

2nd Call for Paper
**3rd International Workshop
on Normative Multiagent Systems
(NorMAS 2008)**

15-16 July, 2008

<http://deon2008.uni.lu/normas08.html>

Associated with **DEON 2008**, 15-18 July, 2008
<http://deon2008.uni.lu/>

Norms are essential for artificial agents that are to display behaviour comparable to human intelligent behaviour or collaborate with humans. Norms play a central role in many social phenomena such as coordination, cooperation, decision-making, etc. There is an increasing interest in the role of norms in societies, both inside and outside the agent community. NorMAS therefore focuses on normative multiagent systems.

Normative multiagent systems combine theories and frameworks for normative systems with multiagent systems. Thus, these systems provide a promising model for human and artificial agent co-ordination, because they integrate norms and individual intelligence. They are a prime example of the use of sociological theories in multiagent systems, and therefore of the relation between agent theory and the social sciences, e.g., sociology, philosophy, economics, legal science, etc.

Normas08 follows Normas05 and Normas07.

Normas05 was held on April 12 and 13, 2005 at the University of Hertfordshire, England as part of AISB conventions organized by the Society of the Study of Artificial Intelligence and the Simulation of Behaviour (<http://normas.di.unito.it/zope/aisb05/>). The best papers were presented in a double special issue of Computational & Mathematical Organization Theory Journal of Springer (<http://www.springerlink.com/content/9508t27tr9279617>).

Normas07 was held on March 18-23, 2007 as the Dagstuhl Seminar 07122 (<http://www.dagstuhl.de/en/program/calendar/semhp/?semnr=07122>). The best papers were presented in a forthcoming special issue of Journal of Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (Springer).

NorMAS provides an excellent opportunity to meet researchers studying norms in cognitive science, social sciences, agent theory, computer science, philosophy, etc. to discuss the current state and identify potential future directions and research issues.

NorMAS 2008 extends its focus on the traditional view of norms by introducing the topic of commitments, often used in MAS to model protocols.

TOPICS OF INTEREST

The topics of this workshop include, but are not restricted to, the following issues:

- multiagent or society level:
 - balancing dynamics and statics at the agent (micro) and agent society (macro) level
 - coordination based on normative multiagent systems
 - emergence of conventions, norms, roles, and normative multiagent systems
 - combining conventions with regulative, permissive, constitutive and other types of norms
 - relation between NorMAS and contracts, security, and (electronic) institutions
 - commitments vs obligations
 - commitments, protocols and Agent Communication Languages
- agent level:
 - alternatives to and extensions of the homo economicus and BDI logics
 - extending logical frameworks to encompass norms in agent decision making
 - how to implement theories of norms in artificial agents
 - policies and commitments
- applications of NorMAS:
 - multiagent social simulation models containing norms
 - mixing artificial and human agents in hybrid social systems

We welcome both theoretical work (formal models, representations, specifications, logics, verification) and implementation-oriented work (architectures, programming languages, design models, simulations, prototype systems) on these specific topics.

SUBMISSION

Authors are invited to submit an original, previously unpublished, research paper pertaining to any of these topics. The paper should be in English, and should be no longer than 15 pages, or approximately 7500 words. The first page should contain the full name and contact information for at least one of the authors, and it should contain an abstract of no more than ten lines. Authors should submit their papers electronically, in either .pdf or .ps format.

Authors should consult the instructions on the website for submitting their papers electronically. (Anyone who is unable to send the paper electronically and wishes to submit hard copies should inquire for details from one of the program co-chairs at the addresses given below.) Authors are especially encouraged to use the Springer LNCS styles if possible; these are available at <http://www.springer.de/comp/lncs/authors.html>. The deadline for submission is March 15 2008.

TIMETABLE

March 15, 2008: submission deadline

April 20: notification of acceptance

May 10: deadline for final, camera-ready versions

July 15 and 16, 2008: NorMAS 2008 workshop

July 16-18, 2008: DEON'08 conference

PUBLICATION

Publication will be provided to all participants. As in the previous editions, a selection of papers will be published in a special issue of a relevant journal.

INVITED SPEAKERS

Prof. Giovanni Sartor, University of Bologna

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