The 9th edition of the **Web Based Communities and Social Media International Conference** (part of the IADIS Multi Conference on Computer Science and Information Systems 2012) was hosted in Lisbon, Portugal, **19-21 July, 2012**.

This conference was organized by the International Association for Development of the Information Society (IADIS).

The aim of Web Based Communities and Social Media 2012 was to publish and integrate scientific results and act catalytically to the fast developing culture of web communities, while helping to disseminate and understand the latest developments social media and their impact.

This conference meant to cover in detail two main themes: Web Based Communities and Social Media. Social Media are growing rapidly and play an increasingly important role in the development of Online Communities. Web based communities announce themselves both in your professional and private life through several new media such as LinkedIn, Twitter, Plaxo, etc. Social media allow dynamic roles in participation, virtual presence and online communities. These new ways to communicate via online social media are having great societal effects and are motivating the creation of best practices to help individuals, corporations and authorities to make the best of it.

This edition received 68 submissions from more than 24 countries. Each submission was anonymously reviewed by an average of four independent reviewers, to ensure that accepted submissions were of a high standard. Consequently only 11 full papers were approved which means an acceptance rate of 16 %. A few more papers were accepted as short papers, reflection papers and poster demonstration.

Extended versions of the best papers were selected to be published in:

- International Journal of "Web Based Communities" (IJWBC); ISSN: 1477 - 8394 (4 issues per year)

The conference, besides the presentation of full papers, short papers, reflection papers and posters, also offered one keynote presentation from an internationally distinguished researcher (Dr. Irma Borst, Principal Consultant at Logica Consulting and Associate Researcher at RSM Erasmus University, The Netherlands).
Keynote Presentation:

THE CASE FOR AND AGAINST CROWDSOURCING

by Dr. Irma Borst, Principal Consultant at Logica Consulting and Associate Researcher at RSM Erasmus University, The Netherlands

The Web Based Communities and Social Media 2012 Conference Proceedings was published in the form of a Book (ISBN: 978-972-8939-72-4) and CD-ROM (ISBN: 978-989-8533-08-1)

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