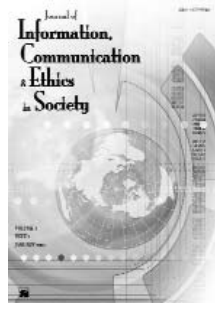# CALL FOR PAPERS

Special Issue on

Reliability and Security of Information

Guest Editor: Dr Anton Vedder, Tilburg University

The infrastructure of our information and communication networks is quickly developing. All over the world, researchers are successfully working on higher capacity data transmission and on connectivity enhancement. Traditional limitations of time, space and quantity are gradually loosing their grip on the availability and accessibility of information and communication. Our ways of assessing reliability of information and safeguarding the security of communication, however, are still to a high degree geared to traditional media. They relate to the – often institutionally embedded – signs of authority of the sources and intermediaries and to the recognisability of the details of the process of the transactions involved.

With the growing speed of the information and communication networks two characteristics of the Internet are further enlarged. First, assessing the true nature of sources and intermediaries of information becomes even more difficult. Second, as the technologies involved become more sophisticated and complicated, the processes of interaction become less transparent. What consequences does all of this have for our possibilities of assessing the reliability of information and of ensuring the security of transactions? What is the moral significance of these consequences? How do we deal with the moral conflicts that may arise between reliability enhancing measures on the one hand and informational freedoms on the other hand? Whose responsibility is it to enhance the reliability of online information and to safeguard the security of online transactions? What impact will ubiquitous connectivity have on the privacy of people?

To explore some of these issues, we are inviting journal papers for a special issue of the *Journal of Information, Communication and Ethics in Society*, to be published in Volume 4 (2006). We welcome submissions that are of evident relevance to the ethical issues involved in quality and security assessment with regard to online information and communication. Possible topics may include (but are not limited to):

- Psychological aspects of the differences between assessing the quality of information from traditional sources on the one hand, and assessing the quality of online information on the other,

and the relationship of those psychological considerations to ethics.

- Epistemological aspects of quality assessment of online information, and the possible social impacts of any changed understandings

- Conceptual relationships between the notions of trust, security, reliability, and validity, as they are developing to take account of Information and Communications Technologies.

- Moral conflicts between informational freedoms and efforts to improve the reliability of information

- Privacy issues involved in the growing speed and connectivity of information and communication networks

- Division of responsibilities for quality and security enhancement between content providers, service and access providers, governmental authorities, civil society and individual users

- Technological solutions for quality and security enhancement, including solutions in the fields of software design and architecture, and the social impacts of either employing, or failing to employ such solutions

- Legal and other regulatory aspects of quality and security enhancement

IMPORTANT DATES
31 July 2005   Submissions due
30 September 2005   Acceptance decisions
30 November 2005   Final versions of accepted papers due

SUBMISSIONS & NOTES FOR AUTHORS

Submission
Papers should be submitted to *ices@troubador.co.uk* with a covering email clearly stating the name, address and affiliation of all authors. Paper submissions are accepted in either PDF or PostScript formats, or word processor files saved in Rich Text Format (RTF). Other formats are not acceptable.

Notes for Authors
Full submission details and Notes for Authors are given at the journal's web site,

www.troubador.co.uk/ices

Authors are asked to consult these prior to submitting their paper for consideration.