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- *inforeview*, magazine from the Serbian CEPIS society JISA
- *Informatica*, journal from the Slovenian CEPIS society SDI
- *Informatik-Spektrum*, journal published by Springer Verlag on behalf of the CEPIS societies GI, Germany, and SI, Switzerland
- *ITNOW*, magazine published by Oxford University Press on behalf of the British CEPIS society BCS
- *Mondo Digitale*, digital journal from the Italian CEPIS society AICA
- *Novática*, journal from the Spanish CEPIS society ATI
- *OCG Journal*, journal from the Austrian CEPIS society OCG
- *Pliroforiki*, journal from the Cyprus CEPIS society CCS
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Selected CEPIS News

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e-Skills and ICT Professionalism Interim Report Now Published

The interim report of the e-Skills and ICT Professionalism project has been published. This project is conducted by CEPIS and the Innovation Value Institute (IVI) on behalf of the European Commission. The synthesis report marks the halfway point of the research which is due to be completed in 2012 and also signifies the end of phase 1 of the project. CEPIS and IVI aim to provide detailed proposals for a European Framework for ICT Professionalism, and a European Training Programme for ICT Managers in the final report.

Phase 1 combined desktop research, analysis, and hundreds of interviews with ICT experts from across Europe, North America and Asia Pacific through the ICT Professionalism Survey. The research analysis so far suggests that the following four key areas act as building blocks for an ICT profession:

- a common body of knowledge
- competences
- certification, standards and qualifications
- professionals ethics/codes of conduct

CEPIS would like to thank all of their Members who participated in the ICT Professionalism Survey and who provided essential expert information about their attitudes to structures of professionalism within ICT. We also welcome any further comments.

The European ICT Professionalism Project Interim Report can be downloaded at: http://www.cepis.org/media/EU_ICT_Prof_interim_report_PublishedVersion1.pdf.

Scoreboard shows only a Third of World's Top 50 R&D Investors are European

The 2011 EU Industrial R&D Investment Scoreboard which ranks the world's top 1,400 companies by their R&D investment during 2010 has just been published by the European Commission. Overall, R&D investment by European companies has increased by 6.1% following the post-economic crisis decrease of 2.6% in 2009. However US companies reported an even higher rate of R&D investment at 10% during 2010.

European companies continue to lag behind other global R&D investors especially since only 15 of the top 50 companies in the world to invest in R&D during 2010 are European. Most of the non-EU companies in the top 50 with the largest increases were in the pharmaceutical and ICT sector, yet for those European companies only four companies were in ICT. You can access the 2011 EU Industrial R&D Investment Scoreboard at: <http://iri.jrc.ec.europa.eu/research/docs/2011/SB2011.pdf>.

European Commission Proposes €30 Billion Horizon 2020 Programme for Research and Innovation

The European Commission recently announced a new programme for investment in research and innovation called Horizon 2020. Horizon 2020 will bring together all EU research and innovation funding together under one programme, and in doing so aims to simplify rules, procedures and greatly reduce the amount of time-consuming bureaucracy associated with funding programmes until now.

Funding will be focused towards three main objectives:

- Support Europe's position as a world leader in science
- Help source industrial leadership in innovation
- Address major concerns across several themes such as energy efficiency and inclusive, innovative and secure societies

The proposal and overall budget of Horizon 2020 is currently under negotiation with the European Parliament and the Council of Europe, and by January 2014 the first calls for proposals are expected to be launched. Horizon 2020 is the financial instrument of the flagship initiative Innovation Union and forms part of the drive to create new growth and jobs in Europe. To find out more about Horizon 2020, please click here: http://ec.europa.eu/research/horizon2020/index_en.cfm?pg=home.

CEPIS Research shows Gender Imbalance in the IT Profession Risks Europe's Growth Potential

Less than one fifth of European IT professionals are women according to new research that calls for Europe to urgently redress the gender imbalance. Highly skilled roles and enough human capital to fill these jobs will be vital for the smart growth economy that Europe aspires to create by 2020. Yet a recent European report as announced in the last issue of CEPIS UPGRADE by the Council of European Professional Informatics Societies (CEPIS) shows that women represent only 8% of IT professionals in some countries. With few women entering the IT profession as the demand for skilled IT

professionals increases, Europe's economic success may be jeopardized.

The research identified and analysed the e-competences of almost 2,000 IT professionals across 28 countries in greater Europe. It presents an up-to-date snapshot of the e-competences held by IT professionals today and it shows that worryingly, less than one fifth of IT professionals in Europe are female. In the European report CEPIS puts forward key recommendations for action, including a call for all countries to urgently redress the gender imbalance and increase the participation of women in IT careers, <http://cepis.org/media/CEPIS_Prof_eComp_Pan_Eu_Report_FINAL_101020111.pdf>.

CEPIS recommends that existing initiatives with a focus on role models and mentoring programmes, such as the European Commission's Shadowing Days, should be replicated and scaled up.

Another means to encourage a better balance would be to provide fiscal incentives for companies that adopt gender equity as part of their organisational culture, hiring practices and career advancement programmes. CEPIS strongly believes that the European Commission has a role to play in continuing to promote a European culture of gender equity in the IT profession. You can read more about the CEPIS Professional e-Competence Project at: <<http://www.cepis.org/professionalecompetence>>.