

Welcome message from the ISCRAM2005 Conference Chairs

Dear ISCRAM2005 participant,

It is our pleasure to welcome you at the second International Conference on Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management ISCRAM2005.

Perhaps it is your second time in just about a year that you flew or drove into Brussels to present or listen to new research and developments in the area of information systems for crisis response and management. At the ISCRAM2004 meeting in May 2004, the exchange of ideas during and in between sessions resulted in a very lively interaction among all participants. It was fascinating to observe how an exciting and positive atmosphere emerged and remained among the 80 or so participants during these two days. In case you are new to this year's ISCRAM meeting, we hope you will find it an equally attractive, creative and challenging conference. We certainly count on you to help us make it that way!

At ISCRAM2004, we also started the ISCRAM Community which has now found a place on the web at iscram.org. The ISCRAM Community now has over 500 registered members. At this year's meeting, we will discuss how we can better manage this growing community. It is, at this stage, far exceeding our original expectations and we need your help to build the ISCRAM Community and provide it with the foundations of a real organization.

Needless to say, we could not deal with the many tasks that are involved with organizing a conference of this size on our own. We are therefore extremely grateful for the support of many colleagues and friends who have served in various capacities, volunteering their time to make this Conference a reality. We especially thank the Local and Program Committee members and the many reviewers, whose names are mentioned elsewhere in this Volume. We are also grateful for the continued support from our organizations, the Nuclear Research Center SCK-CEN and Tilburg University, who allowed us to do this effort once more. Last but not least, we like to acknowledge the appreciated financial support and sponsorship from our Sponsors whose names are also mentioned elsewhere in this Volume.

We hope ISCRAM2005 will match the expectations that were set at last year's meeting, and we wish your participation in the second International Conference on Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management to be an enjoyable and fruitful one.

Bartel Van de Walle
ISCRAM2005 Conference Chair

Benny Carlé
ISCRAM2005 Conference co-Chair