

## Elections in a Changing World — EMBs discuss technology

Under the auspice of the Venice Commission and organized by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Internal Affairs (BMI) the Election Management Bodies Meeting took place in Vienna on May 12th and 13th. Participants from 30 countries discussed important aspects and changes for elections with regards to the introduction of technology with academic experts and practitioners. The three main themes were:

1. The role and influence of modern technologies and social media on the work of election management bodies
2. The efficient execution of elections with transparent election processes and
3. The future of electronic vote casting

E-Voting.CC was kindly invited by the (BMI) to participate as an electronic vot-

ing expert and present the use of process modeling for the visualization of election processes. The importance of process modeling is the creation of an abstract model of the election reality, which provides tools for optimization of existing process and the development of new applications and instruments. Modernization of electoral processes requires sufficient planning ahead and process modeling is one important part of this, which E-Voting.CC provides to Election Management Bodies.

Read more @ <http://bit.ly/licJ9A>

Download an example of a process model of an election process (by E-Voting.CC): @ <http://bit.ly/IgW0Xb>

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### Genf votes with online voting

Genf, a canton in Switzerland, used Internet voting in its cantonal elections on May 15<sup>th</sup>. This time all citizens of the canton have been allowed to vote online. Normally, only 20% of the people entitled to vote are allowed to have access to online voting due to Swiss law. For the first time many people (240000 and 8000 abroad) are entitled to vote via Internet.

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### Welcome on Board to E-Voting.CC

**Ronald Strasik** joined the Competence Center team at the beginning of 2011 as a freelancer. A graduate of the George Washington University in Washington, DC, he holds a degree in Economics. Ronald has conducted research for the US Department of Commerce International Trade Administration and has previously worked in business development. Hailing from the Great State of Ohio, Ronald has been living in Austria for three years and still can't hear the difference between 'Ö' and 'U'.

**David Levine** joined E-Voting.CC in March, 2011 as a freelance election specialist and consultant. David is extending the scope of E-Voting.CC to the United States. Graduated in Political Science and Law, David has great experience in Election Administration and Election Observation and has already been working for the Election Assistance Commission and the DC Board of Elections in Washington, D.C. Currently he is based in Washington, D.C.

### Inside E-Voting.CC



Dear reader.

Welcome to our second issue of the Modern Democracy News for 2011. We provide you once again with the latest news and developments on electronic and internet voting as well as Modern Democracy. This edition features a short summary of the Election Management Bodies Meeting in Vienna in May 2011 and a quick look on the modernization of the 2010 Philippines elections; we are grateful for the support by former Commissioner Larrazabal. For a snapshot on the latest developments take a look at our increasing amount of Short News. I hope you enjoy this edition of the Modern Democracy News and I am happy to get your feedback.

Yours,  
Manuel J. Kripp  
(Managing Director E-Voting.CC)

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### Shortnews

#### Re-Vote: Call for Papers deadline extended

The deadline was extended to June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011. The Re-Vote (International Workshop on Requirements Engineering for Electronic Voting Systems) will be held on August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011 in Trento, Italy in conjunction with the 19<sup>th</sup> IEEE International Requirements Engineering Conference 2011. More info @ <http://bit.ly/h52y0k>

#### Internet voting in Maryland

In Takoma Park, Maryland voters have the opportunity to cast their vote online in the upcoming City elections in November, 2011. Find a detailed description of the Internet voting system @ <http://bit.ly/laHYYY>

#### South Africa thinks about E-Voting

The Independent Election Commission of South Africa thinks about introducing E-Voting for the general elections in 2014 for the 23 million registered voters. South Africa already uses an electronic registration system and electronic means for broadcasting results. Read the entire article @ <http://bit.ly/lkNEll>

## Meet the providers – IFES Buyer's guide published soon

In June, the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) will publish the newest edition of its Buyer's Guide to Election Suppliers. As an industry-specific resource, the directory features market news, information about procurement best practices and companies selling products and services used in all stages of the electoral process. For additional information and to download an electronic copy of the Buyer's Guide, visit [www.ifesbuyersguide.com](http://www.ifesbuyersguide.com)

## Advanced voting and electronic pollbooks affect turnout in DC special election

On April 26, 2011, Washington, DC (DC) held a special election for a city council seat and two school board positions. The unofficial results from the DC Board of Elections and Ethics (DCBOEE) indicated that only 9.48% of all eligible DC voters cast a ballot – 43,208 of 455,842 voters. The low turnout was unquestionably due in part to the fact that this was a special election with few offices at stake, but other factors appear to have played a role, the most important are:

1. Reduced Early Voting
2. No Electronic Pollbooks
3. Insufficient voter notice and information

In conclusion and though absentee and provisional votes have not yet been counted, a good case can be made that turnout for the Special Election would have increased had there been better notice, more opportunities to vote, and/or more efficient Election Day processes.

## Philippine's extraordinary voter education campaign

The Philippine Commission on Elections (Comelec) introduced an innovative voter education campaign in their elections in May, 2010. E-Voting.CC met Gregorio Larrazabal, a former Commissioner, and interviewed him about his experience and lessons learnt. When it comes to inform people about elections, the Comelec had to focus on the young people as the majority of the

voter population is between 18-35 years old. Therefore, they aimed to make voter education more "sexy" and interesting. The voter education campaign made the people aware of their obligation to vote and that voting can make difference.

Read more about the Philippine election and their voter education program in the next Modern Democracy Magazine!



## Upcoming Events, Conferences and Workshops

**ACEEEE** – Association of European Election Officials, June, 15<sup>th</sup>–18<sup>th</sup>, Budapest, Hungary. More info @ <http://bit.ly/ieq0hg>

**REVOTE 2011** – International Workshop on Requirements Engineering for Electronic Voting Systems, August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Trento, Italy. Read more @ <http://bit.ly/h52y0k>

**ICEGOV 2011** – 5th International Conference on Theory and Practice of Electronic Government, September 26<sup>th</sup>–28<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Tallinn (Estonia), <http://bit.ly/mKINRg>

**VoteID 2011** – 3rd international conference on E-Voting and Identity, 29<sup>th</sup>–30<sup>th</sup> September 2011, Tallinn, Estonia, <http://bit.ly/m2oFMu>

**EVT/WOTE 2011** – Electronic Voting Technology Workshop/Workshop on Trustworthy Elections August 8<sup>th</sup>–9<sup>th</sup>, 2011, San Francisco, CA. More info @ <http://bit.ly/lyvdFo>

**EGOV 2011** – tenth conference on electronic government, August 28<sup>th</sup>–September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011 Delft, Netherlands. <http://bit.ly/KTYVCZ>

### India exports E-Voting

According to the news, the Electronic Voting Machines (EVM) self-developed by Indian companies and used in India will be exported to Namibia. Discussions with further countries are currently undergoing @ <http://bit.ly/l1EWS8>

### E-Voting for Students in Ghana

According to Students of University of the Cape Coast, who used voting technologies in the last SCR (Student Council Resolution) elections, E-Voting systems can solve the perpetual problems of double E-Voting, manipulations and violence. More info @ <http://bit.ly/gYQIDT>

### Biometric E-registration in Ghana

The Election Commission receives support of the government in the introduction of biometric voter register, which should ensure credible elections. More info @ <http://bit.ly/gelmGJ>

### Pakistani petition for introduction of E-Voting

Pakistan wants to introduce E-Voting systems in all coming general elections to hinder fraud and manipulation, which used to happen in many elections. Read the entire article @ <http://bit.ly/ffBQmt>

### First use of E-Voting in an US municipal meeting

The residents of Wayland, Massachusetts, used electronic tally for the last Town Meeting. This was the first time in the USA that the votes were casted in secret in this kind of election. Normally, people vote by standing counts. The votes were counted within a minute. A permanent use of E-Voting will be discussed. Download the article @ <http://bit.ly/e30BCY>

### Swiss people living abroad want to vote online

700000 Swiss people live abroad, but just a few of them have the opportunity to vote online. The Council of the Swiss people abroad wants to introduce E-Voting for all of them in the elections 2015. Download the article @ <http://bit.ly/gLBUC4> (german only)

### EVM's carried by donkeys

India is a pioneer concerning E-Voting, but their infrastructure is not. Some areas are so isolated, that donkeys had to carry the voting machines on their backs to their destinations: <http://bit.ly/gj7rPS>

 [e-voting.cc](http://e-voting.cc)

