

Conference for E-Democracy and Open Government CeDEM 2014 Call for Papers

The international Conference for e-Democracy and Open Government (CeDEM) brings together e-democracy, e-participation and open government specialists working in academia, politics, government and business to critically analyse the innovations, issues, ideas and challenges in the networked societies of the digital age.

Since 2007, the Centre for E-Governance at the Danube University Krems has been organising conferences on e-democracy and public administration. The E-democracy Conferences began in 2007, and the CeDEM, first presented in 2011, represents the development and continuation of the conference series. In the meantime, the CeDEM also boasts a spin-off in Asia, held for the first time in November 2012.

Papers submitted are peer-reviewed in a double-blind process (with a 50% rejection rate) and if accepted, are published in the proceedings (Edition Donau-Universität Krems), both in paper format and online according to Open Access principles. Workshops proposals, PhD colloquium papers and reflections that have been submitted are selected by the chairs and also published in the proceedings. Authors of the best peer-reviewed papers will be asked to re-submit their revised and extended papers for the autumn issue of the Centre for E-Governance's Open Access eJournal of eDemocracy and Open Government (www.jedem.org).

The CeDEM offers a PhD Colloquium in cooperation with the Danube University Krems' Platform for Political Communication and netPOL (www.netpol.at). The PhD Colloquium provides PhD students the opportunity to present their work and gain feedback from experts as well as meet other PhD students. Students from any stage of their PhD are invited to submit their work.

The CeDEM also provides an Open Space on 23 May, where participants can democratically choose and organise in barcamp style their own presentations, workshops, birds of a feather, events, meetings etc..

Important Dates

- **Extended deadline for all submissions: 6 January 2014**
- **Notification of acceptance: 7 February 2014**
- **Camera-ready paper submission: 28 February 2014**

- Pre-conference event: 20 May 2014
- Conference: 21-22 May 2014
- Open Space, PhD colloquium: 23 May 2014

Submissions

We invite individuals from academic and applied backgrounds as well as business, public authorities, NGOs, NPOs and education institutions to submit their papers, reflections as well as workshop proposals to the topics addressed in the tracks. We welcome interdisciplinary approaches to the conference topics.

- Research papers: 12 pages maximum (double-blind peer-reviewed);
- Case studies / Project papers: 12 pages maximum (double-blind peer-reviewed);
- Reflections: 6 pages maximum (selected by the chairs);
- Workshops: 4 pages maximum (selected by the chairs);
- PhD Colloquium papers: 3 pages maximum (excluding literature list; selected by the organisers of the colloquium);

Conference Chairs

Noella Edelmann & Peter Parycek (Danube University Krems, AT)

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CeDEM14 Tracks

E-Democracy and E-Participation

Chairs: Julia Glidden (21c Consultancy Ltd., UK), Elin Wihlborg (Linköping University, SE), Marko M. Skoric (City University of Hong Kong, HK), Francesco Molinari (Parterre project, IT)

The explosion of social media is fueling new and unanticipated directions in e-democracy and e-participation - from increased pressure for direct democracy through to new drives to engage citizens in service and/or policy co-design, co-delivery and co-evaluation. This session will explore the latest trends and ongoing challenges facing this evolving field, trying to outline the emerging traits of a new model of inclusive e-governance for local/territorial and global/virtual communities.

- *Sustainability of e-participation and citizen engagement; best practices and key factors for success; motivational factors and the impact of participation;*
- *Participatory and communication platforms; ICT for e-participation; mobile media and new forms of participation; applications for citizens;*
- *Citizens and government interaction, business and government interaction; different perspectives held by citizens, government, NGOs, NPOs, practitioners, service providers;*
- *Citizen inclusion and digital divide: gender, age, education, etc.;*
- *New approaches to direct democracy, new forms of democracy enhanced by ICT;*
- *Inclusive e-governance in the context of Regional Smart Specialisation;*
- *Living Labs and Social Innovation;*
- *E-participation and cooperation for development;*
- *Business and e-participation;*
- *Critical perspectives: wrongdoings, bad and worst experiences, hype but not reality, fringe groups;*

E-Voting

Chairs: Damien Mac Namara (Dundalk Institute of Technology, IE) John Paul Gibson (Telecom SudParis, FR), Ken Oakley (Limerick Institute of Technology, IE)

Exploring a holistic approach to eVoting. Specifically, we aim to explore eVoting issues, gather perspectives and present practical solutions. Discussion of emerging technologies and their application to eVoting (kiosk and remote), often following outside-of-the-box thinking are particularly welcome:

- *Discussion of all forms of electronic voting: including, but not limited to, polling station, kiosk or remote voting by electronic means;*
- *Interdisciplinary issues (e.g. technology, law, politics and society) in the design and implementation of e-voting;*
- *Presenting new ways of solving the voting paradigm: the unequivocal identification of the voter and the full anonymity of the vote;*
- *Implementations, their legal, organisational and technical framework, project experiences;*
- *Analysis of the interrelationship between the effects of e-voting on democratic institutions, processes and voter behaviour;*
- *Conducting social and political analysis on the effects of electronic voting;*
- *Practical experiences in implementing and conducting elections with electronic voting parts;*
- *Discussion of security requirements and testing in accordance to international security standards i.e. Common Criteria or ITSEC;*
- *Evaluation of e-voting: the effects and how to evaluate experiments;*
- *Future trends;*
- *Usability of e-voting: user interface evaluation and criteria for usability scales.*

Bottom-Up Movements

Chairs: Judith Schossböck (Danube University Krems, AT), Jakob Svensson (Uppsala University, SE), Fiorella De Cindio (University of Milan, IT)

Bottom-up, grassroot and social movements are increasingly using ICT and the internet to mobilise and coordinate their activities. This track looks at how new media facilitates, constrains, affords and influences

those movements, with particular view to collective action, peer production and new forms of activism in a networked society.

- *Online communities, innovation, bottom-up vs. top-down;*
- *NGOs/NPOs in a connected society;*
- *Online spaces for self-organisation and citizen engagement;*
- *User generated content, peer production;*
- *ICT and the revolutions: who are the good and the bad? The role of journalism, alternative media and the counter-public sphere;*
- *Online activism, grassroots and their organization;*
- *What happens after the online revolutions?*

Social and Mobile Media for Public Administration

Chairs: Morten Meyerhoff Nielsen (Danish Agency for Digitisation, DK), Peter Mambrey (University of Duisburg-Essen, DE)

Social Media integrate Web 2.0 technologies, content creation, and social interaction in the domain of Public Administration. It fosters innovations within the Public Administration to gain organizational benefits (reducing transaction costs, efficient dissemination, cooperative and cross-organizational work etc.) as well as communication and interaction towards the citizens (crowd sourcing including citizens, participatory budgeting, new online services, information campaigning etc.).

- *Social media and social networks in public administration and government: practical experiences, theoretical approaches, legal frameworks: country reports;*
- *Information provision, new services, service delivery, and service quality;*
- *Social media platforms and applications to foster the interaction between public administration and citizens: e-consultation, participatory budgeting, participatory city planning, online petitions;*
- *Inclusion, accessibility, legal obstacles, do's and don'ts, transparency and control: exploring the opportunities, risks and challenges of social media platforms and applications in the public administration.*

Open Collaborative Government

Chairs: Sylvia Archmann (EIPA, NL), Reinhard Riedl (University of Zürich, CH)

Collaboration across organizational boundaries can significantly increase the quality, the efficacy, and the also the efficiency of government. However, it also faces many hindrances. In many situations the organizational reality reads "My agency is my castle". Particular objections exist against collaboration across different levels of government, and even more against collaboration between government and civil society or between government and industry. We are interested in research papers, which study the problems, present case studies, design innovation solutions, identify success and failure factors, or provide overviews of existing research results. Papers should highlight the role of information and communication technology, but they should equally discuss political, organizational, or cultural aspects.

Topics of interests include, but are not limited to:

- *Innovative collaboration platforms and tools;*
- *The use of social media, collaboration, or decision making tools;*
- *The implementation of cross-organizational collaboration or decision making processes;*
- *Informal or formal collaboration between government and civil society, PPPs (private-public-partnerships), shared funding, etc.;*
- *Evaluation methods for collaboration initiatives;*
- *Success or failure criteria, empirical observations of success ;*

Track: Democracy, Globalization and Migration

Chairs: Gudrun Biffl (Danube University Krems, AT), Cengiz Günay (Austrian Institute for International Affairs, AT)

This track focuses on democracies and democratic processes in an increasingly globalized world, clearly characterized by international migration. The following topics refer to different aspects of the complex interrelationships between democracy, globalization and migration being covered in this track:

- *Globalization and its impact on democracies and democratic processes*
- *Impact of migration on democracies and democratic structures;*
- *Metropolisation and democracies;*
- *Transformation of political decision-making in a globalized world;*
- *New political instruments in transnational settings (e.g. Open Method of Coordination);*
- *Role of social media, e-participation, e-government for globalization and migration;*
- *Migration and political participation in a globalized world;*
- *The role of new media for democratic processes and political participation (e.g. „Arab Spring“ and the rise of democratic structures via Facebook);*
- *Role of citizenship for globalization and migration processes;*
- *Migration, globalization and the rise of nationalistic political movements;*
- *Asylum, democracy and human rights;*
- *Globalization and new media;*

Track: Connected Smart City

Chair: Norbert Kersting (University of Münster, DE)

The Track "Connected Smart City" is expected to provide a platform for the various living labs, initiatives and projects aimed at sharing best practice:

- *Open data, the internet of things and co-production;*
- *Encouraging an open dialogue between local government and citizens, and- integrating all dimensions of human, collective, and artificial intelligence within the city;*
- *Becoming a smart city;*
- *The most successful technologies/applications/measures in encouraging citizen participation;*
- *Harnessing big data to improve the running of a city;*

Track: Open Data, Transparency and Open Innovation

Chairs: Johann Höchtl (Danube University Krems, AT), Ina Schieferdecker (Frauenhofer, DE), Tim Davies (Practical Participation, UK)

Open data can provide a platform for many forms of democratic engagement: from enabling citizen scrutiny of governments, to supporting co-production of public data and services, or the emergence of innovative solutions to shared problems. This track will explore the opportunities and challenges for open data production, quality assurance, supply and use across different levels of governance. Key themes include:

- **Open data policy and politics:** *opportunities and challenges for governments; the global spread of open data policy; transparency and accountability, economic innovation, drivers for open data; benefits and challenges for developing countries*
- **Licensing and legal issues:** *copyright vs. open licenses & creative commons; Freedom of Information and the 'right to data'; information sharing and privacy.*
- **Open data technologies:** *technical frameworks for data and meta-data; mash-ups; data formats, standards and APIs; integration into backend systems; data visualisation; data end-users and intermediaries;*
- **Open innovation and co-production:** *open data enabled models of public service provision; government as a platform; making open data innovation sustainable; data and democracy; connecting open data and crowdsourcing; data and information literacy;*
- **Evidence and impacts:** *costs and benefits of providing or using open data; emerging good practices; methods for open data research; empirical data measuring open data impacts.*

Track: Technology and Architecture

Chairs: Vasily Bunakov (STFC Scientific Computing, UK), Keith Jeffery (Keith G Jeffery Consultants, UK), Nikos Houssos (EKT National Documentation Centre, GR), Carl-Markus Piswanger (BRZ, AT), Ross King (AIT, AT)

In the open government / democracy arena the technology determines what is possible towards meeting the requirements of end-users. The technology provides more or less capability for the end-user to find data, use data and publish data. It also provides capabilities for inter-user communication, discussion, decision-making and participation (e.g. voting). The architecture ensures that the technology conforms to an overall plan so making it comfortable for the end-use to utilise the technology across the various purposes the user may have. The new edition of the EU PSI Directive finally approved by Europarlament brings museums, libraries and archives within its scope, and speaks of a certain convergence between "classical" PSI (released by governments) and research information (for research performed using public funds). The last G8 meeting that yielded the Open Data Charter speaks of research data with special emphasis on geospatial, environment and earth observation data - which is no surprise as these are enablers for making decisions by local and national governments, and a valuable input for citizens activism.

- *Technical issues, issues of rights management and legalistics, and relevant business models;*
- *Information management policies, business cases and architectures for the release of archival, geospatial, research and business intelligence information in public domain;*
- *Best practices, standards and technology for Open Access and sharing Public Sector Information with citizens, research communities, industry and education*
- *Business that own substantial volumes of information that is of a common interest (consumer behaviour, economical projections etc.);*
- *How the system or proposed system benefits and assists the end-user to achieve aims;*

Self-governance in Complex Networks

Chairs: Josef Hörmandinger (Salzburger Landtag, AT), Peter Bussjaeger (Institut für Föderalismus, LI) Philipp Müller (University of Salzburg, AT)

Dirk Baeker and his model of media development as applied to the media and means of governance reach from the rule of law via social market economy to societal self-governance in the smart crowd. The prior medium is not outdated and disappears, but continues to exist and takes up the function of a support-pillar for the new medium to work.

- *The function of "power" (Luhmann) vs. emergent decision making in the Democracy (McCarthy/Saitta);*
- *Integration of "micro contributions" in the sense of "dialogue" (Vilém Flusser) into governance processes;*
- *Integrating decisions made by society into the democratic process, e.g. balancing the call for more participation with the call for true representation in parliaments (participation-representation dichotomy), investigating new models of representation (Liquid D. Systemic Consenting) for their integrative potential;*
- *How to make decision-making in nonlinear emergent systems society) smart AND legitimized;*
- *"Feed-back-loops", within Viable Systems (Stafford Beer), their recurrence, contribution and meaning to the emergence of systems and the self-organization of society and political systems in the sense of "The Cybernetic State" (Javier Livas-Cantú);*

Track: Rethinking Information Visualization for the People

Chairs: Michael Smuc (Danube University Krems, AT), Florian Windhager (Danube University Krems, AT)

From its early pioneering days to its current mass application as statistic data visualizations or interactive infographics, information visualization has been striving for academic elaboration, discussion of the methods and the broadening of the target audiences. This topic, found between communication science, information design, computer science, visual analytics, image science, and journalism, is to be explored with case studies, applications and evaluations, as well as conceptual or theoretical contributions.

- *Translational work between these fields (cf. Danziger, 2008; Zambrano & Engelhardt, 2008);*
- *Optimizing graphic representations so as to provide insights into complex subject matters;*
- *The extent to which non-expert audiences be addressed effectively, and the levels of visual literacy that need be developed;*
- *Learning from the past: success, pitfalls and relevant criteria;*

- *Current and future developments in the emerging field of data journalism or other public communication domains;*

Track: Freedom and Ethics in Digital Societies

Chair: Peter Kampits (Danube University Krems, AT)

The promise of freedom of the internet has been broken by the public authorities. For quite a while the “internet” has not been taken seriously, because the consequences of its use have been regarded as harmless. The internet has now definitely stepped out from this harmless position. This track takes a closer look at the problem of security and freedom in the internet from an ethical point of view.

- *Technology and responsibility: rational technology assessment;*
- *Internet: the enlargement or the illusion of freedom;*
- *The power of the internet;*
- *The disappearance of reality in the cyberspace;*
- *Knowledge versus information;*
- *From homo sapiens to homo digitalis;*

Track: Design and Co-creation for E-democracy

Chairs: Mauri Kaipainen (Södertörn University, SE), Montathar Faraon (Södertörn University, SE), Bert Mulder (The Hague University of Applied Sciences, NL), Martijn Hartog (The Hague University of Applied Sciences, NL), Jorge Aguirre (Universidad de Monterrey, MX)

This track urges for valuable research to be made in design practices in order to structurally and sustainably support democratic processes. The current disconnect and the lack of significance of current e-tools in engaging citizens and democratic processes is apparent. The sense of urgency for better systems design and e-democracy solutions is fed by political, societal and economic developments. Networked and smarter societies need a new ontology to create a fundamental design for the structural and collaborative uptake of digital support of democratic processes and procedures.

- *Topics inherent to this debate, such as mediating technology, incorporating information technology and democratic processes, supporting civic engagement in society, co-creation and participatory activities;*
- *Design theories and methods for e-democracy;*
- *Designing democracy: qualities and criteria;*
- *New design practices;*
- *Incorporating information technologies in democratic processes;*
- *Connecting architectures and frameworks for designing e-democracy;*
- *Persuasive design and user experience for e-democracy;*

Track: Citizens' Participation in Democratic Governance Processes through ICT in Africa

Chairs: Johnstone Baguma – Kumaraki (Toro Development Network, UG), Milton Aineruhanga (Women of Uganda Network, UG)

Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) offer concrete opportunities for local and national governments to improve their performance in terms of transparency, participation and decentralization (Guchteneire and Mlikota, 2008). Many other scholars globally, have echoed related statements previously. However, the greatest challenge is that many are anecdotal and coming across empirical case studies to support such conclusions becomes difficult. For instance, this track will present evidence-based experiences of ICT-enabled, citizen-led democratic engagements for good governance in the Eastern and Southern African regions. The track will provide more normative than positive knowledge to practitioners, public sector, service providers and academic researchers. With comparison to other initiatives in Africa and the developing world, submissions should focus, for example, on:

- *How simple, affordable, and cost effective ICT tools are used to activate and facilitate local citizens' participation in governance issues;*
- *Electronic virtual platforms for citizens' participation and e-participation;*

- *Model discussions of how local citizens'-led advocacy forums, Voluntary Social Accountability Committees (VSACs), human rights networks and other initiatives in the region are using these platforms;*
- *Initiatives that use the ICT tools convergence approach, that combine online social, broadcast media and mobile technology to mobilize local citizens for offline physical meetings, to democratically engage local and central government leaders;*
- *Improving accountability for essential service delivery at the grassroot level;*

PhD Colloquium

Chairs: Peter Parycek (Danube University Krems, AT) and Christina Hainzl (netPOL, Danube University Krems, AT)

The CeDEM offers a PhD Colloquium in cooperation with the Danube University Krems' Platform for Political Communication and netPOL (www.netpol.at). The Doctoral Colloquium provides PhD students the opportunity to present their work and gain feedback from experts as well as meet other PhD students. Students from any stage of their PhD are invited to submit their work in relation to any of the conference topics.

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