

EDITORIAL

The IADIS International Journal on WWW/Internet (IJWI) is devoted to the WWW and Internet broad fields. The IADIS IJWI is a peer-reviewed scientific journal published exclusively in an electronic format. The mission of this journal is to publish original contributions in its domain fields in order to disseminate knowledge amongst its readers and to be a reference publication. This journal publishes original papers, review papers, ongoing research papers, technical reports, case studies, conference reports, management reports, book reviews, notes, commentaries and news on future scientific events.

This volume (Volume 13, Issue 1 - ISSN: 1645-7641) combines 6 selected original papers that bring together researchers covering the wide spectrum of the WWW and Internet in the context of e-Society, e-Commerce, ICT and Human Computer Interaction. The authors' contributions embrace important research topics such as Smart Cities, Digital Services in the context of shopping, Electronic Government, ICT and effects on humans, Online Security Issues and Designs for Learning amongst other.

The first contribution to this issue by Anna Ståhlbröst, Ali Padyab, Annika Sällström and Danilo Hollosi entitled DESIGN OF SMART CITY SYSTEMS FROM A PRIVACY PERSPECTIVE focuses on the new concept of the smart cities that makes us think in cities that not only need to provide the latest technologies, but also need to invest in human capital and sustain a high quality of life to the population. In this paper, the authors report on a study carried out with a "focus on understanding citizens' view on information privacy concerns related to an intelligent acoustic smart city solution for audio monitoring." It was carried out a survey on information privacy concerns, around Europe.

The second paper by Lars Michael Bollweg, Richard Lackes, Markus Siepermann and Peter Weber with the title MIND THE GAP! ARE LOCAL RETAILERS MISINTERPRETING CUSTOMER EXPECTATIONS REGARDING DIGITAL SERVICES? reports on an existing gap regarding the research into digitalization of small owner-run businesses. In order to contain this gap, the authors have performed a survey on the current state of digitalization of local owner operated retail outlets (LOORO) in a medium-sized town in Germany. The major finding of this survey was that there is a misalignment between the perceived significance of digital services in the future and the motivation of LOORO to engage in digitalization.

The third paper, E-GOVERNMENT IMPACT ON THE DOING BUSINESS RANKINGS AND NEW BUSINESS OWNERSHIP RATE: AN ANALYSIS OF THE DYNAMICS BASED ON COUNTRIES'S INCOME FROM 2008 TO 2014 authored by Gustavo de Oliveira Almeida and Deborah Moraes Zouain focuses on the known notion that the level of e-government readiness is generally unequal between countries. The purpose of this study is to determine the impact of change of e-government index in the context of doing business and the rate creation of new business in different groups of countries, classified into high, middle and low income countries.

The fourth paper, DEVELOPMENT AND VERIFICATION OF NAVIGATION SYSTEM TO SUPPORT WHEELCHAIR USER ACTIVITY IN URBAN AREAS by Motoya Koga, Shinobu Izumi, Shigehito Matsubara, Katsuhiko Morishita and Daiki Yoshioka reports on a development and verification of the usefulness of a wheelchair navigation system for impaired people. The main purpose of the authors is to contribute to an environment in which able and disabled individuals can move safely in urban centers. They present some advances and improvements that were developed to improve the first prototype, in order to better support accessibility and ease of travel in urban areas.

The fifth work by Sunil Chaudhary, Yan Zhao, Eleni Berki, Juri Valtanen, Linfeng Li, Marko Helenius and Stylianos Mystakidis entitled A CROSS-CULTURAL AND GENDER-BASED PERSPECTIVE FOR ONLINE SECURITY: eXPLORING KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ATTITUDES OF HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENTS focuses on the fact that there is a need to alert students for the dangers of online-attacks and online identity theft and that this issue are a teaching and a learning challenge. With the necessity of alerting the students for this dangers, the authors gathered data through a questionnaire in a pilot survey, with the purpose to examine and analyze the students and future IT professionals' learning needs for adult/higher education courses about online security/privacy.

The final contribution by Gunver Majgaard with the title HUMANOID ROBOTS IN THE CLASSROOM reports on the usage of humanoid robots as an educational tool in primary and lower secondary schools. It was used a NAO robot, which is a multimodal interface that uses touch, speech, gestures and eye gaze for interaction. With this study it was analysed how this technology can aid and improve the learning environment. The main purpose of this paper is to be a suitable example of how to use this technology in teaching and a summary of its educational multimodal properties.

Increasingly, it is known that technology must be used to improve aspects in our education, daily life, security as well as contribute to the growth and development of our societies. These papers illustrate that the development of technology have increased our ambitions to make all aspects of technology a more global and international matter and to improve life quality to all individuals and the way we use technology in our lives and in learning contexts. Technology is always present. The review of the relevant literature contributes to the theoretical grounding of these areas and the innovative empirical research on different technologies creates opportunity for the development of ground-breaking findings.

The Editor,
Pedro Isaías
Open University, Portugal