

# CYBERLAWS 2012

## Forward

The Third International Conference on Technical and Legal Aspects of the e-Society (CYBERLAWS 2012), held in Valencia, Spain, on January 30<sup>th</sup> – February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012, followed the multiplications of the cybercrime acts concerning privacy and anonymity in the information society.

In accordance with the principle of freedom of expression and the right to privacy, the use of anonymity is legal. Users can access data and browse anonymously so that their personal details cannot be recorded and used without their knowledge by any other entity, including another user. As there are situations where content/information providers might wish to remain anonymous for legitimate purposes, they should not be required to justify anonymous use. The dangerous side of the legal anonymity is the shadow for illegal, damaging, and not easily to sue individuals and actions. Corporate and individual hassle, corporate and individual frauds, threats, and impersonations are only a few of these actions. While privacy, anonymity and freedom of speech are achieved rights, there is a vacuum on education, punishments, and laws that can be easily applied at the same velocity with which a cybercrime propagates. Applying the Civil Court legislation is tedious and naturally, too late to timely repair the damage and prevent its quick propagation. There is a need for special laws to either prevent or quickly reprimand. In this case, the identity must be legally and undoubtedly validated. In this case, the identity must be legally and undoubtedly validated. There is a need of internationally adopted guidelines to be applied by victims. There is a need for harmonization between national laws for a new era of eDemocracy.

CYBERLAWS 2012 provided a forum where researchers, government representatives, international bodies, law enforcement organisms and special groups were able to present recent lessons learned, use cases, and set the priorities on problems and directions related to the anonymity, privacy, identity, and laws that should or are governing their legal use.

The event was very competitive in its selection process and very well perceived by the international scientific and industrial communities. As such, it is attracting excellent contributions and active participation from all over the world. We were very pleased to receive a large amount of top quality contributions.

The accepted papers covered topics related to e-Government, e-Democracy, Privacy, and e-Fraud. We believe that the CYBERLAWS 2012 contributions offered a panel of solutions to key problems in all areas concerning privacy and anonymity in the information society.

We take here the opportunity to warmly thank all the members of the CYBERLAWS 2012 technical program committee as well as the numerous reviewers. The creation of such focused and high quality conference program would not have been possible without their involvement. We also kindly thank all the authors that dedicated much of their time and efforts to contribute to the CYBERLAWS 2012. We truly believe that thanks to all these efforts, the final conference program consists of top quality contributions.

This event could also not have been a reality without the support of many individuals, organizations and sponsors. In addition, we also gratefully thank the members of the CYBERLAWS 2012 organizing committee for their help in handling the logistics and for their work that is making this professional meeting a success.

We hope the CYBERLAWS 2012 was a successful international forum for the exchange of ideas and results between academia and industry and to promote further progress on the topics of the conference.

We also hope the attendees enjoyed the beautiful surroundings of Valencia, Spain.

#### **CYBERLAWS 2012 Chairs**

Lasse Berntzen, Vestfold University College - Tønsberg, Norway

Adolfo Villafiorita, Fondazione Bruno Kessler/ University of Trento, Italy

Claus-Peter Rückemann, Leibniz Universität Hannover / Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster / North-German Supercomputing Alliance (HLRN), Germany

Glenn S. Dardick, Longwood University, USA / Edith Cowan University, Australia