Open and Participatory Government Minitrack  
(Introduction)

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One of the key goals of the Open and Participatory Government minitrack is to examine how people and organizations can develop or be affected by open, transparent and collaborative government processes. Collaboration and transparency build on each other in that an increase in one can increase the other. Both collaboration and transparency then also increase the public’s likelihood that they will participate in the process which lead to more effective tools for civic engagement. There are seven papers in this year’s minitrack.

In the submission, Information Rules as Institutions Shaping Political Participation, Madelyn Rose Sanfilippo discusses the puzzle of why does participation increase with increased access to information among politically engaged individuals but not among those who have not participated in the past. She suggests a relationship between information rules and political participation which provides support for a need to further examine institutional constraints on information.

In the paper, An Analytical Tool for Events Interaction on A Smart City, the authors, Luana Carine Schunke, Luiz Paulo Luna de Oliveira, and Marta Becker Villamil examine how models of visualization present an innovative method at which the goal is to show a distribution of occurrence categories in a scheme that respects the occurrences heterogeneity. The information is visualized using Voronoi diagrams.

In the paper, Automatic Content Analysis of Media Framing by Text Mining Techniques, Fu-ren Lin, De Hao, Dachi Liao propose a text mining mechanism that is able to cluster legislative and news documents to identify media frames of knowledge or information. The tool is able to provide political domain experts hard evidence of media framing and assist the public to discover media framing.

In the paper, Participatory Crowdfunding: An approach towards engaging employees and citizens in institutional budget decisions, Claudia Niemeyer, Thomas Wagenknecht, Timm Teubner, Christof Weinhardt use a novel concept of participatory budget allocation to examine how different crowdsourcing like mechanisms affect contribution behavior, user agency and overall welfare. Institutions are able to implement a restricting mechanism without limiting user motivation yet still maximizing welfare.

Using Crowdstorm to Prospect Innovations in Federal Institutions of Education in Brazil to Reduce its Consumption of Electric Energy submitted by Wagner Vilas Boas de Souza, Carolina Cristina Martins Cavalcante, Paulo Henrique de Souza Bermejo, Pamela Aparecida dos Santos, Kelly Caralho Vieira, Wellington Rodrigues Pereira, Jose Roberto Pereira point out that through social participation innovative ideas can be created but also mobilize communities of interest. End results may depend on actions involving actors other than the institution itself.

In the paper, Uncovering Governmental Transparency in Federative State: Diverse Government Spheres, Heterogeneous Outcomes, Taine Ritta Coelho, Thomaz Anderson Barbosa da Silva, Maria Alexandra Cunha, Marco Antonio Carvalho Teixeira demonstrate the differences in transparency at different levels of government. The higher level agencies are more transparent then local agencies which is contradictory to traditional thinking.

In the submission, Collective Intelligence in Law Reforms: When the Logic of the Crowds and the
Logic of Policymaking Collide, Tanja Aitamurto discusses the difference between the logic of the crowds and the logic of policymaking and that the two can collide in practice.