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## EDITORIAL

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\* Daniel van Lerberghe benefits from unique insight, both at an academic as well as practical level, of today's Internet-based technological innovation in an increasingly global and interrelated world and International Politics. He holds a Masters in International Politics from the "Centre d'Etudes des Relations Internationales et Stratégiques" (CERIS-ULB) from Brussels Free University (Belgium) and an MBA in "Entrepreneurship and Technological Innovation" from Swinburne University of Technology (Australia). He is also a certified Webmaster from John Bryce Training Center in Tel Aviv (Israel).



**T**he success of e-Government and e-Democracy lies in the development of a comprehensive strategy bridging public institutions, international institutions, governments, regional and local authorities, universities, research centers, think tanks, civil society and political leaders with technology players for a better use of Information Communication Technology (ICT) tools towards the advancement of modern public governance and democracy.

Tomorrow's challenge for European Leaders and Actors will be to make it a reality by developing a common European strategic vision in a multi-level governance framework. Would the vision of Jean Monet and Robert Schumann be a reality for public governance and democracy in Cyberspace by empowering European stakeholders in a 'citizen-driven' digital world? How can Europe, with its own unique characteristics, become, in a collaborative framework with non European actors, an engine for innovation and scientific excellence in the converging domains of Political Technologies, namely e-Politics, e-Democracy, e-Participation, e-Diplomacy, e-Citizenship, e-Governance and e-Government? How can European leaders and actors create sustainable synergies and collaboration between these naturally interrelated and converging domains to shape the future of modern public governance and democracy?

### **GOVERNANCE AND DEMOCRACY IN CYBERSPACE...**

*"Governance and Democracy in Cyberspace"*, the thematic of this inaugural volume of **The European Review of Political Technologies (ERPT)**, is exploring through different multi-disciplinary and multi-sectoral perspectives how new technologies are enhancing 'representative democracy' and 'public governance', key and converging concepts in the public dimension of our modern societies transformation toward knowledge based and technology driven societies.

Europe's challenges for the XXI<sup>st</sup> Century, emphasized by the EU recently revised Lisbon Agenda, to boost Europe's competitiveness and innovation, central drivers to build knowledge based economy, and the EU new Constitutional Treaty, setting the political and democratic stage of the new European polity; have both foster good governance and democracy as key enablers for success .

### **THE EUROPEAN REVIEW OF POLITICAL TECHNOLOGIES...**

**The European Review of Political Technologies (ERPT)** is a unique online pan-European periodical and instrument to bridge the converging domains of Political Technologies — e-Politics, e-Democracy, e-Participation, e-Diplomacy, e-Citizenship, e-Governance and e-Government.

**ERPT** is an exclusive, multi-stakeholder and multi-disciplinary forum to debate, exchange, inform, demonstrate, share best practices on current issues relating to research and development, policy shaping, novel

concepts, applications, advanced technologies, technological innovations and successful experiences.

**ERPT's** primary objective is to empower Europe as a leader of innovation, scientific and technological excellence in the converging domains of political technologies, while generating sustainable multi-stakeholders synergies and collaboration toward a common European strategic vision to shape the future of modern public governance and democracy.

Each Issue is divided in **3 sections**, namely "*Research and Policy Shaping*", "*Case Studies and Technological Demonstrations*" and "*Current Debates*" to provide the audience with a wide range of perspectives from different stakeholders and disciplines.

Quality and Excellence is the primary mission of **ERPT Editorial Board** and **Honorary Scientific Committee** composed of renowned international and European experts, practitioners, leaders and public officials.

**ERPT** intends to provide its audience of professionals, academe and decision-makers a wide range of perspectives from different stakeholders and a multi-disciplinary approach to key thematic issues relevant to the domains covered by political technologies.

**ERPT** welcomes thematic suggestions and articles that contribute to its primary objective and scope: [editor@politech-institute.org](mailto:editor@politech-institute.org)