
Preface

Cyber security has become a key issue in virtually all domains of public sector ICT. High profile incidents have put the topic also high on the political agenda. The view of cyber security over time has changed; from an add-on to existing systems to an integral part of system design, implementation, operation and management. The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) heightened this even more, as it demands that data processor and data controller “shall implement appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure a level of security appropriate to the risk” (GDPR, Art 32). In spite of the restrictions that Member States may define for certain public sector entities under Art 23 (defence, public security etc.), the effect of the GDPR also on the public sector is pervasive. This under the threat of severe penalties if breaches occur.

Cyber security however is not only a technical endeavour – which is challenging enough in itself – but also understood as an administrative and organizational challenge, which ensures that technological solutions are leveraged to the best of their abilities and in a sustainable way. This ultimately makes cyber security a cross-platform and multi-disciplinary approach, which spans the entire domain of eGovernment and eDemocracy solutions. Cyber security has become a true top management topic.

Beyond this focal topic, the conference continues to address the whole breadth of ICT in the public sector and democratic decision making, with a particular focus on the specificities of the Danube Region. This year’s volume therefore again attempts to contribute to the exchange of academic knowledge and practical experience in this domain among the countries of the region. We are encouraged in this endeavour by the sizable number of paper contributions from public sector practitioners.

The editors of the proceedings volume are most grateful for the support of the Baden-Württemberg Stiftung, the Konrad Adenauer Foundation and the Austrian Cultural Forum.

The editors decided to dedicate this volume to Prof. Robert Müller-Török for his 50th anniversary. Robert is professor at the University of Public Administration and Finance at Ludwigsburg. He was instrumental in the relaunch of the conference series in 2014 and has substantially enabled and contributed to the conference. Beyond that Robert – who fluently speaks Hungarian – fostered sustainable research and teaching cooperation in the Danube Region in the field of eGovernment and eDemocracy.

Ad multos annos!

The editors, Budapest, Chişinău and Vienna, April 2019

Welcome address by the Baden-Württemberg Stiftung

Democracy is nowadays undergoing the change of digitalization. Digital administration, social media loving politicians, and influential online campaigns are conquering the political scene, while traditional associations and parties are in crisis. The momentum offers the opportunity for more participation and a stronger democracy. But the risks are obvious: populism, fake news and privacy are just a few topics to be discussed in today's society.

With the increase in e-government operations on citizen demand for timely and cost effective services, it is the responsibility of governments and organizations to develop and maintain cyber security capacities that ensure the safe usage of digital services. The trust of the citizens and the confidence in the protection of their data is essential to further increase the participation of the citizens. It pushes the change for an agile administration onwards. In the e-world, with the ease of access comes a new security issue – Who can see the record, and with it being digital – who can make use of it?

E-Government has to face the demanding challenges of cyber security, so that citizens benefit not only from a reduced gap between the government and themselves, but also can take advantage of a good governance and transparent implementation of Government activities.

The Baden-Württemberg Stiftung understood the challenges of an uprising e-world also along the Danube. Therefore, to enable sustainable cooperation in the Danube Region and in order to strengthen international understanding and the creation of a robust civil society, the Baden-Württemberg Stiftung launched its programme “Perspective Danube: Education, Culture and Civil Society”.

The Central and Eastern European eGovernment and eDemocracy Days are part of this programme and contribute as an open active platform to all participants for addressing the future challenges of the digital administration and e-government and provide the possibility to identify emerging trends, and inform strategy for a future-oriented good governance.

On behalf of the Baden-Württemberg Stiftung, I would like to congratulate the organisers for realising this conference and the corresponding volume and I hereby wish all participants and presenters a successful and interesting time at CEEeGov 2019.

Dr. Andreas Weber

Head of Education Department
Baden-Württemberg Stiftung

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