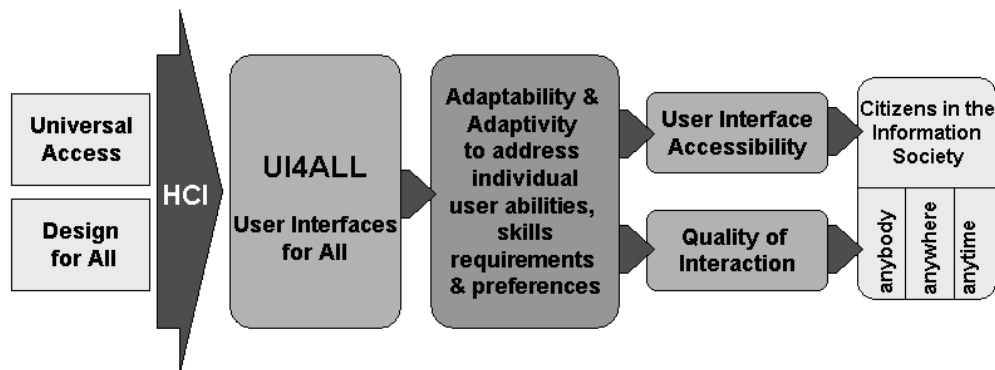


USER INTERFACES FOR ALL

The on-going paradigm shift towards a knowledge-intensive Information Society has brought about radical changes in the way people work and interact with each other and with information. The requirement for universal access stems from the growing impact of the fusion of the emerging technologies, and from the different dimensions of diversity that are intrinsic to the information society. These dimensions become evident when considering the broad range of user characteristics, the changing nature of human activities, the variety of contexts of use, the increasing availability and diversification of information, knowledge sources and services, the proliferation of technological platforms, etc. The target user population includes potentially everyone in various interaction contexts and scenarios of use: people with different cultural, educational, training and employment backgrounds, novice and experienced computer users, the very young and the elderly, as well as people with different types of disabilities. Under this perspective, universal access refers to the accessibility, usability and, ultimately, acceptability of Information Society Technologies (IST) by anyone, anywhere, anytime.

The field of Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) plays a critical role towards facilitating universal access, as citizens in the Information Society experience technology through their contact with the user interface of interactive products, applications and telematic services. Thus, it has become increasingly important to design accessible and high-quality human-machine interfaces capable of adapting their behaviour to address the individual end user needs, requirements, skills and expectations. Universal Design (or Design for All) is an inclusive and proactive approach seeking to accommodate diversity in the users and usage contexts of interactive products, applications, and services, starting from the design phase of the development life cycle. The visionary goal of **User Interfaces for All** is the realisation of the **Universal Design** principle in the field of **Human-Computer Interaction** (HCI).



THE ERCIM WORKING GROUP "USER INTERFACES FOR ALL"

The ERCIM Working Group "User Interfaces for All" (UI4ALL) was initiated in 1995 against the background of European R&D activities which had analysed the requirements, identified the viability, and demonstrated the feasibility of constructing 'user interfaces for all', i.e., interfaces which can automatically adapt to address the individual user requirements of potentially all users.

The ERCIM Working Group UI4ALL conducts R&D activities aiming to:

- Consolidate current practice and experience in the area of universal design and universal access in HCI.
- Play a catalytic role in bringing together researchers and teams working in the different ERCIM organisations (but also organisations beyond ERCIM or the European boundaries) in the related fields.
- Promote joint activities that contribute to the endeavours towards an Information Society accessible to all citizens.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS



Stephanidis, C. (Ed.). (2001). *User Interfaces for All - Concepts, Methods, and Tools*. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, ISBN 0-8058-2967-9, 760 pages.

<https://www.erlbaum.com/shop/tek9.asp?pg=products&specific=0-8058-2967-9>



Springer International Journal "Universal Access in the Information Society", Editor-in-chief: C. Stephanidis

1st issue in Spring 2001

<http://www.springeronline.com/journal/10209/about>

CONFERENCE



The 1st International Conference on "Universal Access In Human - Computer Interaction" (UAHCI 2001) in co-operation with HCI International 2001, August 5 - 10, 2001, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA <http://uahci.ics.forth.gr/>

The 2nd International Conference on "Universal Access In Human - Computer Interaction" (UAHCI 2003) in co-operation with HCI International 2003, June 22 - 27, 2003, Crete, Greece <http://www.hcii2003.gr>

R&D PROJECTS

- ✓ IST-1999-14101 Project - IS4ALL, "Information Society for All" (2000 - 2003).
- ✓ IST-1999-20656 Project - PALIO, "Personalised Access to Local Information and services for tOurists" (2000-2003)

PAST WORKSHOPS

- 1st ERCIM UI4ALL Workshop, Heraklion, Crete, Greece, 30-31 October 1995
- 2nd ERCIM UI4ALL Workshop, Prague, Czech Republic, 7-8 November 1996
- 3rd ERCIM UI4ALL Workshop, Obernai, France, 3-4 November 1997
- 4th ERCIM UI4ALL Workshop, Stockholm, Sweden, 19-21 October 1998
- 5th ERCIM UI4ALL Workshop, Dagstuhl, Germany, 28 November-1 December 1999
- 6th ERCIM UI4ALL Workshop, Florence, Italy, 25-26 October 2000
- 7th ERCIM UI4ALL Workshop, Paris (Chantilly), France, 23 - 25 October, 2002
- 8th ERCIM UI4ALL Workshop, Vienna, Austria, 28 – 29 June, 2004
- 9th ERCIM UI4ALL Workshop, Königswinter (Bonn), Germany, 27 - 28 September 2006

Workshop Proceedings are electronically available at:
<http://www.ui4all.gr/html/workshop.html>

AWARD

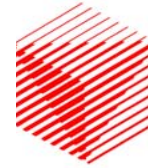
The ERCIM Working Group UI4ALL is the recipient of the ERCIM Working Group Award for the year 2000.

CONTACT DETAILS

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ERCIM



ERCIM – The European Research Consortium for Informatics and Mathematics is an organisation dedicated to the advancement of European research and development, in information technology and applied mathematics. Its national member institutions aim to foster collaborative work within the European research community and to increase co-operation with European industry.

ERCIM WORKING GROUP



USER INTERFACES FOR ALL

<http://www.ui4all.gr>

ERCIM Member Institutes



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