

## Preface

Agreement is one of the crucial social concepts that helps human agents to cope with their social environment and is present in all human interactions. In fact, without agreement there is no cooperation and ultimately social systems cannot emerge. Agreement is necessary in our everyday life.

Until recently, the concept of agreement was a domain of study mainly for philosophers, sociologists and was only applicable to human societies. However, this situation has changed in the recent years, especially with the spectacular emergence of information society technologies. Computer science has moved from the paradigm of an isolated machine to the paradigm of a network of systems and of distributed computing. Likewise, artificial intelligence is quickly moving from the paradigm of an isolated and non-situated intelligence to the paradigm of situated, social and collective intelligence. Hence, the concept of agreement has become key for a robust understanding and an efficient implementation of artificial social systems.

In this context, Agreement Technologies is a new approach of Distributed Artificial Intelligence for constructing large-scale open distributed computer systems. This workshop on Agreement Technologies is specifically addressed for any work that aims at developing models, frameworks, methods and algorithms for constructing such systems. In other words, this workshop focuses on approaches and solutions for the needs of next generation computing systems where autonomy, interaction and mobility will be the key issues. Most importantly, it concentrates on techniques that enable software components to reach agreements on the mutual performance of services.

Agreement Technologies integrates many research efforts from different fields of Artificial Intelligence. Hence, this workshop is specifically tailored to research works related to this new approach. As CAEPIA is the leading Artificial Intelligence conference in Spain, it is a good forum to celebrate this workshop. Finally, the editors would like to thank all the people that bring about WAT and CAEPIA 2009. First of all, thanks to the authors for ensuring the richness of the workshop and the members of the program committee for their professionalism and dedication. Furthermore, we owe particular gratitude to the CAEPIA organizing committee.

Marc Esteva, Alberto Fernandez and Adriana Giret  
WAT2009 Organizing Committee



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