

Dr Julia Glidden

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Dr Julia Glidden is General Manager, Global Government Industry for the IBM Corporation. An internationally recognised expert on Digital Government, Dr Glidden has direct responsibility for driving transformational change for IBM clients across the globe. She is currently serving as an expert advisor to the United Nations and as a member of the European Commission's expert working group on the new 2018/19 Horizon 2020 Programme.

An accomplished TedX speaker, Dr Glidden is regularly asked to speak around the world on emerging digital policy trends. She has advised central and local governments across the globe, including the United Kingdom, Belgium, Kazakhstan, the United Arab Emirates and the Kingdom of Bahrain on technology-driven innovation, and recently worked alongside the United Nations in India to develop a Digital Roadmap to deliver on Prime Minister Modi's Digital India agenda.

Dr Glidden has been actively involved in the European Commission's Smart City initiative since its launch in 2008, designing and delivering a range of pan-European projects focused on the use of Open Data and Cloud to engage citizens and make communities happier and healthier places to live. Her launch Smart City project EPIC created a cloud-based global marketplace for innovative city apps, whilst her flagship project Citadel-on-the-Move project helped over 140 cities across all six continents to open and use data to co-innovate with citizens. Her final project OpenTransportNet created a European network of innovation hubs to promote the use of Open Geo-Spatial Data to improve public policy decisions.

A Senior Research Fellow at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Julia has authored numerous articles on Digital Government, including a Council of Europe sponsored volume on eParticipation and a book chapter on Open Data & Smart Cities. Prior to joining IBM, she founded 21c Consultancy, a boutique innovation consultancy that advised governments around the world on technology disruption.

Dr Glidden previously served as Managing Director for Accenture eDemocracy Services where she wrote and delivered major IT proposals for countries ranging from the United Kingdom to the Philippines and as a Senior Vice President at the international communications firm Fleishman Hillard where she oversaw multi-million public affairs campaigns for clients including United Airlines and GE Capital.

Dr Glidden completed her D.Phil. in International Relations at Oxford University.