

# STPIS'23 Proceeding Preface

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This volume contains selected papers presented at STPIS'23: The 9th International Conference on Socio-Technical Perspective in Information Systems (STPIS'23), which took place on 27<sup>th</sup> October, at the University of Portsmouth in the UK. The local organizing chair was Dr Fatema Zaghoul, University of Bristol, UK and the co-chair was Dr Christine Welch, University of Portsmouth.

The goal of STPIS is to bring together academic researchers, practitioners, and industry professionals who are interested and actively engaged in exploring and addressing IS-related problems in organizational settings from a socio-technical perspective.

## Importance of a socio-technical perspective in research and practice

A socio-technical perspective sees an organization as a combination of two components/ sub-systems – a social and a technical one. The ‘technical’ sub-system is concerned with the tasks, processes, and tools (e.g., technology) required to transform inputs to outputs, while the ‘social’ sub-system is concerned with the relationships among people, authority structures, and reward systems. The interaction and compatibility of these two sub-systems determines the effectiveness of a work system and the behavior patterns within an organization. Despite that a socio-technical perspective has been established for over a half century, it is often overlooked in IS discourse. Consequently, many “new approaches” appear to reflect on IS problems, such as modern IT systems poorly adjusted to the external or/and internal environment (e.g., market, organizational culture) of organizations in which they are (to be) deployed.

## STPIS'23 Scope and Purpose

The main purpose of the conference was to spark discussions regarding the use and application of a socio-technical perspective in IS research, with the long-term goal of making this event a meeting place for the community of researchers and practitioners interested in the socio-technical approach.

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The 9<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Socio-Technical Perspective in IS Development (STPIS 2023), Portsmouth, UK

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STPIS'23 consisted of three keynote presentations: [a] Industry 5.0 and the impact on IS, by Michael Rada, [b] Next evolution of AI in society, by Dr Felix Hovsepian, and [c] AR and sustainable behavior change, by Omon Fagbamigbe. These were devoted to the spread and relevance of socio-technical approaches in contemporary society.

This year, 18 papers were accepted, with approximately 50 participants. The participants were invited to further develop the submissions as short or full papers for inclusion in the STPIS'23 proceedings. Each submission was reviewed by members of the program committee and the organizing committee. The topics covered various application domains where a socio-technical perspective can be used, such as work systems, organizational change, education, industry 4.0 and industry 5.0, systemic sustainability, socio-technical security, all related to individual and organizational issues, healthcare, etc.

### **Acknowledgements**

The organizers are grateful to the members of Program Committee for their excellent work of reviewing submitted papers in short time. We also want to extend our thanks to EasyChair for providing us with a tool to manage the proceedings. We are also much obliged to the Local organizers for their support in organizing the STPIS event.

*November, 27th 2023.*

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Anna Sigridur Islind  
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