



Call for Proposals: Papers, Workshops, Symposia, and Posters!

We are proud to announce the second conference of a new International Conference Series on Digital Science organized by the German University of Digital Science.

2nd International Conference on Digital Science in Public Administration

Navigating the Digital Evolution: Challenges and Opportunities in Public Administration

May 22nd-23rd | German University of Digital Science, Potsdam, Germany

The digital transformation fundamentally reshapes how public administrations operate and interact with citizens (Haug et al., 2024). As artificial intelligence, data analytics, and digital platforms continue to evolve at an unprecedented pace, they create both opportunities and systemic challenges for public sector organizations (Selten & Klievink, 2024). The tension between established administrative structures and digital-first approaches underscores the need to understand long-term implications of this transformation.

The rapid progression of digital technologies is altering traditional administrative processes, giving rise to critical questions regarding efficiency, accessibility, and ethical governance in the public sector (Twizeyimana & Andersson, 2019). As government agencies worldwide face mounting pressure to digitalize their services while maintaining high standards of security and transparency, new frameworks for understanding and managing this transformation become essential (Malodia et al., 2021).

On the one hand the role of public administration in democratic systems is being redefined through digital means (MacLean & Titah, 2022). Questions of trust, accountability, and inclusive citizen participation take center stage as administration moves increasingly online (Scupola & Mergel, 2022). The ability to maintain democratic values while leveraging digital opportunities requires careful consideration of both technological capabilities and societal implications.

On the other hand, the digital transformation of public administration presents significant risks to democratic governance and administrative integrity (Hensmans, 2021). The increasing dependency on digital systems creates vulnerabilities to cyber attacks, data breaches, and system failures that could paralyze essential government services (Wirtz et al., 2021). Moreover, the digital divide threatens to exclude vulnerable populations from accessing public services, while algorithmic decision-making systems may perpetuate existing biases and

create new forms of discrimination (Min, 2010; Schou & Pors, 2019). The concentration of power in the hands of technology providers and the potential for surveillance and control through digital administrative systems raise serious concerns about democratic accountability and civil liberties (Westerlund et al., 2021).

This conference brings **together academics, public sector professionals, policymakers, and technology experts** to explore current trends, address emerging challenges, and envision the future of public administration in a digital age. At its core, the conference examines how public organizations can harness digital technologies to enhance service delivery while ensuring inclusivity, maintaining security, and upholding democratic values.

Key areas of focus include the implementation of digital transformation strategies, the role of artificial intelligence in administrative processes, cybersecurity challenges, digital skills development, and the evolution of citizen-state interactions through digital platforms. The conference particularly emphasizes the practical applications of digital sciences in public administration, exploring both theoretical frameworks and real-world implementations.

We invite contributions that advance our understanding of how digital technologies can be effectively and responsibly integrated into public administration, ensuring that technological progress serves the public good while maintaining democratic principles and administrative efficiency.

Participants are encouraged to consider a broad range of topics for their proposals, which may include, but are not limited to:

- **STRATEGIC DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

1. Strategic Planning and Implementation of E-Government Initiatives
2. Digital Infrastructure Development and Legacy System Integration
3. Change Management and Organizational Culture in Digital Transformation
4. Performance Measurement and Impact Assessment
5. Best Practices and Case Studies in Administrative Modernization

- **ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND AUTOMATION**

1. AI and Machine Learning Applications in Public Services
2. Automated Administrative Decision-Making Processes
3. Ethical Frameworks and Algorithmic Governance
4. Predictive Analytics for Policy Development
5. Human-AI Interaction in Administrative Processes

- **CITIZEN-STATE RELATIONS AND SERVICE DELIVERY**

1. Digital Service Design and User Experience
2. Citizen Participation and Engagement Platforms
3. Multi-Channel Communication Strategies
4. Digital Inclusion and Accessibility
5. Trust Building and Co-Creation in Public Services

- **INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION**
 1. Cross-Agency Digital Platforms and Integration
 2. Federal-State-Local Digital Coordination
 3. International Administrative Cooperation
 4. Interoperability Standards and Information Exchange
 5. Integrated Service Delivery Across Government Levels
- **SECURITY AND RISK MANAGEMENT**
 1. Cybersecurity Frameworks and Critical Infrastructure Protection
 2. Privacy Protection and Data Management
 3. Risk Assessment and Crisis Response
 4. System Resilience and Business Continuity
 5. Security Standards and Compliance
- **DIGITAL COMPETENCIES AND SKILLS**
 1. Digital Skills Development for Public Servants
 2. Leadership in Digital Transformation
 3. Knowledge Management and Organizational Learning
 4. Training Programs and Capacity Building
 5. Digital Culture and Change Management
- **CHALLENGES AND CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES**
 1. Digital Divides and Social Exclusion
 2. Democratic Accountability in Digital Administration
 3. Power Concentration and Platform Dependency
 4. Civil Liberties and Digital Surveillance
 5. Ethical Implications of Administrative Automation

Venue: Online & CloudHouse, Marlene-Dietrich-Allee 14, Potsdam, Germany

Timeline

- **Abstract Submission Deadline:** March 15th, 2025
- **Registration Opens:** March 15th, 2025
- **Notification of Acceptance:** March 31st, 2025
- **Full Paper Submission for the conference:** May 15th
- **Conference Dates:** May 22nd-23rd
- **Paper Submission Deadline for the Conference Proceedings:** July 31st 2025
- **Paper Notifications:** 30th September, 2025
- **Camera-Ready Completion Deadline:** 28th February 2026
- **Scheduled Publication Date:** 2026

Conference Tickets

- On-Site (Regular): 270 €
- On-Site with Conference Dinner (Regular): 330 €
- Online (Regular): 120 €
- On-Site (Students): 100 €
- On-Site with Conference Dinner (Students): 160 €
- Online (Students): 50 €
- Participation in publication costs (Papers in Springer-Nature Proceedings): 200 € for accepted papers only

Invited Submissions

Send your proposals via email to conf-office@german-uds.de by **March 15, 2025**. Abstract decisions will be announced by March 31st, 2025. We welcome proposals for

- **Papers:** 20-minute presentations with a 10-minute discussion. Submit a title, 500 word abstract, 150-word bio, up to 5 keywords and 3 references.
- **Symposia:** 90-minute sessions with 3-4 related papers. Include a thematic intro, titles, 500-word abstracts, up to 5 keywords and 3 references per paper, and 150word bios for each speaker.
- **Posters and Demonstrations:** Visual presentations of research by a poster or a project showcases (500 words abstract)

For further information about the event and subsequent publications in the conference's **Springer-Nature proceedings**, please visit our [conference website](#).

Contact: The conference is organized by **Prof. Dr. Christoph Meinel, Prof. Dr. Mike Friedrichsen and Dr. Georg Loscher** If you have any questions please contact us via conf-office@german-uds.de.

Literature

Haug, N., Dan, S., & Mergel, I. (2024). Digitally-induced change in the public sector: a systematic review and research agenda. *Public Management Review*, 26(7), 1963-1987.

Hensmans, M. (2021). Exploring the dark and bright sides of Internet democracy: Ethos-reversing and ethos-renewing digital transformation. *Technological Forecasting and Social Change*, 168, 120777.

MacLean, D., & Titah, R. (2022). A systematic literature review of empirical research on the impacts of e-government: a public value perspective. *Public Administration Review*, 82(1), 23-38.

Malodia, S., Dhir, A., Mishra, M., & Bhatti, Z. A. (2021). Future of e-Government: An integrated conceptual framework. *Technological Forecasting and Social Change*, 173, 121102.

Min, S. J. (2010). From the digital divide to the democratic divide: Internet skills, political interest, and the second-level digital divide in political internet use. *Journal of Information Technology & Politics*, 7(1), 22-35.

- Schou, J., & Pors, A. S. (2019). Digital by default? A qualitative study of exclusion in digitalised welfare. *Social policy & administration*, 53(3), 464-477.
- Scupola, A., & Mergel, I. (2022). Co-production in digital transformation of public administration and public value creation: The case of Denmark. *Government Information Quarterly*, 39(1), 101650.
- Selten, F., & Klievink, B. (2024). Organizing public sector AI adoption: Navigating between separation and integration. *Government Information Quarterly*, 41(1), 101885.
- Twizeyimana, J. D., & Andersson, A. (2019). The public value of E-Government—A literature review. *Government information quarterly*, 36(2), 167-178.
- Westerlund, M., Isabelle, D. A., & Leminen, S. (2021). The acceptance of digital surveillance in an age of big data. *Technology Innovation Management Review*, 11(3), 32-44.
- Wirtz, B. W., Weyerer, J. C., & Sturm, B. J. (2020). The dark sides of artificial intelligence: An integrated AI governance framework for public administration. *International Journal of Public Administration*, 43(9), 818-829.