

## **EDITORIAL: The digital revolution — Drivers of performance and efficiency in the private and public sectors**

*Dear readers!*

On behalf of the editorial team, I am pleased to introduce you to the contents of the first issue of 2025 published in volume 14 of the *Journal of Governance and Regulation*. The journal has long consolidated its position within the vast panorama of scientific journals by covering various research topics ranging from governance, accounting and control, to the financial reporting system, blockchain and regulatory initiatives, through innovation management, minority shareholders' rights, the impact of the digital revolution on governance and business. The *Journal of Governance and Regulation*, therefore, certainly captures the interest of a wide audience of readers attracted by traditional topics as well as by the most recent trends. The first issue of 2025 is composed of 20 articles with particular emphasis on the digital revolution and its impact on the public and private sectors.

The digital revolution has induced significant changes, resulting in a redefinition of the business model and a concomitant increase in competition among operators (Micheli et al., 2022; Koskelainen et al., 2023; Di Nallo et al., 2024). The private sector has been particularly impacted by digitalisation, robotics and automation, given the capacity of emerging technologies to optimise operational processes and competitive positioning within companies. The rapid progress of technological innovation has also permeated the public sector, compelling governments to develop and implement increasingly agile decision-making processes, capable of ensuring greater security and risk management in government operations (Abdelwahed et al., 2025; Jangjarat & Jewjinda, 2023; Quarato et al., 2020; Trucco, 2024).

Faizah Alsulami conducts an analysis of the impact of digital innovation on sustainable accounting practices. The digital revolution has had a profound impact on all sectors of activity, including traditional fields such as accounting. The study proposes a literature review involving articles published in the last twenty years, demonstrating a gradual increase in interest in this topic, as evidenced by the proliferation of publications. Digital technologies such as artificial intelligence, big data and blockchain have been shown to enhance the accuracy and transparency of accounting processes, thereby contributing to an increase in the credibility of financial reporting.

Nadia Abdelhamid Abdelmegeed Abdelwahed and Bahadur Ali Soomro highlight the beneficial effects of the adoption of digital technologies (such as blockchain) on performance. These technologies have been shown to contribute to business productivity and profit generation, to the competitive positioning of manufacturing companies, and to the enhancement of their innovative capabilities. However, it is crucial to acknowledge the advent of the digital revolution, which concomitantly introduces novel and substantial risks to cybersecurity. In response, companies and various stakeholders have been enhancing transparency regarding cybersecurity, disclosing information on the associated risks in annual financial reports. The disclosure of such information has been shown to have an impact on corporate value (see the article by Abdullah A. Alsadoun and Maged M. Albaz, which uses a qualitative and quantitative research approach and demonstrates that companies that are more attentive to risk management attract greater stakeholder trust and are more able to preserve corporate value).

The digital revolution continues to evolve and shape the public sector, thereby rendering governments more agile and connected to citizens (Irimie, 2014; Cangiano et al., 2017; Jarbandhan, 2017; Krishna et al., 2017; Yuliza et al., 2024). As emphasised in the article by Ihor Rekunenko, Artem Koldovskyi, Vita Hordiienko, Oksana Yurynets, Bashar Abu Khalaf, and Mohamad Ktit, the adoption of technologies has not spared government management processes, allowing institutions to offer citizens and businesses increasingly efficient services. The significance of e-governance in the public sector is further underlined by the work by Naveen and Rajendra Sharma, although this often occurs by implementing an asymmetric technological transformation within territories. The study identifies the factors that determine this imbalance, tracing them back not only to technical variables but also to social, economic and political measures.

In brief, the digital revolution has increased efficiency, productivity and the ability to respond to market needs, making operators more competitive and agile in a constantly and rapidly evolving context.

I hope that researchers will find the articles in this issue particularly interesting and useful for their research activities and that they will contribute to overcoming the gaps highlighted in these publications. Enjoy your reading.

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