

Workshop on Regulatory Ontologies (WORM) PC Co-chairs' Message

This proceedings reflects the issues raised and presented during the second international workshop on regulatory ontologies (WORM 2004). WORM aims to gather researchers and practitioners from multiple disciplines, such as Law, Business, Ontologies, Regulatory metadata, Information extraction. Regulatory ontologies typically involve the description of rules and regulations within the social world. Modeling and deploying regulatory knowledge has indeed some specifics that differentiate it out from other kinds of knowledge modeling, such as reasoning methods and application scenarios, the legal weight (/order) of regulations, parsing legal texts, the sensitivity in cross-boarder regulations, etc.

A total of 28 papers were submitted to WORM 2004. Each submission was reviewed by at least two experts. The papers were judged according to their originality, validity, significance to theory and practice, readability and organization, and relevancy to the workshop topics and beyond. This resulted in the selection of 9 papers for presentation at the workshop and publication in this proceedings.

In particular, we would like to express our deep appreciations to the program committee members: Andr e Valente, Andrew Stranieri, Bart Verheij, Cecilia Magnusson Sjoberg, Giancarlo Guizzardi, Jaime Delgado, Jerome Euzenat, Joost Breuker, Leonardo Lesmo, Mariano Fernandez Lopez, Nicklas Lundblad, Richard Benjamins, Rita Temmerman, Said Tabet, Valentina Tamma, Youssef Amghar, for their reviewing efforts and advice on organizational details. We thank the authors of the submitted papers and all the workshop attendees for their dedication and assistance in creating our program and turning the workshop into a success. Producing this book would not have been possible without the much appreciated contribution of Kwong Lai. Finally, we gratefully acknowledge the partial support of the EU project Knowledge Web (FP6-507482).

August 2004

Mustafa Jarrar
Aldo Gangemi
(WORM CoRe 2004 PC Co-chairs)