EDITORIAL

Advancing E-Government and Public Services: Innovations, Challenges, and Future Directions

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Dear Readers,

It is with great enthusiasm that we introduce the *Journal of E-Government and Public Services*, a dedicated platform for advancing knowledge and fostering dialogue in the dynamic field of e-government. As digital transformation continues to reshape governance and public service delivery, there is an increasing need for rigorous research and innovative solutions to address the challenges and opportunities in this domain.

1 Aims and Scope

The *Journal of E-Government and Public Services* aims to be a premier venue for scholarly discourse on the intersection of technology, governance, and public administration. We welcome high-quality research that explores the theoretical, empirical, and practical aspects of digital governance. Our scope includes, but is not limited to:

1. Digital transformation in government institutions.
2. Smart cities and AI-driven public services.
3. Cybersecurity and data privacy in e-government.
4. Blockchain applications for public administration.
5. E-governance and citizen engagement strategies.
6. Policy and regulatory challenges in digital governance.
7. AI and machine learning applications in public services.
8. Interoperability and integration of government information systems.

2 Vision and Mission

Our vision is to serve as a bridge between academia, industry, and policymakers by publishing research that not only advances theoretical understanding but also offers practical solutions to real-world challenges. Through this journal, we aim to:

- Encourage interdisciplinary collaboration in e-government research.
- Provide insights into emerging technologies and their impact on public services.
- Support evidence-based policymaking through empirical studies and case analyses.
- Enhance the global discourse on digital governance by including diverse perspectives

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from different regions and sectors.

3 Current Trends and Future Directions

The landscape of e-government is evolving rapidly, with key trends shaping its future:

1. **AI and Automation in Public Services**: The integration of artificial intelligence and machine learning is revolutionizing service delivery, enhancing efficiency, and personalizing citizen experiences.
2. **Blockchain for Transparency and Accountability**: Governments worldwide are exploring blockchain to improve transparency, reduce corruption, and enhance trust in public institutions.
3. **Cybersecurity and Data Protection**: With the increasing digitization of public services, securing citizen data remains a critical challenge requiring robust security measures and regulatory frameworks.
4. **Citizen-Centric Digital Services**: There is a growing emphasis on designing government services that are user-friendly, accessible, and inclusive, ensuring better engagement and participation.
5. **Sustainable and Green IT in Public Administration**: Governments are increasingly adopting environmentally sustainable technologies to minimize their digital carbon footprint.

4 Call for Contributions

We invite researchers, practitioners, and policymakers to contribute to the *Journal of E-Government and Public Services*. We welcome original research papers, case studies, and review articles that provide valuable insights into the digital transformation of governance. By fostering a collaborative exchange of ideas, we aim to shape the future of e-government and contribute to the development of more effective, inclusive, and citizen-centered public services.

We look forward to your contributions and to building a vibrant scholarly community dedicated to advancing e-government research.

Conflicts of Interest

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Dr. Ahmad Althunibat is an accomplished Professor specializing in software engineering and information technology. He holds a Ph.D. in Information Science/Software Engineering from Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) and a MicroMasters in Statistics and Data Science from MIT. With a robust academic foundation and a deep passion for innovation, his expertise spans software engineering, mobile computing, data science, and machine learning.

Dr. Althunibat has been recognized for his excellence, receiving the Ali Alqarem Award for Creativity at Al-Zaytoonah University of Jordan, and has been named one of the top 2% scientists globally for 2022, 2023 and 2024. His professional journey includes serving as the Head of the Software Engineering Department at Al-Zaytoonah University, where he supervises graduate research projects and advances academic initiatives.

His research interests include software requirements, testing, and quality assurance, as well as the application of mobile computing and machine learning in e-government and e-business domains. Dr. Althunibat has contributed to numerous high-impact publications and secured funding for research projects in software evaluation, big data, and mobile learning.

He is a member of the IEEE Jordan Section and ACM Chapter, actively participates in academic committees, and serves as a reviewer for leading journals and conferences. His certifications include PMP, and he is proficient in multiple programming languages, data analytics, and business process management.