

## Special Issue

# The Application of Generative AI and Machine Learning in the Public Sector and Smart Cities

### Message from the Guest Editor

The generative AI revolution is advancing rapidly, with models now rivaling or surpassing human capabilities in various domains. Concurrently, cutting-edge technologies—including self-driving vehicles, drones, and humanoid robots—are poised to redefine urban living, logistics, and industrial operations. These innovations promise to reshape cities by enabling 24/7 on-demand mobility and delivering public services that are more equitable, transparent, and personalized. Such changes could mark one of the most significant shifts in urban design and public administration in centuries. Yet, the public sector often lags, missing key opportunities to adopt these technologies for more efficient and democratic governance. This Special Issue examines the ongoing transformation, while exploring future pathways for urban and policy planning. We welcome contributions that present real-world initiatives or visionary roadmaps, stimulating debate on the evolution of a 21st-century public sector. Topics include Gen AI chatbots, agent-based AI for public services, future mobility, AI urban infrastructure, governance of privacy and fairness, and citizen participation in AI-driven governance.

---

### Guest Editor

Dr. Esteve Almirall

Information Systems Department, ESADE Business School, Av. Pedralbes, 60-62, 08034 Barcelona, Spain

---

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

30 June 2026



## Applied Sciences

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 2.5  
CiteScore 5.5



[mdpi.com/si/258922](https://mdpi.com/si/258922)

*Applied Sciences*  
Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[applsci@mdpi.com](mailto:applsci@mdpi.com)

[mdpi.com/journal/](https://mdpi.com/journal/)

[applsci](https://mdpi.com/journal/applsci)





# Applied Sciences

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 2.5  
CiteScore 5.5



[mdpi.com/journal/  
applsci](https://mdpi.com/journal/applsci)



## About the Journal

### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

As the world of science becomes ever more specialized, researchers may lose themselves in the deep forest of the ever increasing number of subfields being created. This open access journal *Applied Sciences* has been started to link these subfields, so researchers can cut through the forest and see the surrounding, or quite distant fields and subfields to help develop his/her own research even further with the aid of this multi-dimensional network.

---

### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Giulio Nicola Cerullo  
Dipartimento di Fisica, Politecnico di Milano, Piazza L. da Vinci 32,  
20133 Milano, Italy

---

### Author Benefits

#### Open Access:

free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

#### High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), Ei Compendex, Inspec, Embase, CAPIus / SciFinder, and other databases.

#### Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Engineering, Multidisciplinary) / CiteScore - Q1 (General Engineering )