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# Electronic Participation

Second IFIP WG 8.5 International Conference, ePart 2010  
Lausanne, Switzerland, August 29 – September 2, 2010  
Proceedings

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# Preface

The International Conference on eParticipation is supported by IFIP WG 8.5 (International Federation for Information Processing Working Group 8.5 on Information Systems in Public Administration). Organized annually, it is a show-case for research and practice in the multidisciplinary field of eParticipation.

ePart is committed to reviewing research advances and case studies in social and technological scientific domains, seeking to demonstrate new concepts, methods, styles and enabling technologies of eParticipation. It brings together researchers from a wide range of academic disciplines and provides the scientific community with a platform for discussing and advancing the latest research findings.

ePart 2010 continued the success of the last ePart conference. The ePart 2009 proceedings contained 16 completed, research papers published by Springer in LNCS vol. 5694 and 20 ongoing research, project and development papers published by Trauner Druck.

This year the ePart 2010 Springer proceedings brings together 19 completed, comprehensive research papers from researchers around the globe. The papers have been clustered around the following headings:

- Foundations and Visionary
- eParticipation Initiatives
- Understanding and Evaluating eParticipation
- Information and Communication Technologies and eVoting

Included in this volume are papers that introduce new participation models based on advanced information and communication technologies, investigate the potential of social networking, present evaluation frameworks and assessment outcomes, critically analyze eParticipation initiatives around the globe, and demonstrate how cutting-edge technology can facilitate eParticipation. Accepted papers on ongoing research and general development issues, on case and project descriptions, as well as workshop abstracts continue to be published by Trauner Druck in a complementary proceedings volume. The volume, edited by the Chairs of both the ePart and EGOV conferences, illustrates the close links ePart has with EGOV, our sister conference focusing on eGovernment research.

All ePart papers were blind reviewed by at least three reviewers from the ePart 2010 Program Committee with the assistance of additional reviewers. We would like to acknowledge their professionalism and enthusiasm which enabled authors to further improve their papers. We would also like to thank Maria Wimmer, Co-chair of EGOV, for her valuable assistance and support with the organization of ePart 2010.

ePart 2010 was hosted by the Swiss Graduate School of Public Administration (IDHEAP) at the University of Lausanne/Switzerland. As well as preparing students for senior positions in public administrations, IDHEAP provides expert advice to

administrations, political leaders, and the national government of Switzerland. We would like to thank IDHEAP for its excellent organization of this conference and also thank all the local institutions for their support.

August/September 2010

Efthimios Tambouris  
Ann Macintosh  
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