Call for Participation: Online Paper Development Workshop on Digital Sovereignty

We are delighted to announce that we are arranging an online Paper Development Workshop (PDW) for our Information Systems Journal Special Issue on Digital Sovereignty. The aim of the PDW is to give prospective authors for the special issue the opportunity to meet the editors and present and discuss their preliminary work on the topic. To allow authors from different geographic regions of AIS to participate, the workshop will have three different sessions.

Digital technologies, digital infrastructures, and platform ecosystems have become critical resources for nations, organisations, communities, and individuals. As a result, questions of who controls digital infrastructures, who governs data, and who sets the rules for digital innovation have become concerns for public administration, economic strategy, and everyday life. Artificial intelligence (AI) is perhaps the domain where the question of digital sovereignty is currently most acute — raising issues of dependence, available alternatives, and open-source solutions.

Yet information systems research should have much to contribute, given its socio-technical approach to the study of digital technologies in context. There is a substantial body of information systems research relevant to the digital sovereignty discourse by addressing questions including how states and organisations can navigate global digital ecosystems, how digital architectures and governance standards can be designed to support digital sovereignty, how digital sovereignty influences digital innovation and the short- and long-term implications for individuals' and communities' autonomy, rights, resilience and risks.

In this special issue, we invite empirically grounded and theoretically ambitious research that explains digital sovereignty as a socio-technical accomplishment, including its tensions, trade-offs, and unintended consequences. We also welcome conceptual or review papers on the topic. We expect extended abstracts of studies based on qualitative research, but we also welcome ideas for quantitative contributions, provided they emphasise the research context and the theoretical and practical implications of their findings.

Workshop details:

Submission deadline	**6th September 2026 (11.59 pm UTC)**
Notification of acceptance	**18th September 2026**
Session's time and date	Asia-Pacific: September 24th 11:30 AM to 3:30 PM **SGT** Africa/Europe: September 24th 12:00 PM to 4 PM **UTC** Americas: September 28th 11:00 AM to 3 PM **EDT**
Format	Online workshop with presentation and interaction with special issue editors

Abstract format	Participation is based on an accepted extended abstract of up to 3 pages. The abstract must indicate a plan for a substantial information systems contribution foregrounding digital technologies in context, emphasising the specific nature of digital technologies, infrastructures, and platforms and their social implications
Submission instructions	- Extended abstract of a maximum of 3 pages - Email your submission to pnielsen@ifi.uio.no - Indicate in the email the session of preference - Indicate in the email who will present the work
Special issue	Submission deadline for full papers: March 31st 2027 Call for papers: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/page/journal/13652575/homepage/call-for-papers/si-2026-000456 Extended call for papers: https://www.mn.uio.no/ifi/english/research/groups/is/special-issue-on-digital-sovereignty.html
Contact/questions	Petter Nielsen (or any of the other editors): pnielsen@ifi.uio.no

For questions regarding this workshop, get in touch with Coordinating Senior Editor Petter Nielsen

Senior Editors for this Special Issue:

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