

**Issue 5 (2010) June**

In this month's issue we invite you to participate in a survey from the CEPIS Professionalism Task Force on the characteristics and benefits of ICT Professionalism and provide you with an opportunity to rank their importance. We also bring you news of the highly anticipated Digital Agenda published recently by the European Commission (EC). The Agenda highlights several important challenges, including the lack of skills in Europe as a barrier to realising the full social and economic impact of ICT for Europe. Indeed it proposes that digital literacy should be a priority for the European Social Fund in the 2014 to 2020 period. It also highlights the benefits of ICT in relation to the environment, and that participation of women in ICT needs to be promoted more. In our regular 'From the President' column President Baltac encourages all Members to become involved in this year's Executive Committee Elections. As a member led organisation, the active involvement of CEPIS Members is essential; the Executive Committee, in particular, has an important role in steering the organisation. Members are encouraged to begin considering who from their society will step forward when applications are opened in August. The President also brings an update on his experience as a key-note speaker at the 2010 World Congress on IT Conference (WCIT), where he represented CEPIS and addressed professionalism among other topics.

You will find information on the Global Information Technology Report which shows how ICT is essential for the future sustainability of Europe, along with a new forecast on Europe's skills supply and demand up to 2020 produced by the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (CEDEFOP). We also include a working document from the European Commission on digital competitiveness in Europe. Women in ICT is one of CEPIS' main strategic areas and we bring you the latest information from the European Centre for Women in Technology (ECWT) and how to get involved. The EC has also just published a report on how ICT can break down the barriers that immigrants and ethnic minorities may face in employment and education.

Find out how to become directly involved with the new Software Quality SIN, and learn more about the upcoming Data Privacy workshop led by Oesterreichische Computer Gesellschaft (OCG), which will take place on the 1st July in Brussels. Keep up to speed with upcoming events in our Member societies with news this month from Informationstechnische Gesellschaft im Verband der Elektrotechnik Elektronik Informationstechnik (VDE), the Slovak Society for Computer Science (SSCS), Asociația Pentru Tehnologia Informației și Comunicării (ATIC) and Asociación de Técnicos de Informática (ATI) who have all contributed to this issue.

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Europe's Digital Agenda

One of the 7 flagship initiatives of the EU2020 Strategy is the newly released Digital Agenda for Europe. This agenda outlines policies and

Women in ICT and the ECWT

In order to achieve an economically stable future, bridge skills gaps and promote innovation, more women are needed in ICT

actions that need to be undertaken to tackle several obstacles prohibiting the achievement of smart and sustainable economic growth in Europe.

[Read more](#)

and ICT-related positions. The European Centre for Women in Technology (ECWT) is one way in which CEPIS Members can get involved in this strategy.

[Read more](#)

FROM THE PRESIDENT



✈ I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who participated in the 44th CEPIS Council meeting recently in my home of Romania. During this meeting it was announced that the CEPIS Executive Committee Elections will be upon us within the next couple of months.

I encourage all Members to take part and put forward a candidate from their societies for the positions available. Let me remind you that the positions to be filled are: President Elect, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, and two Vice Presidents. CEPIS is a member-led organisation and I feel that active participation is vital to maintain CEPIS' relevance and visibility in Europe. Please start thinking about who your society can put forward to lead CEPIS on the Executive Committee.

On behalf of CEPIS, I participated in a number of high-profile ICT events across Europe during the past month. At the international World Congress on IT 2010 (WCIT) conference in Amsterdam at the end of May, I spoke on the importance of professionalism, e-skills gaps, business university cooperation as well as the importance of end-user skills development programmes such as ECDL. This was an important event for CEPIS to be present at and was an excellent opportunity to promote the CEPIS view of professionalism and other important issues.

Earlier in the month, I participated as a speaker in the Public Information Platform – 12 event organised by the Informatics Association of Turkey (IAT). 'New Technological Trends' was the main theme of this event, which over 400 people from universities, public institutions and from the private sector attended. CEPIS was well received at both events, which did much to raise the visibility and relevance of CEPIS on the various thematic areas.

Finally, I would like to reiterate that I strongly encourage you and your member society to start preparing candidates for the Elections in November.



Vasile Baltac

NEWS



CEPIS Professionalism Characteristics and Benefits Survey

The concept of Professionalism has been widely accepted as a key issue for all CEPIS member societies. Since 2007, the CEPIS Professionalism Taskforce has been engaged in a range of deliberations, consultations, and meetings to build the foundations for a coherent strategic approach to the topic. A new [survey](#) aims to outline the foundations of such an approach, by proposing a definition of Professionalism and elaborate the benefits of Professionalism. **The survey offers an opportunity to comment on characteristics and benefits of Professionalism and to rank their importance.** This feedback is important to provide a validated position on the most important elements of Professionalism, based on the input of key European stakeholders.

[Click here to take the survey online](#)



✦ Data Privacy Workshop – 1st July

A European Citizen's Initiative (ECI) about Privacy Protection was recently proposed by the Oesterreichische Computer Gesellschaft (OCG) at the 44th Council meeting in Bucharest. OCG representative, Gerald Futschek highlighted that the Data Retention Directive 2006/24/EC obliges telecommunications providers to store all communication data for at least six months, and this has given rise to concerns on interference with the fundamental rights of European citizens.

A workshop to discuss the feasibility of this initiative and to consider what alternative recommendations could be proposed for the Data Retention Directive, will take place in Brussels on July 1st. Interested Members are invited to attend, please note that all travel costs will be borne by the Members. The outcome of the workshop will be a proposal to be presented at the next CEPIS Council.

If you would like to attend this meeting, please contact [Fiona Fanning](#).

Please visit the [Members Area](#) to view the paper and presentation slides of this initiative as presented at Council in April.



✦ The Digital Agenda for Europe

The European Commission's 'A Digital Agenda for Europe' has just been published. The Agenda, once implemented, will greatly contribute to Europe's economic growth and to the new digital era for all European citizens.

A lack of digital literacy and e-skills together with substandard innovation and research efforts being carried out are just some of the seven obstacles identified. After each obstacle the Agenda includes 'key actions' that the Commission, Member States, and stakeholders will undertake to tackle the problem. Providing funding for digital literacy initiatives through the European Social Fund is one solution, encouraging every government in Europe to develop long-term digital literacy policies is another. Developing a European Framework for Professionalism by 2012 is also proposed along with promoting higher

participation among young women in ICT related jobs and careers.

The principal goals of the Digital Agenda will include the following:

- Create a Digital Single Market
- Boosting internet trust and security
- More investment in research and development
- Enhancing digital literacy skills and inclusion
- Apply information and communications technologies to address challenges like climate change and the ageing population

The main objective of the Digital Agenda is to guide Europe in the right direction to maximise the social and economic potential of ICT and create a successful and sustainable knowledge economy.

[Click here to view the Digital Agenda](#)



➤ **Women in ICT - the ECWT**

In 2009 CEPIS became a member of the European Centre for Women and Technology ([ECWT](#)). The ECWT strives to represent high-level expertise in women and technology development from business, government, academia and non-profit sectors, and supports regional innovation through leveraging resources, research, best practices and services.

The work of the ECWT is led by the Executive Group, a team of seven women from across Europe, one of whom is CEPIS Vice President Małgorzata Kalinowska-Iszkowska. This work includes focusing on four key areas:

- education
- workforce
- entrepreneurship
- leadership

National Points of Contact from 20 countries across Europe also aim to significantly increase the number of women and girls active in the knowledge-based economy.

We encourage all CEPIS Member societies to become aware of and involved in this pan-European non-profit organisation

We are interested to hear from Members who have existing initiatives in this field running in their own societies. This will help us build a clear picture of these activities across Europe and enable CEPIS to promote the issue of Women in ICT with greater strength to other Members and to relevant European Institutions

For further information please contact [Fiona Fanning](#).



➤ [The Global Information Technology Report: ICT for Sustainability](#)

The latest Global Information Technology Report for the period 2009-2010 has been published. This series of reports which began in 2001, raise awareness of multiple actors, including governments, businesses and society about the importance of ICT for building competitive economies and sustainable growth.

The report has been published through the partnership of the World Economic Forum and INSEAD, and is composed of four main thematic parts. The Networked Readiness Index 2009-2010 (NRI) is the main methodological tool for the report, in which 133 economies from both the developing and developed world are examined to see the extent to which they have leveraged ICT advances for increased growth and development.

The different sections cover many different themes including, the importance of ICT for sustainability and an insight into best practices in ICT to foster growth and competitiveness through selected case studies from Spain, Ireland, Tunisia and China.

[Click here to view the report](#)



➤ [Digital Competitiveness in Europe](#)

The European Commission recently published a report entitled Europe's Digital Competitiveness [\[link to pdf of report\]](#). The report finds that in general Europe's digital economy is growing in strength across all sectors in the economy and that ICT has driven more than half of the productivity growth in Europe over the last 15 years. The report identifies that ICT is a key driver for the European economy and by analysing recent developments within ICT the report provides significant evidence for the creation of the Digital Agenda for Europe.

The increase in broadband communications in 2009 was the main driver of economic and social change in Europe. Now however for more innovative developments to occur and succeed in Europe, broadband speeds need to become much faster. Technically the only way for this to occur is to upgrade to new generation technologies across the board as has already occurred in Korea and Japan.

It is also apparent from the report that age and education are significant factors in how someone uses the Internet. Lack of education and skills can lead to social exclusion from the digital society also. The report suggests that investment in ICT will not work alone, but that investment in skills is needed also among other areas, in order to bring Europe smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

[Click here to view the report \[link to pdf\]](#)



✦ [Software Quality SIN Update: Experts Sign up now](#)

The CEPIS [Software Quality Special Interest Network](#) (SQ SIN) aims to provide a network for experts from CEPIS member societies to work together to collect, analyse, coordinate and offer educational, professional and research expertise to relevant and interested European parties.

Recently the final experts who expressed interest in joining the SQ SIN have been accepted, and an infrastructure has been set-up for all participants via Google Groups. Google Groups will be the platform for communication and coordination of the SQ SIN group and we encourage any CEPIS Members still interested in participating to please join the group by copying and pasting the following link into your browser <http://groups.google.com/group/SQ-SpecIN?hl=en>



✦ [CEDEFOP Report: Most recent Skills Supply and Demand Forecast for 2020](#)

The European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (CEDEFOP) has recently published a new medium term forecast of the skills supply and demand situation in Europe up until 2020. It is clear that the future economy will require knowledge and skill-intensive jobs and therefore anticipating skills supply and demand is essential. The aim of this report is to provide policy-makers, employers, skills providers, employment services and individual learners with better information to make more informed decisions.

The forecast shows that Europe needs not only to increase investment in education and training, employers also need to be encouraged to better utilise the skills and talents of their staff. Based on the available data, CEDEFOP forecasts that the number of low-level qualifications is expected to fall within the labour force and women are expected to be more formally higher qualified than men. The report finds that through this initial forecast, more informative data is urgently required as well as an increased investment in methods to bring Europe on a world-wide level within the area of best practice. Information is essential, as people who choose education and career paths from now on need to make informed decisions for the best result, and to build a sustainable and informative economy in Europe.

[Click here to view the report](#)



[CEPIS Professionalism – How important is professionalism for your society?](#)

The concept of Professionalism has been widely accepted as a key issue for all CEPIS member societies. Since 2007, the CEPIS Professionalism Taskforce has been engaged in a range of deliberations, consultations, and meetings to build the foundations for a coherent strategic approach to the topic. A new survey [\[link to online version\]](#) aims to outline the foundations of such an approach, by

proposing a definition of Professionalism and elaborate the benefits of Professionalism. **The survey also offers an opportunity to comment on characteristics and benefits of Professionalism and to rank their importance.** This feedback is important to provide a validated position on the most important elements of Professionalism, based on the input of key European stakeholders.

Click here to take the survey online [insert link]

Click here to complete the paper version [[link to word document please not pdf](#)]. Please return the completed survey to [Fiona Fanning](#).



✦ **Education and Employment Opportunities through ICT for Immigrants and Ethnic Minorities**

A report by the Joint Research Centre (JRC) 'Using Information and Communication Technologies to Promote Education and Employment Opportunities for Immigrants and Ethnic Minorities' has just been published with the support of the European Commission.

The report gives examples of various initiatives all over Europe illustrating that information and communication technologies:

- contribute to the social and cultural integration of immigrants and ethnic minorities (IEM)
- facilitate the successful integration of migrant children and youth into education and training
- enhance vocational training and employment opportunities

The report provides key messages including suggestions on how policies that aim to support cultural diversity and immigrant integration should consider the potential of ICT-based applications. The area of good practices in the use of ICT can also support immigrant integration. In general ICT access and digital literacy policies continue to be essential and they need to address immigrants and ethnic minorities much more.

[Click here to view the report](#)



✦ **IFIP: new IP3 Terms of Reference**

The International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP) founded the International Professional Practice Partnership (IP3) group to help accelerate the professionalism of the IT industry. Recently IP3 have presented a set of Terms of Reference to regulate the long-term operation of IP3 and its relationship to other IFIP bodies.

The new Terms of Reference also indicate that IP3 has now transitioned from a Task Force to an official Board that will undertake the following responsibilities:

- Promote and communicate the benefits and substance of professionalism in IT
- Articulate and communicate the value of certification of individuals and demand for quality programmes

- Define international standards for professionalism in IT
- Accredite IP3 member societies which meet these standards to grant recognition to individual professionals who meet and maintain the required standards for knowledge, experience, competence and integrity
- Encourage and support the development of IT professional bodies, IT practitioners and employer organisations in support of the IP3's Board purpose.

The British Computer Society (BCS), a CEPIS Member, was one of the initial founding members of the IP3 initiative.

[Click here for more information](#)



✦ [CEPIS Newsletter Archive](#)

Missed an issue of the CEPIS Newsletter? All previous issues in 2009 and 2010 are now available in the Members Area of the CEPIS website.

[Click here to view the Archive.](#)

MEMBER NEWS



✦ [News from CEPIS Member Societies](#)

This section is dedicated to news submitted by CEPIS Member societies. It provides a means for Members to publicise important news and information and to share best practices. As the newsletter is distributed to 36 informatics societies across greater Europe it can serve as a valuable method to share and publicise the activities of your Society.

Members are invited to submit their contributions for the next newsletter by **Monday, June 21st**. Articles can be sent in a word /text document format and should be approximately 200 words in length.

Members should note that commercial submissions, advertisements or articles unrelated to CEPIS Member societies will not be published.

Please send your contributions to [Carol-Ann Kogelman](#)

EVENTS



➤ **1st European Workshop on Computing and ICT Professionalism at CISTI 2010**

The CISTI 2010 conference will be held in Santiago de Compostela this month from 16th – 19th June. As part of this conference, the 1st European Workshop on Computing and ICT Professionalism (IEWCIP) will take place.

IEWCIP has the full support of CEPIS and Asociación de Técnicos de Informática (ATI). CEPIS Vice President Declan Brady as well as being a key organiser of the event will also be in attendance. The workshop aims to be a meeting point for research and practitioner communities in Spain and Portugal as well as experts from the rest of Europe who are involved in professionalism initiatives in their respective countries.

[Click here for more information](#)



➤ **World Telecommunications Congress 2010**

The World Telecommunications Congress will take place in Vienna, Austria during 13th - 14th September 2010. It is organised by CEPIS Member society Informationstechnische Gesellschaft im Verband der Elektrotechnik Elektronik Informationstechnik (VDE). The event entitled 'Telecommunications: The Infrastructure for the 21st Century', will host leading experts from the telecommunications sector. Reports on the latest results from government, industry, R & D laboratories and academia are all to be presented.

Conference topics will include the following:

- Network and Technology Development
- Applications and Services
- Emerging Business Models
- Regulatory and Policy Issues

[Click here for more information](#)

Thank you to Volker Schanz from VDE for this contribution.



➤ **SOFSEM 2011 – January 22nd-28th, 2011 - Slovakia**

The 37th International Conference on Current Trends in Theory and Practice of Computer Science will take place in Hotel Atrium, Novy Smokovec, Slovakia, from January 22nd-28th 2011. The conference is organised by the Slovak Society for Computer Science (SSCS) and supported by the Czech Society for Cybernetics and Informatics (CSKI).

Software SEMinar (SOFSEM) is an international conference devoted to the theory and practice of software systems. The aim is to foster cooperation among professionals from academia and industry working

in various areas of computer science. The programme consists of a number of invited talks given by prominent researchers, contributed talks selected by the Programme Committee from submitted papers, and the Student Research Forum. The invited and contributed papers will be published by Springer-Verlag in the Lecture Notes in Computer Science ([LNCS](#)) series and distributed at the conference. The working language of SOFSEM is English.

SOFSEM 2011 will include the following four parallel sessions:

- Foundations of Computer Science
- Software, Systems, and Services
- Processing Large Data Sets
- Security and Trust

The conference provides an optimal setting for discussions, meetings, establishing contacts, and socializing. SOFSEM is especially interesting for young computer scientists.

[Click here for more information](#)

Thank you to Igor Privara from SCS for this contribution.



✦ **Meet Romania's ICT representatives in Germany: 6th – 11th June 2010**

Fifteen Romanian companies are attending the Economic Mission in Germany next week. German ICT professionals will have the opportunity to have a glimpse of what Romanian software industry can offer, across three different locations, namely Stuttgart, Bonn and Aachen.

The event is organised by ARIES – the Romanian Association for Software and Electronics Industry, and sponsored by the Ministry for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises, Trade and Business, in cooperation with 15 Romanian software service providers.

The Economic Mission event is an outstanding business exchange platform where Romanian and German software industry representatives can share strategies and follow up on technical challenges, the software industry and different research projects. Moreover, it is an interactive matchmaking session where different software development service providers can meet and choose partners for their respective outsourcing projects.

Romanian software representatives will be meeting counterparts from the Fraunhofer Institute for Manufacturing, Engineering and Automation and Aachen Chamber of Industry and Commerce.

Thank you to Florin Vrejoiu from ATIC for this contribution.



Other events taking place soon:

- **13th – 19th June**
[15th Congress JISA DICG](#), Herceg Novi, Montenegro.
Organised by: JISA and DICG
- **15th - 16th June**
[RFID- Systech 2010](#), Ciudad Real, Spain.
Organised by: VDE with IEEE Computer Society - Spanish, Organic Electronics Association, Universidad de Castilla La Mancha, and Association for Automatic Identification and Mobility
- **16th – 17th June**
[SEFICT 2010](#), Dubrovnik, Croatia.
Organised in cooperation with EEIG and regional IT societies
- **16th – 18th June**
[Future Network and Mobile Summit 2010](#), Florence, Italy.
Supported by: European Commission and eMobility
- **16th – 19th June**
[CISTI 2010](#), Santiago de Compostela, Spain.
Supported by: ATI, CEPIS, ANACOM, IEEE Education Society Chapter – Portugal and Spain, APIM
- **28th – 30th June**
[EUNICE 2010](#), Trondheim, Norway.
Sponsored by: NTNU and IFIP WG6.6
- **27th June – 1st July**
[ICTON 2010](#), Munich, Germany.
Organised by: VDE, IEEE, IEEE Photonics Society, TUM, Institute for Communications Engineering
- **29th June – 1st July**
[2nd Annual Cloud Computing World Forum](#), London, UK.
Supported by: BCS, CompTIA, Aslib, BASDA, USENIX, NCC, Intellect, ISSA UK
- **8th – 9th July**
[DIMVA 2010](#), Bonn, Germany.
Organised by: GI, Fraunhofer FKIE, Bonn University
- **7th – 10th July**
[DSS 2010 – the 15th IFIP WG 8.3 International Conference on Decision Support Systems](#), Lisbon, Portugal.
Organised by: University of Lisbon, and IFIP WG3
- **14th July – 16th July**
[ICCHP 2010](#), Vienna, Austria.
Organised by: OCG, InfoTerm, Vienna University of Technology, Institut Integriert Studieren, Austria





We welcome your suggestions on items for the newsletter or any additions or amendments to the website.

Member contributions to the newsletter are also always warmly received.

We also encourage you to distribute the CEPIS Newsletter further within your society.

Please send your thoughts, comments or requests to [Carol-Ann Kogelman](#).

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