User-producer interaction in ICT. A State of the Art and future perspectives

by Martina Orci | Donato Iacobucci | Università Politecnica delle Marche | Università Politecnica delle Marche

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In recent years, a large body of literature has focused on the topic of digital transformation of firms. Most of the studies focus on the diffusion of digital technologies (ICT) and the factors affecting their adoption. Other studies analyse the spatial distribution of technology developers, mostly based on patents. However, there is a gap of papers analysing the interactions between users and producers of digital technologies. This issue is becoming more and more relevant in the EU as a result of the need to acquires strategic autonomy in the development of ICT and given the importance of spatial proximity between users and producers for the development and adoption of advanced technologies. The aim of this paper is to provide a state of the art overview of the theoretical and empirical literature about user-producer interactions in the development and adoption of digital technologies. The paper is based on a systematic literature review using the Scopus database. The paper highlights the theoretical and empirical gaps and suggests future research directions.