

## EDITORIAL PREFACE

# Surveillance, Security and Urban E-Planning

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The research articles included in the fourth issue of volume 2 of the *International Journal of E-Planning Research* examine and discuss issues connected to surveillance and security in the digital city, in particular the complex interrelations between electronic surveillance and urban planning.

If security has always been an important dimension in urban planning, in all its main paradigms during the last century, planners are now confronted with new challenges associated with the widespread use of information and communication technologies, in the public space, in the public transport system, as well as inside buildings. If crime and violence change due to the possibilities offered by the new information and communication technologies, it is reasonable to expect that city planning and urban management will also change in order to meet these new conditions. Issues of privacy and security emerge with new configurations and call for new approaches, as cities become increasingly digital. Surveillance through these new technologies confronts planners with new

ethical and practical issues that ought to be examined and discussed openly. This issue of the *International Journal of E-Planning Research* is a contribution for this much needed debate within the field of urban planning.

This issue comprises five research articles all focused on the theme surveillance, control and security in the digital city. In the first article “Security and Surveillance in Times of Globalization: an Appraisal of Milton Santos’ Theory”, Lucas Melgaço introduces Milton Santos’ concept of technical-scientific and informational milieu and explains how it is relevant for the interpretation of the digital city. In the following article “Rearranging Urban Space”, Francesca Menichelli explores the impact of open-street CCTV system in the city, in particular in the public space. Nelson Arteaga Botello in the article “Surveillance Regulation in Mexico City: Cameras and Urban Segregation. New Challenges for Urban e-Planning” deals with the relationship between digital media and urban social control in Mexico City. In “Security Dispositifs and Urban E-Planning:

Government Performances Articulated to Surveillance Cameras in Rio de Janeiro”, Rafael Barreto de Castro and Rosa Maria Leite Ribeiro Pedro employ the Actor-Network Theory to examine the consequences of the planned Integrated Centre of Command and Control in the city of Rio de Janeiro. In the last research article included in this issue, “Privatization of Security and the Production of Space in Mexico City: Challenges for Urban Planning”, Claudia Zamorano and Guénola Capron discuss the process of privatization of public security and how it makes the process of urban (e-)planning even more complex. Finally, in “*A Short Comment on Surveillance and Security in the E-Planned City*”, Lucas Melgaço and Nelson Arteaga Botello sum up the key challenges confronting Urban e-Planning in the field of digital surveillance and security and identify some of the multiple connections between surveillance, security and urban e-planning in our increasingly digital cities.

With this fourth issue, the second volume of the International Journal of E-Planning Research is complete. I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the authors of the articles published during 2013, members of the editorial board, and the external reviewers invited to participate in the double-blind peer-review, when it was found necessary to complement the editorial board, considering expertise in the subject and experience with the methodology employed. This important contribution of the reviewers is acknowledged in the list of IJEPR reviewers for 2013 included in this preface. I also wish to express my gratitude to the IGI editorial staff for their work in every stage of the publication process. As we move now towards the third year of the *International Journal of E-Planning Research (IJEPR)*, we restate our firm commitment with the principles of our editorial policy.

*Carlos Nunes Silva*  
*Editor-in-Chief*  
*IJEPR*

## **IJEPR REVIEWERS FOR 2013:**

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