Emerging Topics in Electronic Government

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The e-Government Emerging Topics (EG ET) minitrack provides a home for incubating new topics and trends in e-Government research. E-Government as an academic field is evolving; new directions of research and practice are emerging while others are becoming accepted as foundational. However, the foundations of the field still need to be explored explicitly and rigorously. The EG ET minitrack has selected papers that together contribute to the evolution of e-Government research through conceptualizations and clarifications of the field, as well as by addressing novel issues and trends. The 2017 offering of the EG ET minitrack contains six papers representing emerging paths of e-Government research.

In the first paper, "The Tale of e-Government: A Review of the Stories that Have Been Told So Far and What is Yet to Come" Nadine Ogonek at the European Research Center for Information Systems, University of Muenster presents a research overview combined with a Delphi study. The conclusion draw together ten types of stories in the field of e-Government. These stories have turned the field of e-Government into what it is today and they thus shows scientific implications on further research directions as well as provide practical guidance for governments' development of e-Government.

The second paper, "The Impact of Social Business Process Management on Policy-making in e-Government" is written by Yiwei Gong, Wuhan University and Marijn Janssen, Delft University of Technology. Through a research overview and a case study they discuss how and why the combination of social media and business process models can influence develop and even improve policy making in e-government. The conclusions indicate the need for more research in this novel field, in particular, how to balance flexibility and user efficiency.

The third paper, "Browse or Brush? An Exploration of Citizen-Government Interaction in the Municipal realm by Lisa Schmidthuber and Dennis Hilgers of University Linz used a survey to understand how citizens of today use technology to interact with local government. They argue that the technology tools used such as web based platforms and mobile devices to communicate with government can be broken down by gender, age and level of education.

The fourth paper, "Investigating the Potential of a Dashboard for Monitoring U.S. Federal Website Accessibility" by authors from Towson University, (Jonathan Lazar, Victoria Williams, Jon Gunderson and Tom Foltz) explores web accessibility issues and complications for citizens with disabilities. The research focuses on understanding the current barriers through interviews with Section 508 coordinators to ensure compliance as well as providing a method for highlighting the topic moving forward.

The fifth paper, "New ways and actors when diplomacy goes digital - The e-Diplomacy Campaign "Midwives4All" by Elin Wihlborg and Anna Norstedt, Linkoping University discusses meanings of ediplomacy as a form of e-Government and analyses the a single case study. The conclusions point at how digitalization can challenge power relations and agenda setting on the diplomatic arena.

The final paper, "One Stop Government: Stalled Vision or a Matter of Design? Empirical Findings from Social Services in Germany" by Tino Schuppan, University of Applied Labor Studies, Germany and Stefanie Kohl, Institute for eGovernment, Germany, used focus groups to explore "one-stop government" web-based design for families with special needs children dealing with bureaucracy in government.

These papers all contribute to the track's goal by helping to build on our understanding of the foundations of e-Government as a study area and as a practice priority. Through the efforts to better understand stakeholders and their needs the papers contribute to analytical and practical developments and trends. Hereby, the presented research also build and test new computational tools and techniques for research and to inform policy development.

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