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- **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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Monograph of next issue (December 2007)

" Free Software: Scientific and Technological Innovation "

(The full schedule of UPGRADE is available at our website)



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Guest Editor: Julián Marcelo-Cocho, Antonio Teti, and José-María Torralba-Martínez

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* This monograph will be also published in Spanish (full version printed; summary, abstracts, and some articles online) by Novática, journal of the Spanish CEPIS society ATI (*Asociación de Técnicos de Informática*) at <<http://www.ati.es/novatica/>>.

CEPIS Projects

CEPIS/Harmonise Newsletter

François-Philippe Draguet

Harmonise

As mentioned in the last issue of **UPGRADE**, the contractual period of the Harmonise project is now over. CEPIS would like to thank all project partners for their participation. Their involvement and their permanent availability have been key to achieving the goals set three years ago. It has been a pleasure for CEPIS to work with them on this project.

CEPIS would also like to thank its Member Societies and all individuals who committed to the success of this project. Their input was invaluable in both the collection of information and in reviewing the results. Their support and involvement have been crucial to the project. Thank you all.

The project lasted 36 months and collected a very large amount of information: previous studies were analysed to extract detailed information; employers were interviewed to share their views on certification; job adverts were collected to understand the place of certification in hiring ICT professionals.

Certification companies helped the project consortium gather information on quality assurance and CEPIS Member Societies were asked to contribute to a European survey on the value of certification in national markets. All of these efforts were necessary to be able to provide a large but precise report summarizing the current certification market situation. This document then led to setting up a business case for EUCIP and to proposing a roadmap for the harmonization of ICT certification for professionals.

The report is now in the hands of the European Commission. As soon as the European Commission gives its approval, CEPIS will publish the report on the project website <[http://www.cepis-harmonise.org/harmonise/php/index](http://www.cepis-harmonise.org/harmonise/php/index.php)

>. CEPIS encourages you to read the report, once it is available, to gain a complete picture of the ICT certification market for professionals.

Euro-inf

The Euro-inf consortium continues to improve the "Framework Standards and Accreditation Criteria for Informatics Programmes". The public version is still available on the website <http://www.euro-inf.eu/component?option=com_docman/task,catalog_view/gid,3/Itemid,12/>.

The document will be reviewed a second time by the Euro-inf consortium during our next board meeting in Venice (13-14 December 2007), taking into account the feedback received from two sources:

- Organizations and individuals (Conference of Deans, representatives from the University of Madrid, the University of Joensuu...)

- Visits to Bosnian universities where the applicability of the Framework Standards was tested in the context of a TEMPUS project for Quality Assurance in Higher Education.

A new version of the Framework Standards will be made available after the review. The Euro-inf board also envisages organizing two conferences/workshops. One would address Higher Education Institutions that have agreed to host a Euro-inf trial-accreditation, and provide training for programme managers in preparing the self-evaluation report and/or offer a forum for discussion of the Euro-inf Framework Standards. The second workshop would offer training for educated peers on the application of the Euro-inf Standards and Criteria. The dates and the locations are yet to be decided. CEPIS will keep you informed of these details.

CEPIS News

CEPIS recently organized its 39th. General Assembly on November 24, 2007 at the Jolly Hotel du Grand Sablon, in Brussels. It was a great pleasure to meet the representatives of the Member Societies again.

During the meeting, participants were addressed by Nick Batey, Communications Officer at the e-Inclusion Unit, European Commission. Mr. Batey provided an overview of the e-inclusion situation in Europe, stressing the fact that many people are still excluded from the information society. Mr. Batey underlined that e-inclusion was one the pillars of the e2010 initiative from the European Commission and explained that the recent Communication COM(2007) 694 on e-Inclusion represents a milestone in reinforcing the EC's commitment to this agenda.

The meeting provided the opportunity to show the importance of the "e-Skills Foresight Scenario" project, which was referenced in the European Commission Communication on e-Skills for the 21st. Century: Fostering Competiveness, Growth and Jobs. Other activity reports included updates on CEN/ISSS, the e-Skills Industry Leadership Board, and Harmonise among others. A discussion followed to find out how CEPIS could be more involved in Research, Skills and Professionalism.

The day ended with a social dinner where our Member Societies Delegates had the opportunity to enjoy local food in a convivial atmosphere.

We would like to thank all Council delegates for their commitment and their participation. We are looking forward to seeing them again in Ljubljana.