Call for Papers
Modelling Policy-making
Special Issue of the Journal
Artificial Intelligence and Law

Special Issue Editors
Adam Wyner, University of Liverpool, adam@wyner.info
Neil Benn, University of Leeds, n.j.l.benn@leeds.ac.

Paper Submission Deadline: May 28, 2012

We invite submission of papers on modelling policy-making. Below, we outline the intended audience, context, the topics of interest, and submission details.

Context

We live in an age where citizens are beginning to demand greater transparency and accountability of their political leaders. Furthermore, those who govern and decide on policy are beginning to realise the need for new governance models that emphasise deliberative democracy and promote widespread public participation in all phases of the policy-making cycle: 1) agenda setting, 2) policy analysis, 3) lawmaking, 4) implementation, and 5) monitoring. As governments must become more efficient and effective with the resources available, modern information and communications technology (ICT) are being drawn on to address problems of information processing in the phases. One of the key problems is policy content analysis and modelling, particularly the gap between on the one hand policy proposals and formulations that are expressed in quantitative and narrative forms and on the other hand formal models that can be used to systematically represent and reason with the information contained in the proposals and formulations.

Special Issue Theme

The editors invite submissions of original research about the application of ICT and Computer Science to the first three phases of the policy cycle agenda setting, policy analysis, and lawmaking. The research should seek to address the gap noted above. The journal volume focusses particularly on using and integrating a range of subcomponents information extraction, text processing, representation, modelling, simulation, reasoning, and argument to provide policy making tools to the public and public administrators. While submissions about tool development and practice are welcome, the editors particularly encourage submission of articles that address formal, conceptual, and/or computational issues. Some specific topics within the theme are:

- information extraction from natural language text
- policy ontologies
- formal logical representations of policies
- transformations from policy language to executable policy rules
- argumentation about policy proposals
- web-based tools that support participatory policy-making
- tools for public understanding of arguments behind policy decisions
- visualising policies and arguments about policies
- computational models of policies and arguments about policies
- integration tools
- multi-agent policy simulations

Submission Details

Authors are invited to submit an original, previously unpublished, research paper of up to 30 pages pertaining to the special issue theme. The paper should follow the journal's instructions for authors and be submitted online. See the dropdown tab under the section FOR AUTHORS AND EDITORS.

Instructions for Authors on:
 https://www.springer.com/computer/ai/journal/10506

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Each submitted paper will be carefully peer-reviewed based on originality, significance, technical soundness, and clarity of exposition and relevance for the journal.

Contact the special issue editors with any questions.