websites lacked

multimedia, interactivity, and personalization-key features that allow users to tailor information to their own needs. On the other hand, public sector agencies were more effective at providing disability access than commercial enterprises. When it came to privacy policies, public sector websites also offered stronger consumer protections than commercial sites.

Also included in this paper are interviews with key leaders from companies that have implemented successful strategies for developing and maintaining first-rate websites. The authors draw on their experiences to determine the keys to successful innovation.

**Number of pages:** 23

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## **EU: Report on the public consultation on European e-Inclusion Policy - 31 May 2009**

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

A public consultation was launched on 4 March 2009 through the European Commission's interactive Internet platform "Your voice". It closed on 6 April 2009 and its main objective was to gather views on the role of e-Inclusion in the future European strategy on the information society that will succeed the "i2010" initiative. The survey was also aimed at gathering opinions on European programmes and activities supporting e-Inclusion and cooperation modalities between European Commission services and relevant stakeholders regarding e-Inclusion activities.

Among those who responded to this consultation, there was a general understanding that European policy on e-inclusion is useful and should be continued and enhanced in post 'i2010' initiative. There was an overwhelming consensus that in a context of financial and economic crisis greater e-Inclusion also generates systemic innovation, new business models and new modalities for service delivery. Respondents provided valuable inputs defining the future possible e-inclusion policies and dissemination activities.

### **Key results:**

- ICTs can have a significant impact on education and learning patterns, employment and economic situation and social participation and interaction;
- Usability and user-friendliness of internet websites remains an important barrier to fully inclusive internet services;
- Mobile telephones, mobile devices and the internet are most relevant ICT services and products that can improve e-inclusion;
- Digital competences and lowly educated people should be perceived as the priority target for e-inclusion activities;
- Financial crisis will have negative consequences relating to e-Inclusion activities; current financial situation should be used as a stimulus to use ICTs more effectively;
- National and regional authorities and providers of public services are the most capable of introducing positive developments in e-inclusion;
- Improvements in e-inclusion will require cross-sector and international collaboration;
- Social inclusion, equality policy, education policy and employment policy are the most relevant European policies in relation to e-Inclusion;

Information society policy should address wider social issues, even where the ICT component is not central, and pursue a comprehensive e-inclusion agenda.

**Number of pages:** 23

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## UK: Power of Information Taskforce Report - February 2009 - 28 February 2009

### Description (short summary):

This Power of Information Taskforce Report makes further recommendations for Internet usage and development within Government expanding upon the original report nine months earlier.

The Power of Information Taskforce Report has been produced shortly after the [Interim Report on Digital Britain](#).

The report calls for action in six areas where the Taskforce believes significant improvements can be made to government's use of digital technologies:

- enhancing Digital Britons' online experience by providing expert help from the public sector online where people seek it;
- creating a capability for the UK public sector to work with both internal and external innovators;
- improving the way government consults with the public;
- freeing up the UK's mapping and address data for use in new services;
- ensuring that public sector information is made as simple as possible for people to find and use;
  
- building capacity in the UK public sector to take advantage of the opportunities offered by digital technologies.

**Number of pages:** 35

### Related publications:

- [The Power of Information: an Independent Review by Ed Mayo and Tom Steinberg](#)
  - [Interim Progress Report on the Power of Information Review](#)
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## UK: Interim Progress Report on the Power of Information Review - 31 March 2008

### Description (short summary):

The progress report states the advancement that Government is making towards implementing the recommendations of the original [Power of Information review](#) by Ed Mayo and Tom Steinberg.

**Number of pages:** 12

### Related publications:

- [The Power of Information: an Independent Review by Ed Mayo and Tom Steinberg](#)
  - [Power of Information Taskforce Report - February 2009](#)
- 

## ePractice Workshops

- [eGovernment good practices transfer between regional authorities:experiences & challenges of InterregIVC Capitalisation projects](#) | 24 September 2009 | Belgium
- [Public eID: Cross-Border and Cross-Sector applications](#) | 29 September 2009 | Belgium
- [Applying standards in eInvoicing](#) | 5 November 2009 | Belgium

- [Service Oriented Architecture pushed to the limit in eGovernment](#) | 2 December 2009 | Belgium
- [eProcurement for SMEs](#) | 4 December 2009 | Italy

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## Upcoming Events

- [IT: "Communicating Security Using ICT" - A new ePractice Community Launch Conference](#) | 15 September 2009 | Italy
  - [DE: Baltic Conference on e-Health](#) | 16 September 2009 | Germany
  - [BE: Workshop e-IDEa 2009](#) | 16 September 2009 | Belgium
  - [LV: eGuidance: Widening access to lifelong guidance](#) | 16 - 17 September 2009 | Latvia
  - [UK: Techshare Conference 2009](#) | 16 - 18 September 2009 | United Kingdom
  - [UK: eID strategy workshop: Raising the Game](#) | 17 September 2009 | United Kingdom
  - [SI: Workshop on Restrictions in the Implementation of EU Data Protection Directive for Public Interest, Security and Defence](#) | 17 - 18 September 2009 | Slovenia
  - [RO: E-Health and Bioengineering Conference 2009](#) | 17 - 18 September 2009 | Romania
  - [UK: Access-IT 2009](#) | 22 - 23 September 2009 | United Kingdom
  - [FR: Smart Event 2009](#) | 22 - 25 September 2009 | France
  - [PL: International Conference on 'Education for All'](#) | 22 - 25 September 2009 | Poland
  - [DE: Net-ID 2009](#) | 01 - 02 October 2009 | Germany
  - [FR: IDABC Open Source Event 2009](#) | 02 October 2009 | France
  - [ES: e-Gov 2.0 2009 Conference](#) | 05 October 2009 | Spain
  - [NL: ISSE 2009](#) | 06 - 08 October 2009 | Netherlands
  - [SE: Public Procurement of Innovation](#) | 13 October 2009 | Sweden
  - [RO: Global Forum 2009](#) | 19 - 20 October 2009 | Romania
  - [TR: eChallenges e-2009](#) | 21 - 23 October 2009 | Turkey
  - [DK: Pan European eProcurement Conference with PEPPOL](#) | 21 - 23 October 2009 | Denmark
  - [UK: Government 2010 Conference Live](#) | 22 October 2009 | United Kingdom
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## IT: "Communicating Security Using ICT" - A new ePractice Community Launch Conference - 15 September 2009

This conference aims to present the new epractice community "Communicating Security Using ICT". This Community will be a network in which the members of the European Police forces working in the External relations/Public relations field will be able to communicate in real time among them on the ways to communicate security to the citizen using ICT and to inform them about security issues.

The Community's members will be able to share suggestions, projects and best practices on how to communicate the security to the citizens and the initiatives taken for making feel them more secure using ICT means (police websites, intranet, community, electronic newspapers, mailing lists, advertising campaigns about security and so on).

The participants to the launch conference in Rome will be explained how the Community works and how to create their personal account to join it.

Participation in the event is **upon invitation only** and free of charge

Event email: [mauro.valeri@interno.it](mailto:mauro.valeri@interno.it)

Country: Italy

City/Location: Rome

Organiser: Italian Police, External Relations Office

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## DE: Baltic Conference on e-Health - 16 September 2009

The Baltic Conference on eHealth will present a well-balanced mix of best practices and strategy-oriented presentations from various countries. The participants including representatives from hospitals, governments, health insurance organizations, service providers and media will have the opportunity to exchange views and experiences among all those involved in health management. "To learn from each other - to work with one another" shall be conference's main aim.

The conference program will focus on the following topics:

- Cross-Border Healthcare (experience and knowledge transfer, best practices, interoperability/interconnectivity, globalization, business intelligence/consulting and quality management).
- Optimization of clinical and business processes as well as of hospital information and communication systems in order to increase the quality and economics of patient care.
- Telemedicine.

Moreover, the link between eHealth and medical engineering will be discussed.

The conference will not only include several presentations and workshops but also an exhibition of international IT solution providers and a [pre-opening session](#) on 15 September, at the University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf (Universitätsklinikum Hamburg-Eppendorf - UKE).

Detailed information about the agenda of the conference can be found [here](#).

The conference is expected to host around 150 participants. Registration is open and can be performed [online](#) with a payment of a fee.

Event email: [event@common-sense.biz](mailto:event@common-sense.biz)

Event website: <http://www.baltic-conference-on-ehealth.com/eng/index.html>

Country: Germany

City/Location: Hamburg

Organiser: Baltic Sea Forum e.V. - Baltic SeaStates Subregional Co-operation (BSSSC), Hamburg Chamber of Commerce, IBM, in cooperation with University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf

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## BE: Workshop e-IDea 2009 - 16 September 2009

In 2002, Belgium -as one of the first countries in Europe- introduced an electronic identity card. The card enables citizen to digitally prove their identity and to sign electronic documents. Today, eID applications are developed in many domains (eHealth, Government, Commerce, Corporate Environments, etc.). Moreover, the card offers new opportunities for Flemish software developers in many omains.

Important contributions and trends related to electronic identity cards are presented in this workshop. More specifically, speakers can contribute to the development and/or debate of eID technologies in Belgium, Germany and the Netherlands. Additionally, the results of a two-year research project that focuses on secure and privacy-friendly application development with the Belgian eID are presented. The workshop ends with a panel discussion about future perspectives and opportunities for eID technologies in Europe. The event brings together developers, end-users and researchers from different sectors and disciplines.

Further information regarding the program of the workshop can be found [here](#).

The workshop is expected to host over 100 participants. Registration is open and can be performed [online](#) before 10th September 2009 with the payment of a fee.

Event email: [vincent.naessens@kahosl.be](mailto:vincent.naessens@kahosl.be)

Event website: <http://www.msec.be/eidea/ws2009>

Country: Belgium  
City/Location: Leuven  
Organiser: Katholieke Universiteit Leuven and KaHo Sint-Lieven

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## **LV: eGuidance: Widening access to lifelong guidance - 16 - 17 September 2009**

Inclusive eGovernment addresses social exclusion by focusing on delivery mechanisms along the supply chain so that all citizens, especially those most in need of government support, can benefit from the advantages brought about by eGovernment without necessarily using eservices themselves. Member States should now put in place multi-channel service delivery strategies, since this is likely to provide a sustainable model for inclusive public services. ICT can make life easier for businesses and citizens by making administrations more efficient - quicker - and also more effective. In addition to specific services and specific excluded groups, the evidence shows that eGovernment is most successful when coordinated widely across the public sector at different levels - European, national, regional, local - as well as requiring the constant commitment and synergy of the main relevant players: governments, private sector and civil society.

Inclusive eGovernment is thus targeted at all groups that are at risk of exclusion from the Information Society, and groups that do not have equal opportunities to benefit from it. As already happens in several on-going actions, disabled and older people are covered, but so are many other groups including those with low levels of education, low digital skills, the unemployed, ethnic minorities, people living in isolated areas, etc. In the Ministerial Riga Declaration on eInclusion of June 2006, the term "eInclusion" concerns both inclusive ICT and their use in order to reach wider inclusion goals. eInclusion aims at the participation of all citizens and communities in all sectors of the information society. Thus, policies focused on eInclusion should aim at reducing gaps in ICT usage and at promoting its use in order to overcome exclusion, and improve economic performance, employment opportunities, quality of life, social participation and cohesion (cf. Riga Ministerial Declaration in June 2006).

The Conference on e-Guidance will face such issues. Public bodies and private organizations will have the opportunity to debate educational and vocational guidance issues during plenary sessions and thematic workshops. In addition, a specific exposition area will enable participants to see the most recent products and services in the field of e-guidance and e-learning.

More information about the programme of the workshop can be found [here](#).

The conference is expected to host around 200 attendees. Registration can be performed [online](#) with the payment of a fee.

Event email: [riga2009@egos-cip.eu](mailto:riga2009@egos-cip.eu)

Event website: <http://www.egos-cip.eu/riga2009/>

Country: Latvia

City/Location: Riga

Organiser: European Lifelong Guidance Policy Network (ELGPN), eGOS Project with the support of the European Commission through the Lifelong Learning and CIP - Competitiveness and Innovation programmes

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## **UK: Techshare Conference 2009 - 16 - 18 September 2009**

The Techshare 2009 conference will bring together professionals interested in technology and in the role it plays for people with disabilities in learning, at work and generally, in the society. Moreover, leading organisations and technology companies will have the opportunity to share their research, products and services with the international community.

This year's event will include expert-led pre-conference workshops, presentations on innovative digital access technology, a networking drinks reception and a conference dinner. There will also be an exhibition of leading digital products and services for people with disabilities.

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

The conference is expected to host around 200 and 300 delegates. Registration can be performed [online](#) with the payment of a fee.

Event email: [techshare@rnib.org.uk](mailto:techshare@rnib.org.uk)

Event website: [http://www.rnib.org.uk/xpedio/groups/public/documents/code/public\\_rnib004057.hcsp](http://www.rnib.org.uk/xpedio/groups/public/documents/code/public_rnib004057.hcsp)

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: London

Organiser: Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB) in partnership with AbilityNet, Action for Blind People, Age Concern and Help the Aged, JISC TechDis

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## **UK: eID strategy workshop: Raising the Game - 17 September 2009**

A top level strategy for using Information and Software Technology (IST) to help the European Union (EU) get out of recession was issued earlier this year. This was "Raising the Game". The strategy placed great emphasis on the need for identity management as a prerequisite to the evolution of new services in the future and a consultation process has since been initiated, entitled "Towards an Electronic Identity Management (eID) Infrastructure for Trustworthy Services in e-Government and e-Commerce in the European Union." It also focused on how a deployment of large scale pan-European interoperability initiatives would become key building blocks. In removing European barriers, we are simultaneously removing local barriers. The speaker from the Commission in Brussels will set this context.

There will be presentations of some of the existing large scale EU wide pilots covering interoperability across the EU in terms of eProcurement (PEPPOL), eidentity (STORK), ehealth (EPSOS) eServices Directive and the Services Directive Large Scale Pilot (SPOCS).

The question can be raised as to what possible role the digital region could play in the next raft of demonstration projects to be funded. There will be examples of local EU funded initiatives which utilise identification and authentication along with secure messaging to enable the next generation of services, cutting across organisations, to be developed.

Presentations from [e@SY Connects](#) and from the "Digital Region" team will provide the local and national context and establish how taking forward aspects of "Raising the Game" will benefit the Region. e@SY Connects have been invited to participate in initiating a secure messaging service, which with time-stamping and archival facilities, will enable communications previously bound by legal and security restrictions to being paper based, to be now put online. The initial applications have been selected but others may be considered.

In addition to [FAST](#), other EU projects involving e@SY Connects will be presented and workshops provided. These will include [DIADEM](#), covering personalisation of forms for elderly people. One outcome will be a mechanism for achieving mainstream funding from the EU Framework and Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP), Policy Support Programme (PSP) to progress the work of administrations in the region and to maximise the use of the digital region infrastructure.

Information about the programme of the event can be found [here](#).

Registration is free and can be performed [online](#).

Event email: [shaun.topham@ukonline.co.uk](mailto:shaun.topham@ukonline.co.uk)

Event website: <http://www.raisingthegame.co.uk/index.php>

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: Sheffield

Organiser: eForum

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## **SI: Workshop on Restrictions in the Implementation of EU Data Protection Directive for Public Interest, Security and Defence - 17 - 18 September 2009**

This problem-solving workshop is being organised in the context of a European Commission founded project called [Homeland Security, Biometrics Identification & Personal Detection Ethics - HIDE](#).

Its aim is to bring together individuals and representatives from the European governmental and non-governmental organisations, with the emphasis on the new EU Member States and the Balkan countries in order to identify and discuss ethical and other issues related to the restrictions of the scope of rights in the implementation of EU data-protection principles, when such restrictions constitute the necessary measures to safeguard important public interests, security and defence.

More information about the programme of the workshop can be found [here](#).

Although registration for this workshop is free, the number of participants is limited; therefore, the completed [registration form](#) should be submitted no later than 1 September 2009, either by [email](#) or by fax.

Event email: [simon.dobrisek@fe.uni-lj.si](mailto:simon.dobrisek@fe.uni-lj.si)

Event website: <http://luks.fe.uni-lj.si/hide/>

Country: Slovenia

City/Location: Ljubljana

Organiser: Centre for Science, Society and Citizenship (CSSC) and the University of Ljubljana – Faculty of Electrical Engineering, in collaboration with HIDE partners

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Country: Romania

City/Location: Constanta

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

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## **UK: Access-IT 2009 - 22 - 23 September 2009**

The event aims to integrate a series of seminars, workshops, demonstration stands and networking activities with key players from across Europe working in the field of e-Accessibility and Assistive Technology in Europe. It targets to promote usable, affordable and needed developments and solutions that enhance the lives of people with a disability and the elderly.

The ACCESS-IT Seminar, which will take place on 22 September as part of the Access-IT 2009 event, will focus upon web accessibility and Web 2.0 and build upon last year's successful event hosted by AbilityNet. Speakers from web development companies and NGOs will equip web developers, web managers and technical designers with an in-depth understanding of key issues and explore a range of practical solutions. Expressions of interest in this event can be emailed to [courses@abilitynet.org.uk](mailto:courses@abilitynet.org.uk).

Agenda details are accessible under this [link](#).

Attendance both in the morning session with the two workshops - on ICT services for elderly for independent living and on accessible learning practices respectively - as well as the awards ceremony in the afternoon is free of charge. However, due to space limitation, participation will be on a first-come first-served basis. Further information on the registration to the event is available [here](#).

Event email: [info@access-it-events.org](mailto:info@access-it-events.org)

Event website: [http://www.access-it-events.org/2009\\_access\\_it\\_beyond.php](http://www.access-it-events.org/2009_access_it_beyond.php)

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: London

Organiser: Information Society Open To ImpairmentS (e-ISOTIS), AbilityNet

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

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

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

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

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

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

Smart Event 2009 addresses high level professionals that foster research and innovation the e-ID, e-mobility and Smart Security fields. Based on a steady growing audience, the target for 2009 exceeds 800 attendees. Regardless their activity - Academia, eGovernment, Institutions, Standardisation, Research, Integrators/Consultancy,

Manufacturer/hardware, Security Solutions Providers, Content Service & Telecoms Operators – they all play an important and crucial influence on major decisions in the mobility, trusted technologies and services marketplace.

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

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

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

Country: France

City/Location: French Riviera

Organiser: Strategies Telecoms and Media

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## **PL: International Conference on 'Education for All' - 22 - 25 September 2009**

The conference will be divided into three sessions. During the conference there will be an Exhibition of Assistive Technology and Adaptive Solutions.

- Universal design - more than just architecture:
  - making graphics accessible to persons with vision dysfunction;
  - accessibility of mathematical notation;
  - DAISY standard as a new tendency in creating books adapted for the blind;
  - designing outdoor activities for students with disabilities;
  - methodology of practice in mainstream classes with one child with disability taking into consideration the needs of people with sight impairment in building planning;
  - environment safe for everyone, etc.
- Beyond the borders of traditional disability:
  - the conference intends to become a platform for spreading solutions and good practices, the aim of which is to equalize the educational opportunities of the abovementioned groups of students and pupils.
- Inclusive education - can it become a fact?:
  - university studies as an example of inclusive education;
  - a blind pupil on a geography lesson - is full participation possible?
  - physical inclusion versus social inclusion in primary schools;
  - how to fight the stereotypes- social inclusion as the greatest challenge for inclusive education;
  - legal solutions - an enemy or a supporter of inclusive education;
  - methods of preparing teachers to inclusive education; who needs special education schools, etc.

Further information about the programme of the conference can be found [here](#).

The event is expected to host around 250 participants. The registration can be performed [online](#) with the payment of a fee.

Event email: [disability@uw.edu.pl](mailto:disability@uw.edu.pl)

Event website: <http://www.disability.uw.edu.pl>

Country: Poland

City/Location: Warsaw

Organiser: University of Warsaw, Office for Persons with Disabilities

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## **DE: Net-ID 2009 - 01 - 02 October 2009**

The conference provides an overview of the current concepts, methods and experiences in Identity Management that are nowadays discussed in the government and industry sectors.

The experts in the advisory committee present high-ranking speakers of international origin.

Further information about the programme of the conference can be found [here](#).

The event is expected to host about 100 participants. Registration is open and it can be performed [online](#) with a payment of a fee. However, **only for 9, September 2009** the registration for the event is **free of charge** by using the code: 999, in the respective field of the online registration form.

Event email: [info@computas.de](mailto:info@computas.de)

Event website: <http://www.amiando.com/net-id09.html>

Country: Germany

City/Location: Berlin

Organiser: Computas

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## **FR: IDABC Open Source Event 2009 - 02 October 2009**

The IDABC Open Source Event 2009 will focus on why and how European Public Administrations invest in Open Source Communities, from multi-stakeholder management to expected outcome. It will highlight these key aspects of Free, Libre and Open Source Software (FLOSS) sustainability and present seven practical cases, closing with a panel discussion. The keynote of the day focuses on the economical aspects of sustainability.

For a detailed list of planned presentations the agenda of the event can be downloaded from [here](#).

The event is part of the [Open World Forum](#) taking place in Paris on 1-2 October 2009.

In this international event people will be able to:

- Participate in a worldwide initiative bringing together Open Source players and decision-makers from 5 continents.
- Explore the future of FLOSS with Innovation [Awards](#), Trends Radars, and recommendations around a unique forward-looking initiative: the [2020 FLOSS RoadMap](#).
- Share insights and best practices with many of the most respected Open Source experts and entrepreneurs worldwide.
- Network with 1,500 CxOs, CIOs, IT Managers, architects, developers, academics and investors from more than 20 countries.

Registration to the one-day IDABC event can be performed by filling in the respective [form](#). In case that other members of a project or institution are interested, the form should be filled in separately.

In order to access the IDABC event, [registration to the Open World Forum](#) is necessary.

Event email: N/A

Event website: <http://ec.europa.eu/idabc/en/document/7804>

Country: France

City/Location: Paris

Organiser: IDABC Programme unit, Directorate General for Informatics, European Commission

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## **ES: e-Gov 2.0 2009 Conference - 05 October 2009**

After the international convention, held in Bulgaria, Sofia on 1st and 2nd October 2008, 'Improving Performance and Innovation in Public Administration', Eurospace continues with its programmed series of conventions in Europe coinciding with the annual publication of its volume on eGovernment. The conference will gather some of the leading international researchers and professionals coming from the European Commission and the European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA); some regional European Administrations, as well as some of the most prestigious European universities are also expected to participate in this event.

The edition 2009 of the Volume "e-Gov 2.0: pave the way for e-Participation" will be presented in Spain, Madrid, on 5 October 2009 in collaboration with the City Hall of Madrid.

Participation is the fundamental principle of democracy. The creation of a more open, user-oriented and democratic administration whereby both citizens and businesses are able to easily access and to directly influence the political choices of the governors, is the mission of every government involved in a process of modernisation. The Web 2.0 technologies can offer support in this sense. Tools such as thematic blogs, wikis, on-line polls, discussion fora, on-line communities and social networks allow Government to establish an open two-way consultation and feedback-generation channel through which citizens can take up a more active role in the shaping of policy.

The great opportunities offered by the new technologies explain the reason why today eParticipation is the prominent theme of the new eGovernment research focus. Numerous are in fact the initiatives and the exercises that have mushroomed in the latest years even though eParticipation is yet an area which involves a further research.

The conference will be an opportunity to look into the following questions and discuss the possible answers:

- To what extent can ICT tools effectively support and enrich the democratic processes?
- What are the limitations and the risks connected with this new usage of ICT?
- Where can a misuse of this technology lead? May it even become a threat to basic principles and human rights?
- Is society really ready to accept and effectively exploit the new participatory possibilities offered by the ICTs?
- What is the role played by interoperability in the construction of this participatory framework?

Registration to this open event is to be performed by sending an email to [progetti@eurospacegroup.com](mailto:progetti@eurospacegroup.com) or [comunicazione@eurospacegroup.com](mailto:comunicazione@eurospacegroup.com), by 20 September 2009. There is no attendance fee.

Event email: [progetti@eurospacegroup.com](mailto:progetti@eurospacegroup.com), [comunicazione@eurospacegroup.com](mailto:comunicazione@eurospacegroup.com)

Event website: [http://www.eurospacegroup.com/eng/pubblicazioni\\_news.php](http://www.eurospacegroup.com/eng/pubblicazioni_news.php)

Country: Spain

City/Location: Madrid

Organiser: Eurospace

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## **NL: ISSE 2009 - 06 - 08 October 2009**

Founded in 1999 as an initiative of the European Commission's Directorate General for Information Society, ISSE is intended to be "Europe's only independent, interdisciplinary security conference and exhibition".

ISSE provides a forum for sharing real life experiences and learning from experts in the field and it is renowned for its rich educational content and unbiased perspective. It is designed to educate and inform ICT security professionals, policy makers, and industry leaders on the latest developments in technology, solutions, market trends and best practice.

Now in its eleventh year, ISSE 2009 will attract over 400 representatives from across Europe providing an informal and stimulating environment for attendees to learn, share experiences and explore solutions with their European counterparts, focusing on security and related issues like cost of ownership, risk management and interoperability.

By attending ISSE 2009, participants will benefit from the following:

- Educational programme featuring the latest developments in information security, with a special emphasis on European directions and regulations.
- Expert advice on emerging threats and the key challenges ahead.
- Bespoke itinerary allowing choosing from more than 80 individual sessions.
- Hands-on demonstrations of the latest solutions from specialist suppliers.
- Complimentary entry to the ISSE Networking Event.
- Networking opportunities with peers, European security experts and leading industry suppliers.
- Complimentary lunch and refreshments.

The key security topics expected to be addressed at the conference may be viewed [here](#). Further information regarding the fees is also [available](#). Details on registering to the event can currently be provided by mailing [isse@circdata.com](mailto:isse@circdata.com).

Event email: [nicola@revolution-events.com](mailto:nicola@revolution-events.com)  
Event website: <http://www.isse.eu.com/index.htm>  
Country: Netherlands  
City/Location: The Hague  
Organiser: Revolution Events

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## **SE: Public Procurement of Innovation - 13 October 2009**

A large part of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the member states goes to public procurement, which can be used to drive innovation. The aim of the event is to enlighten Europe on the subject of public procurement of innovation in the life science area in order to increase the competitiveness in EU and thereby the industrial development.

The purpose of the conference is to:

- describe the situation in EU in comparison to the rest of the world;
- explain the legal framework and highlight points for discussion;
- share experiences with stakeholders on identified hurdles, needs and possibilities;
- promote good examples, to illustrate how these can be used to meet the challenges mentioned above and at the same time improve competitiveness.

Participants of the event will learn about the possibilities public procurement of innovation provides together with the most advantageous way to make use of public means. The event aims also to enlighten stakeholders and influence their mindset in a way that will contain public procurement of innovation as an obvious alternative when planning procurement.

More information about the agenda of the conference can be found [here](#).

The number of participants is expected to be around 500. Both the conference and the dinner at the Vasa museum are free of charge. However, [online registration](#) is required.

Event email: [Mats.Jarekrans@VINNOVA.se](mailto:Mats.Jarekrans@VINNOVA.se)  
Event website: <http://www.vinnova.se/In-English/misc/menus-functions/Kalendarium/Calendar/Public-Procurement-of-Innovation/>  
Country: Sweden  
City/Location: Stockholm  
Organiser: The Swedish Governmental Agency for Innovation Systems (VINNOVA)

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## **RO: Global Forum 2009 - 19 - 20 October 2009**

The Global Forum: 'Shaping the Future' is an annual & independent international event dedicated to Business and Policy issues affecting the successful evolution of the Information Society. The event is dedicated to the economical, political and social issues in connection to the development and innovation in the communication and information technology sectors.

The Forum is an invitation-only event, reserved for the IT&C and political leaders with the purpose to realize a synergy between the politic, technical and the civil society, affecting the successful evolution of the Information Society.

The forum will run in sessions, the main thematic areas of which are, but not limited to, the following:

- New Broadband and Dynamic Infrastructures for the Internet of the Future
- Smarter Governments: "Empowering Citizens"
- Trustworthy eID Services in a Digital World, Threats and Opportunities
- Innovation & Sustainable e-Health
- Cloud Computing is the Future
- The Future is Green
- Telecom and Internet Regulatory Challenges and Opportunities
- Digital Content & the Media of the Future
- Dedicated to local Government: Economic Growth for Local Governments through ICTs
- Euro-Mediterranean Innovation Network
- Strategies & Policies for Innovative Cities Network
- European Projects & Funding

With this occasion, Global Forum 2009 will host local government special dedicated sessions where the Romanian municipality mayors, the county presidents and the IT department directors of the Romanian city halls and regional councils have been invited.

A draft programme of the event is available [here](#).

The event is expected to host around 300 participants. Registration is open and can be performed with a payment of a fee by filling in the respective registration form attached. All ePractice members and users will be granted with a special registration fee of €700

Event email: [stoporkoff@items-int.eu](mailto:stoporkoff@items-int.eu)

Event website: <http://www.globalforum.ro/index-en.html>

Country: Romania

City/Location: Bucharest

Organiser: ITEMS International in collaboration with Ministry of Communications and Information Society-Government of Romania, Sophia-Antipolis Foundation

## **TR: eChallenges e-2009 - 21 - 23 October 2009**

The eChallenges e-2009 Conference & Exhibition bring together over 650 delegates from leading commercial, government and research organisations around the world to bridge the Digital Divide, by sharing knowledge, experience, lessons learnt and good practice.

Main thematic areas are, but not limited, to the following:

- ICT for Networked Enterprises
- eGovernment and eDemocracy
- eHealth
- Technology Enhanced Learning
- Intelligent Content, Collaborative Working Environments
- eInfrastructures
- High Performance Computing Applications
- Smart and Virtual Organisations
- Mobility & Security and Identity Management
- Geographic IT in Public Service
- eIdentity and eSecurity

eChallenges e-2009 provides an international forum to increase awareness of exploitable ICT research results and applications, whether funded privately or publicly. The conference also provides its participants the opportunity to identify partners and opportunities to cooperate in international research projects co-funded by the European Commission under the ICT Programme of FP7, as well as discussing proposal ideas with European Commission officials representing different units from Information Society and Media Directorate General.

Further information regarding the programme of the conference can be found [here](#). Registration is open and can be performed [online](#) with a payment of a fee.

Event email: [secretariat@eChallenges.org](mailto:secretariat@eChallenges.org)

Event website: <http://www.echallenges.org/e2009/default.asp?page=home>

Country: Turkey

City/Location: Istanbul

Organiser: International Information Management Corporation Ltd (IIMC)

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## **DK: Pan European eProcurement Conference with PEPPOL - 21 - 23 October 2009**

The objective of the [PEPPOL](#) project is to set up a pan-European pilot solution that, conjointly with existing national solutions, facilitates EU-wide interoperable public eProcurement. It envisages that companies and, in particular, SMEs in the EU will be able to communicate electronically with any European government institution for the entire procurement process.

There are three main objectives of the conference:

- Day 1 - PEPPOL executive day: to inform and promote the business opportunities in the PEPPOL Pilot and the PEPPOL Infrastructure to executives and decision makers from:
  - private service providers (eProcurement, banks, etc.);
  - public sector organisations worldwide;
  - suppliers of middleware products who offer products that can help organisations;
  - connect to the PEPPOL Infrastructure.
- Day 2 - PEPPOL architecture day: to engage IT project managers, IT architects and programmers from the above organisations in the technical aspects of the PEPPOL Infrastructure.
- Day 3 - PEPPOL middleware demonstrations and programmers "Hands-on": to allow existing suppliers of middleware to demonstrate their PEPPOL compliant products and to educate programmers in the software libraries provided.

The content offered during the conference addresses different audiences; executives and decision makers are recommended to participate only the first day; IT project managers, IT-architects and programmers are recommended to participate on day 2 and 3.

The agenda of the event may be viewed [here](#).

The event is free of charge and registration can be performed [online](#). However, there is a limited number of free places which are reserved for solution and platform providers, public sector entities, PEPPOL consortium members, service providers and related EU initiatives. The organiser has therefore reserved the right to allocate places and to refuse applications once the number of complimentary places has been exceeded.

Event email: [conference@peppolinfrastructure.com](mailto:conference@peppolinfrastructure.com)

Event website: <http://www.peppol.eu/News/events-1/peppol-innovation-conference>

Country: Denmark

City/Location: Copenhagen

Organiser: The Pan European Public Procurement Online (PEPPOL) Project

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## **UK: Government 2010 Conference Live - 22 October 2009**

Government 2010 is a live free-to-view online video conference from the heart of London.

It is about improved government communications and more rapid delivery of services to citizens via the web and web-enabled channels; laying special emphasis on citizens doing it for themselves. It will examine how next generation government is set to change in the light of social, media and technology change.

The Government 2010 series of live streamed conferences will bring together thought leaders to debate how government will embrace this generation web technologies to create next generation government.

This event will bring together parliamentarians, civil servants, technologists, bloggers, academics and researchers to discuss and debate on what it should be done in response to the changes facing the Government and the public service.

Viewing the event online will be free of charge. Those wishing to follow the live broadcast have to pre-register [online](#) at the event website.

There will however be a very limited number of spaces available for those interested to attend the live event. Potential participants are invited to contact the organisers via the [online form](#).

Delegate places will be £850.00 each (approx. €997.18) (£977.50 including VAT (approx. €1170.23)) for commercial companies or £595.00 plus VAT (approx. €698.03) (£684.25 including VAT (approx. €802.73)), for government bodies, NGOs or charities. All delegates will have to provide photographic ID upon registration.

The latest agenda of the event can be viewed [here](#).

Event email: [jeff@quadco.co.uk](mailto:jeff@quadco.co.uk)

Event website: <http://www.g2010.co.uk>

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: London

Organiser: Quadriga Consulting / Switch New Media / IBM

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