Preface

23rd IFIP WG 8.5 International Conference

Janssen, Marijn; Crompvoets, Joep; Gil-Garcia, J. Ramon; Lee, Habin; Lindgren, Ida; Nikiforova, Anastasija; Pereira, Gabriela Viale

Citation (APA)
Janssen, M., Crompvoets, J., Gil-Garcia, J. R., Lee, H., Lindgren, I., Nikiforova, A., & Pereira, G. V. (2024). Preface: 23rd IFIP WG 8.5 International Conference. *Lecture Notes in Computer Science (including subseries Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence and Lecture Notes in Bioinformatics)*, *14841 LNCS*, vii.

Important note
To cite this publication, please use the final published version (if applicable).
Please check the document version above.

Marijn Janssen · Joep Crompvoets ·
J. Ramon Gil-Garcia · Habin Lee · Ida Lindgren ·
Anastasija Nikiforova · Gabriela Viale Pereira
Editors

Electronic Government

23rd IFIP WG 8.5 International Conference, EGOV 2024
Ghent-Leuven, Belgium, September 3–5, 2024
Proceedings

Springer

Preface

The EGOV-CeDEM-ePart 2024 conference, for short EGOV 2024, was organized by the IFIP WG 8.5 on ICT and public administration. The conference is dedicated to digital or electronic government, open government, local government (smart cities), smart governance, artificial intelligence (AI), e-democracy, policy informatics, and electronic participation. With a long tradition along its various branches, the EGOV-CeDEM-ePart conference has gained its reputation of being the key and leading conference worldwide in the research domains of digital/electronic, open, and smart government, as well as electronic participation.

The call for papers attracted completed research papers, work-in-progress papers on ongoing research (including doctoral papers), project and case descriptions, as well as workshops and panel proposals. This volume contains only full papers. All submissions were assessed through a double-blind peer-review process, with at least three reviewers per submission. In total 29 papers were accepted from the 69 papers submitted resuling in an acceptance rate was 42%. The submitted papers were of high quality, and many reviewers indicated that the topics of the papers they reviewed were novel.

The review process was based on a double-blind reviewing process and conflicts of interest were actively avoided. Authors of papers submitted their papers to a track. The track chairs only had access to the papers within their own track and could assign reviewers and propose acceptance decisions. The lead chairs of each track were editors of the proceedings, in addition to the general chairs. Track chairs were not allowed to submit to their own track, nor were their close collaborators, to avoid any conflict of interest. Track chairs could either submit to another track or to the 'track chairs' track. The latter was handled by one of the general chairs, and these submissions were reviewed in the same way as all other submissions. The general chairs checked after the submission deadline whether there was any conflict of interest among the papers submitted to tracks, and if so, the respective paper was moved to another track. The track chairs checked that all papers were submitted anonymously. If not, the authors were asked to resubmit within a couple of days. Track chairs assigned the reviewers and selected the programme committee members in such a way that experts in this area reviewed the papers and there were no conflicts of interest. After at least three reviews were received, the track chairs made a proposal for a decision per paper. The decisions were discussed in a meeting with the general and track chairs to ensure that the decisions were made in a consistent manner per track.

The conference tracks of the 2024 edition present the evolution of the topics and the progress in this field. The papers in this proceedings were distributed over the following tracks:

- General E-Government and E-Governance
- Emerging Issues and Innovations
- Smart Cities (Government, Districts, Communities, & Regions)

- AI, Data Analytics, and Automated Decision Making
- Open Data: Social and Technical Aspects

Among the full research paper submissions, 29 papers (empirical and conceptual) were accepted for this year's Springer LNCS EGOV proceedings (vol. 14841). The LNCS ePart proceedings (LNCS vol. 14891) contain the completed research papers from the following tracks: General E-Democracy and E-Participation; Digital Technologies and Sustainable Development; Governance, Digital Legislation, and Policy; Digital and Social Media; Digital Society; Artificial Intelligence Governance and its Societal Challenges. The accepted ongoing work, posters, and practitioners' papers are published in the Joint Proceedings of Ongoing Research, Practitioners, Posters, Workshops, and Projects at the EGOV-CeDEM-ePart 2024 conference. The CEUR Workshop Proceedings (CEUR-WS.org) are free, open-access proceedings for Computer Science Workshops.

As in the previous years and per the recommendation of the Paper Awards Committee under the leadership of Manuel Pedro Rodríguez Bolívar of the University of Granada, Spain, the IFIP EGOV-CeDEM-ePart 2024 conference granted outstanding paper awards in three distinct categories:

- The most interdisciplinary and innovative research contribution
- The most compelling critical research reflection
- The most promising practical concept

The winners in each category were announced during the awards ceremony at the conference.

For the first time, a Junior Faculty School was organized to connect PhD students, postdoctoral students, and junior faculty to the e-government research community to provide advice on how to plan and manage the tenure process and their future career, and to offer a platform for discussions about theory and methods, as well as networking. The Junior Faculty School consisted of keynotes, panels, discussions, and interactive sessions designed for junior faculty to be oriented and prepared for the opportunities and challenges ahead.

The IFIP EGOV 2024 conference was hosted in Belgium, in the heart of Europe, by Ghent University and KU Leuven. They are both top 100 universities and two of the major universities in Belgium with over 50,000 students and 15,000 employees. Ghent University was founded in 1817 and KU Leuven in 1425. In addition to all that history, the universities also bring a lot of innovation to their vibrant towns. As part of the conference, the University of Ghent hosted the PhD Colloquium and Junior Faculty School in Ghent on 1–2 September. The PhD Colloquium was a full-day event on 1 September, and offered a limited number of PhD bursaries. The Junior Faculty School was a full-day event on 2 September, for sharing experiences to advance the career of young researchers interested in digitalization and government. The conference sessions were hosted from 3–5 September in Leuven at KU Leuven.

Many people behind the scenes make large events like this conference happen. We would like to thank the members of the Program Committee, the reviewers, and the track chairs for their great efforts in reviewing the submitted papers. We would also like to

express our deep gratitude to Joep Crompvoets and his local team at KU Leuven, and Lieselot Danneels and her local team at Ghent University, for hosting the conference.

The papers in these proceedings range from societal to scientific, and from rigorous to innovative. We hope you enjoy reading them!

September 2024

Marijn Janssen
Joep Crompvoets
J. Ramon Gil-Garcia
Habin Lee
Ida Lindgren
Anastasija Nikiforova
Gabriela Viale Pereira