

## **Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) in the accountability practices of the Federal Institutes (FIs) of Minas Gerais**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The present study explores the relationship between information and communication technologies (ICTs) and accountability in federal institutes in Minas Gerais (FIs). The objective is to identify the main contributions of ICTs to the improvement of the accountability of federal institutes in Minas Gerais. The study adopts a qualitative approach and is classified as descriptive documentary research. To collect, analyze and interpret the data, the content analysis of Bardin (2011) is used. The literature indicates that ICTs can be a fundamental instrument to strengthen accountability practices. By making public information available in a transparent and accessible manner, ICTs allow stakeholders to track managers' actions and hold accountability accountable when necessary. The main results show that ICTs are used as mechanisms that facilitate or even take charge of such practices. The practice of transparency, in particular, makes use of these mechanisms, either through social networks in publicization and social interaction or through systems such as fala.BR, in addition to the institutional portals of the federal institutes themselves. The Access to Information Law (Law No. 12,527/2011) represents an important milestone in the promotion of public transparency in Brazil and significantly corroborates the findings. By guaranteeing access to public information in a broad and free manner, the law contributes to the strengthening of accountability and popular participation. It is concluded that ICTs play a fundamental role in promoting accountability. By enabling transparency, popular participation and accountability of managers, which contributes to the construction of a fairer and more democratic society. This brief provides an overview of the relationship between ICTs and accountability. It is important to emphasize that the issue is complex and requires in-depth studies that consider the different variables that influence accountability.

**Keywords:** ICTs, Transparency, Popular Participation, Accountability.

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