

## **I. Pitas “AI and Computational Politics”**

**Abstract:** Computational Politics refers exactly to the use of Information Technologies (IT), notably Data Analytics, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and, to a lesser extent, Systems Theory (Cybernetics) in politics and Political Science. As this term is rather new and ill-defined, this lecture provides an overview of this discipline that lies at the crossroads of Political Science and Computer Science and Engineering. It consists of various sub-fields. The most advanced one is political data analytics, notably public opinion monitoring and political-economic data analysis. Once proper computational political models are built, they can be used in forecasting, e.g., political affiliation prediction and election result forecasting. Another important field is the study of political information propagation and computational propaganda, e.g., echo chambers, data activism, social bots and politics. This subfield is extremely important, as social media are at times hijacked to propagate hate speech, disinformation and a very conservative and/or populist political agenda. When it comes to political activism, social media and forms of e-enabled participation platforms can be very useful in fostering democratic participation. Finally, the effect of new IT and AI science and engineering on political structures, e.g., e-direct democracy, must be studied to adapt them to new social needs.

All the above issues are addressed in the third volume of the new 1050+ page book “Artificial Intelligence Science and Society”:

I.Pitas, “Artificial Intelligence Science and Society Part C: AI Science and Society“

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