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Preface

The strategic importance of enterprise modelling has been recognized by an increasing number of companies and public agencies. Enterprise modelling delivers the ‘blueprints’ for co-designing and aligning business and enterprise information systems such that they complement each other in an optimal way. Achieving this interplay requires a multi-perspective approach taking organizational, economic, and technical aspects into account. In a world of cloud, social and big data, additional challenges for enterprise modelling and the design of information systems architectures are introduced, e.g., in respect to the design of data-driven processes or processes enabling cross-enterprise collaboration. To deal with these challenges, a close cooperation of researchers from different disciplines such as information systems, business informatics, and computer science will be required.

EMISA 2017 is the eighth international workshop in a series that provides a key forum for researchers and practitioners in the fields of enterprise modelling and the design of information system (IS) architectures. The workshop series emphasizes a holistic view on these fields, fostering integrated approaches that address and relate business processes, business people, and information technology. It is organised by the GI Special Interest Group on Design Methods for Information Systems (GI-SIG EMISA, www.emisa.org), which provides a forum for researchers from various disciplines who develop and apply methods to support the analysis and design of information systems. EMISA 2017 took place in Essen, Germany, co-located with the 29th International Conference on Advanced Information Systems Engineering (CAiSE).

In addition to proposals for talks on published or accepted papers from international conferences or journals, EMISA 2017 called for short-paper submissions on *PhD Proposals* and *Novel Directions*. The former relate to research proposals of doctoral students, whereas the latter motivate a novel research direction, outline the research gaps to address, and carve out major challenges. EMISA 2017 received 6 such proposals from several countries (Austria, Belgium, Hungary, and Germany), which have been reviewed and selected by the EMISA programme committee.

We want to express our gratitude to many people involved, the authors for submitting their papers to EMISA 2017, the members of the programme committee for their reviewing efforts, the executive board of EMISA for their support, and the organisers of CAiSE 2017 for the local arrangements.

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