

## COMMENT FROM THE EDITORS OF IPMR

The articles in this issue are intended to be of interest to both academics and practitioners.

In the first article Schedler and Schmidt provides a framework to guide the development and management of e-government. They test their framework using data from an extensive survey of German civil servants to validate their guidelines and prescriptions. It is hoped that publication of this work will provide tools and perspectives to assist public managers in the implementation and management of electronic government. In the second article in the issue, Murdock applies stakeholder theory as an alternative to NPM-oriented reform models to suggest how operation of the health care system in the UK and Scotland might be improved by partnerships, formation of alliances and increased networking. The third article by Klingner and Jones argue that if U.S. policy makers are to succeed in obtaining stability, security and good governance in Iraq and in other parts of the world where significant development assistance is provided to highly unstable nations, they should learn lessons from past U.S. colonial experience, and from the experience of other nations. No claim is made that the U.S. is operating as a colonial power in Iraq. Rather, the argument is that lessons may be learned from colonial experience that are applicable to Iraq and other high security risk nations where development and reconstruction is badly needed. The next work in this issue is a critical essay by Candreva commenting from the perspective of the philosophy of science on the "Symposium: Dialogue on Definition and Evolution of the Field of Public Management" published in IPMR volume 4, number 2, 2003: 1-19.

The three articles that follow comprise a mini-symposium on corruption in the public sector. First, deLeon and Green frame the problems that confront reform strategy to provide a structure to understand the issues that must be addressed in battling illegal arrangements within government and between government and the private sector. They also address cultural and social norms as critical variables in the fight against corruption. Cepiku follows with a detailed analysis of anti-corruption strategies employed in Albania. She demonstrates the advantages and risks encountered in deployment of a variety of prevention and mitigation approaches that involve both public and private sectors. Kotchegura then provides an analysis of corruption and efforts to control it in Central and Eastern European (CEE) nations and countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), i.e., former Soviet-controlled countries undergoing significant economic and social transition. As with Albania, Kotchegura's analysis shows how difficult it is to attempt the implementation of a comprehensive regime of anti-corruption controls. Based upon a review of important literature in the field and information from case examples, he recommends a more incremental and marginal approach wherein governments concentrate effort on high payoff and highly visible targets where success will stimulate the citizenry to resist and reports instances of corruption.

This is the first issue of the fifth volume of the International Public Management Review (IPMR). IPMR is published twice per year on the IPMR website at [www.ipmr.net](http://www.ipmr.net). Volume 1, Number 1 appeared in December 2000 as a double issue to inaugurate the series. Back issues are available at [www.ipmr.net](http://www.ipmr.net).

Why does IPMN publish an electronic journal? First, e-journals are a recent innovation in the publishing business and we want IPMN to lead in this area. Second, we want IPMR to be accessible and relevant to practitioners. Third, IPMR provides an additional outlet in which IPMN members and others can publish their work in the rapidly expanding discipline of public management.

The editorship of IPMR is organized on a regional and international basis with Associate Editors for regions and by nation in some cases. The Associate Editors share the task with the IPMR editorial group of finding good manuscripts for review. The Editorial Board of IPMR is composed of many of the leading public management scholars and practitioners around the world.

We hope you enjoy reading the articles in this issue and that you consider submitting your work to IPMR at [ipmnet@aol.com](mailto:ipmnet@aol.com) for publication consideration. Additionally, we encourage you to refer your colleagues and students to IPMR. We hope that articles published in IPMR will find use in the workplace and classroom.

L. R. Jones  
Senior Editor

Kuno Schedler  
Senior Editor

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IPMR	<p>The International Public Management Review (IPMR) is the electronic journal of the International Public Management Network (IPMN). All work published in IPMR is double blind reviewed according to standard academic journal procedures.</p> <p>The purpose of the International Public Management Review is to publish manuscripts reporting original, creative research in the field of public management. Theoretical, empirical and applied work including case studies of individual nations and governments, and comparative studies are given equal weight for publication consideration.</p>
IPMN	<p>The mission of the International Public Management Network is to provide a forum for sharing ideas, concepts and results of research and practice in the field of public management, and to stimulate critical thinking about alternative approaches to problem solving and decision making in the public sector.</p> <p>IPMN includes over 600 members representing sixty different countries and has a goal of expanding membership to include representatives from as many nations as possible. IPMN is a voluntary non-profit network and membership is free.</p>
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