# IP&M Special Issue on Fair and Explainable Information Access Systems for Social Good

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More information at:

http://arantxa.ii.uam.es/~abellogin/ipm_fairexplain4socialgood/

## BACKGROUND AND SCOPE

This special issue addresses research on design, maintenance, evaluation, and study of Fair and Explainable Information-access systems including recommender systems, search, (interactive) QA, and conversational systems. The SI's highlight is "Information Access Systems for Social Good," where innovative research demonstrating the benefits to the general public is encouraged.

**- Fairness:** what might fairness mean in the context of information access (or information seeking)? How could an information access system be unfair, and how could we measure such unfairness? Who is the main stakeholder involved in the definition of fairness? How can we measure biases in information-seeking systems?

**- Explainability:** how to provide intuitive explanations? What is the goal of the explanation achieved, e.g., to improve the system transparency, its persuasiveness, trustworthiness, effectiveness, or scrutability? Which are effective techniques to present explanations?

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## TOPICS

**Designing fair and explainable Information Access systems:**
- How to define fairness or explainability in Information Access systems
- Impact of these definitions when systems are tailored for social good
- Analysis of constraints to implement these systems, such as collecting proper data, addressing biases or inequalities in the data, using simulations or synthetic data, etc.

**Evaluating fair and explainable Information Access systems:**
- How to evaluate fairness or explainability in Information Access systems
- Impact of these models when systems are tailored for social good
- Comparison of evaluation measurements when assessing these systems, such as defining objective metrics, user studies, understanding settings of offline experiments, influence of multiple stakeholders in evaluation, etc.

**Interventions towards fair and explainable Information Access systems:**
- How to modify current Information Access systems to achieve some level of fairness or explainability
- Impact of these interventions when systems are tailored for social good
- Discussion of preconditions needed or achievable post hoc analyses when modifying these systems, such as designing protocols to mitigate biases, exploratory analysis on explainable systems, etc.

*A more exhaustive list of topics is available in the website*

## PAPER SUBMISSION AND REVIEW

Submitted papers must conform to the author guidelines available on the IPM journal website. Authors are required to submit their manuscripts online through the IPM submission site at and choose for article type: "Fair&Explain4SocialGood"