Preface

Following the successful CF2015 conference in Pisa, October 2015, the Cloud Forward 2016 Conference brings together experts from industry and academia in Madrid from 18 to 20 October 2016 in order to share, discuss and contribute towards the building of the future of - and beyond - Cloud Computing. The conference is supported by the European Commission, through the funded HOLA CLOUD project, targeting to establish effective mechanisms for efficient collaboration among the members of the Software, Services and Cloud Computing community.

The aim of this conference is twofold; (a) to establish a dedicated forum for the scientific community to discuss, exchange ideas and further advance innovative architectures, services, methodologies and mechanisms in the area of distributed or autonomic computing and (b) to contribute towards the setting of future directions and priorities in the areas of Software, Services and Cloud Computing by both industry and academia in a strongly collaborative and productive manner.

CF2016 covers different dimensions of distributed computing technologies, with an emphasis on clouds and a view towards advanced fields that it strongly relates or expands to, such as Internet of Things, Big Data and fog computing. In fact, the conference provides a platform for discussing recent developments in a wide variety of topics including management of cloud environments, policy management, resource-aware data placement, mobile cloud applications, SLAs, Semantic Web, security, privacy and legal issues.

We would like to thank all participants for their contributions to the conference programme and these proceedings. We would also like to express our warm thanks to the Programme Committee members for their expertise, time and enthusiasm. Last but not least, we would like to thank Elsevier for supporting publications of the conference proceedings.

Given the rapidity with which research is advancing in all of the areas and topics covered by CF2016, we expect that the future Cloud Forward conferences will be at least as stimulating and far-reaching as this most recent one is.

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