

Foreword

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The first thematic block in this issue of the Croatian and Comparative Public Administration is structured around administrative modernisation. Although centred on such a common general denominator, the four papers differ significantly according to their focus, manner of treating law-making improvement, building trust in government, digitalisation of public services, and organisational development in the public sector.

Goranka Lalić Novak, Romea Manojlović Toman and Teo Giljević analyse whether the Croatian regulation technique ensures evidence-based law-making in the migrations sector. They provide a thorough review of empirical data drawn from the processes and draft legislation, public consultations, impact assessment, parliamentary discussions, parliamentary questions of Members of Parliament, and evaluation reports, contemplating about the possibilities of improving migration law-making by means of evidence-based law-making techniques and other better regulation instruments.

Stanislav Rieznik and Hwan-Beom Lee deal with trust in government at the local level in Ukraine. They examine the perceived levels of corruption and transparency as factors influencing trust in local government as well as the relationships between them. Their results indicate the complex nature of the relationship between the variables, in contrast to popular belief that more transparency would simply raise trust in local government. Being aware of the limitations of their results, the authors offer a platform for further research.

Mansyur Achmad, Masriadi Patu and Ashariana Ashariana present their empirical research on the effects of e-government implementation measures connected with communication, resources, disposition, and bureaucratic structure on the quality of electronic identity card public services in Takalar Regency in Indonesia. The variable that has the most significant

contribution is the resource variable. The second factor is communication, the third is disposition, and the fourth bureaucratic structure. Practical implications for improving the situation are discussed on the basis of research results.

Tadija Kristić analyses public organisational issues in the protection of market competition. He finds three main organisational models in that sector, named A, B, and C, and goes further in comparing their strengths and weaknesses by using the multiple case study method. He compares Portuguese, Croatian, and Spanish agencies in the field. Although he has shown that the Croatian model is the most effective, the result of his comparison has still allowed him to design several useful policy proposals for improving the situation in that model.

The second thematic section deals with management of public projects. Firstly, Jakša Puljiz, Sanja Maleković and Sanja Tišma evaluate the quality of procedure for selecting the projects to be financed by the European Union funds through the Operational Programme Competitiveness and Cohesion in the period 2014-2020. On the basis of their evaluative study the authors conclude that Croatia employs a rather standardised and demanding selection procedure that causes slow decision-making and low efficiency in the use of EU funds.

Ljudevit Krpan, Drago Pupavac and Robert Maršanić present and analyse a framework model for evaluation and selection of developmental projects at the county level in Croatia. Based on their practical research, the authors have concluded that the model they explored facilitates a transparent and efficient investment of public funds, while maximising the developmental impacts.

I wish you a pleasant reading.

Professor Dr Ivan Koprić
Editor-in-Chief