Preface

This book contains the proceedings of the Second International Workshop on Languages, Methodologies and Development Tools for Multi-agent Systems (LADS 2009), which took place during September 7–9, 2009 in Turin, Italy. As in its 2007 edition, this workshop was a part of MALLOW, a federation of workshops on Multi-Agent Logics, Languages, and Organizations.

The LADS 2009 workshop addressed both theoretical and practical issues related to developing and deploying multi-agent systems. It constituted a rich forum where leading researchers from both academia and industry could share their experiences on formal approaches, programming languages, methodologies, tools and techniques supporting the development and deployment of multi-agent systems. From a theoretical point of view, LADS 2009 aimed at addressing issues related to theories, methodologies, models and approaches that are needed to facilitate the development of multi-agent systems ensuring their predictability and verification. Formal declarative models and approaches have the potential of offering solutions for the specification and design of multi-agent systems. From a practical point of view, LADS 2009 aimed at stimulating research and discussion on how multi-agent system specifications and designs can be effectively implemented and tested.

This book is the result of a strict selection and review process. From 14 papers originally submitted to LADS 2009, and after 2 rounds of reviews, we selected 10 high-quality papers covering important topics related to multi-agent programming technology, such as: agent architectures, programming languages and methodologies, social interaction models, development tools and applications of multi-agent systems.

We would like to thank all authors, invited speakers, Programme Committee members and additional reviewers for their outstanding contribution to the success of LADS 2009. We would also like to thank all the sponsors. We are particularly grateful to Matteo Baldoni, Cristina Baroglio and Guido Boella as well as the MALLOW Organizing Committee for their technical support and for hosting LADS 2009.

March 2010

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