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**Electronic Government and Cyberdemocracy: the Degrees of Digital Democracy in Brazilian Capitals**

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The scope of the present study is analyze how the new technologies of information and communication have been used by the governments in Brazilian capitals to foment democratic participation, using Internet potentialities and the perception of the "degrees" of digital democracy. First of all, the research regarded a revision of literature, which involved the cyberdemocracy and e-government meanings, as well as their interactions with the conceptions of democracy. Then, during the second stage, the research focused on sites from Brazilian capitals. A questionnaire with closed questions was applied according to the purposes of the research and its results were analyzed by quantitative and qualitative methodologies. The partial results of the study were presented in three parts. First, a brief theoretical and conceptual picture was outlined, regarding the perspectives and functions of the electronic government and their different points of view, and also exploring the political potentialities represented by the new technologies of information and communication. After that, we applied the concept of "degrees of democratic participation" to the debate on digital democracy, using as theoretical reference the ideas of Pierre Levy, Manuel Castells, Wilson Gomes and André Lemos. Finally, as the result of empirical research, it was displayed the degrees of digital democracy in the capitals of Brazil, focusing on the use of the Internet for the municipal governments. It is possible to conclude that there are insufficient levels of participation. The new technologies are not opening opportunities for the participation of the citizens in public affairs. The low impact caused by websites hosted by Brazilian capitals results in no alteration of the traditional political practices.