

# EDITORIAL

*This first issue of RAE in 2011 is special for two reasons. First, for being devoted entirely to the forum “Social Use, Implications and Impacts of ICT in Latin America”. Originally proposed in 2008, when Prof. Flavio Vasconcelos was still chief-editor of this journal, this forum was launched in 2009 and completed the selection process of articles in 2010. The crowning point of the forum was a seminar in November 2010 at FGV-SP, when articles selected to be published were presented by their authors to an audience of researchers from the IS field and broadcast online over the Internet.*

*The second reason making this edition so special is that it is being published almost entirely in English, including this editorial, which is in two languages. The main motivation for this initiative lies in the objectives of the forum; initially it was an international call for papers headed by Prof. Marlei Pozzebon, whose aim was to attract Latin American authors and expand the dissemination of the papers presented to an audience that is not restricted to Portuguese-speakers. More details justifying the choice of English are in the introductory article of the forum on page 10.*

*This thematic issue is completed with an essay that discusses aspects related to the Internet, democracy and civil society, with a book review that recalls the history of banking automation in Brazil and two lists of book recommendations: one on the value of networks in the twenty-first century, and other on social technologies.*

*Also highlighted in this issue is the editorial information, including the statistics of 2010, the list of the most active associate editors, the best reviewers and the most accessed articles of the year.*

*Enjoy the reading!*

**Eduardo Diniz**  
**Chief-editor**