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Ambient Assisted Living

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Preface

AAL is an initiative supported by the EU Commission through a Joint Programme aiming to enhance the quality of life of elderly people living in their own homes. Motivated by the growing aging population in the world (and specifically in Europe), this initiative pursues to guarantee the quality of life of elderly people by using information and communication technologies (ICT) accessible through simple and natural users' interactions.

Aspects like e-health, inclusion, mobility, risks prevention, frailty, fall detection and revention, among others, are in the research agenda of this area. In addition, industry should get involved in providing assistive products that address elderly people's needs, a big potential market which, in general, has good economic resources in the western world.

The International Workshop on Ambient Assisted Living (IWAAL), through its three editions, promotes knowledge sharing and collaboration among researchers in the AAL field. In this third edition, 30 papers were presented, grouped in the following sections: Mobile Solutions, Smart and Wireless Sensors, Applications for Cognitive Impairments, e-Health, Methodologies, Brain-Computer Interfaces, Frameworks and Platforms.

In addition this edition had active participation from Spanish associations and platforms for AAL. We appreciate very much their efforts in addressing aging problems like Alzheimer disease, dementia and other cognitive impairments. We want to remark that the work of these platforms, governmental agencies and relatives in the daily caring activities of elderly people is very valuable. The attendance of representatives from these collectives to the workshop was very fruitful and encouraged the creation of collaborative research consortiums in future AAL calls of the European Union.

Finally, we would like to thank to the IWANN organization for the opportunity of organizing a new edition of the IWAAL workshop with their conference.

June 2011

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