

## 2011 I-voting in Estonia

On March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011, the Estonian people will elect their Parliament (Riigikogu). It is the fifth election in Estonia, that will offer an Internet voting channel in advance. Voters can cast their votes in three different ways:

- 1) By paper ballot on election day, Sunday March 6<sup>th</sup>
- 2) By paper ballot in advance at selected polling stations between February 28<sup>th</sup> and March 2<sup>nd</sup>
- 3) Via Internet in advance between February 24<sup>th</sup> and March 2<sup>nd</sup>

There are two further voting options, one for people living abroad and a second for those on a ship on election day.

The Estonian I-Vote system is a self-developed solution that was first rolled out for the local elections in 2005. Since then, the number of votes cast online has continuously increased from 1 % to nearly 9.5 % of eligible voters. The share of online votes in comparison to the turnout is even higher, in 2005 1.9 % and 15.8 % in 2009.

The most interesting provisions about the Estonian Internet voting system include

the possibility to change your casted vote during the advance voting period as often as you like and the opportunity to overwrite your electronic vote with a paper vote on election day. This measurement has been established to diminish outside influence on the voter or family voting.

Furthermore, the system utilizes more than one identification mechanism to increase participation over the Internet, like the mobile-ID. The mobile-ID is rolled-out for the first time at the 2011 elections for a wide amount of voters and it will be interesting to compare its adoption with the already established mechanisms of the ID-Card and digital-ID.

Apart from that, it will be interesting to see, if the amount of internet votes will continue to rise and if this will correlate with a further increase in turnout.

More information on the Estonian internet voting system is available @ <http://bit.ly/dWV7m>

## Welcome on Board to E-Voting.CC

Maria Kellner

Maria joined the team of E-Voting.CC in February 2011. She will handle all communication activities. Maria received her Bachelor degree in communications at the University of Vienna. Prior to joining the E-Voting team, she interred at a marketing agency and at an opinion research center. We are happy to have Maria on board.

Yvonne Cunia

Yvonne also joined the team of E-Voting.CC in February 2011. She will work as a research assistant, enhancing our expertise and competence. Yvonne is finishing her Master's degree in Political Science and History. We are happy to have Yvonne on board as well.

Inside E-Voting.CC



Dear reader.

With this first newsletter of 2011, we would like to give a short overview of the most recent developments in the E-voting world

and provide you with a brief analysis of the upcoming elections in Estonia, which will be utilizing paper as well as an Internet voting channel. Estonia is one of the most cited reference project in Europe. Apart from that, the final decision of the European Parliament on the European Citizen Initiative (ECI) is interesting for us, E-Voters, as well.

Why? Take a look at page 2.

I hope, you enjoy reading this newsletter and we look forward to your feedback.

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

Shortnews

### India exports its EVM knowledge

The Indian Election Commission has sent a delegation to Pakistan as the Pakistani EC is considering using EVM's in their elections. Read the article @ <http://bit.ly/feyK99>

### Online voting heralded as more secure than paper ballots

After a security audit, Tarvin Martens, the system developer of electronic voting in Estonia, said that there are less threats in e-voting. Read the article @ <http://bit.ly/ewuEvy>

➤ More Shortnews on the next page

### Become a Partner

Join us in spreading the word about Electronic Voting and Modern Democracy and become a partner of this newsletter. Get more info and contact Maria @ [m.kellner@e-voting.cc](mailto:m.kellner@e-voting.cc)

## European Citizen Initiative finally adopted

On December 15<sup>th</sup> 2010, the European Parliament adopted the legislation on the European Citizen Initiative. Once adopted by the Council, the foundation allowing a European-wide electronic and paper initiative has been laid. The initiative gives the citizens of the European Union under certain circumstances and with several requirements the opportunity to influence the work agenda of the European Commission.

The key facts are:

- One million statements of support are necessary
- The signatories must come from at least one quarter of the Member States (currently seven)
- In each country there is a minimum number of collected statements, which correlates to the number of MEPs times 750
- The statements have to be collected within 12 months
- The statements can be cast by paper or electronically signed
- The data collected should be stored by the respective Member State

- The online statement collection system has to be provided by the organizers
- The European Commission will set up and maintain an open-source software
- All software used to collect the statements of support needs to be certified by Member States according to the provision of the regulation

The implementation will be a very challenging mission, especially for organizers to serve the requirements of certification and implementation in several member states as well as for the administrations when cross-checking the eligibility of European citizens to submit statements of support within a period of three months after the receipt of the statements.

You can download the regulation of the European Citizen Initiative @ <http://bit.ly/g3Bo0q>

If you would like more information regarding the ECI and the process to implement it, don't hesitate to contact us @ [office@e-voting.cc](mailto:office@e-voting.cc)

## Fifth Annual UOCAVA Summit

On February 10<sup>th</sup>, the Overseas Vote Foundation hosted the Fifth Annual Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act ("UOCAVA") Summit in Washington, D.C. Participants explored a broad range of topics, including the impact of the Military and Overseas Empowerment Act ("MOVE"), the lessons learned from MOVE and other election reform measures, the cybersecurity issues that exist with overseas and military voting, and subsequent steps that need to be taken to further assist overseas and military voters. Get more info @ <http://bit.ly/gyz1f>

## Upcoming Elections in 2011

- **Ireland:** General Election, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011.
- **Estonian** Parliamentary Elections, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011.
- **Swiss** Municipal Elections, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011.
- **New South Wales:** Parliamentary Elections, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011.
- **Turkish** Parliamentary Elections, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

## CEDEM- Registration deadline February 28th, 2011

The Conference for E-Democracy and Open Government will be held from May 5<sup>th</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup> in Krems, Austria. 28 papers have been selected. On the agenda are 5 key-note speeches and multiple workshops led by experts. The Conference brings together specialists from multiple disciplines of electronic democracy for an exchange of knowledge. Don't miss the registration deadline for Early Birds: <http://bit.ly/i99811>

Get more info @ <http://bit.ly/bcj07z>

## Shortnews

### Nigeria will use EVM's in elections in 2015

Nigeria has developed a system for biometric registration that will be ready for use in the general election in 2015.

Download the article @ <http://bit.ly/g0CMzj>

### Tajikistan will introduce an electronic voting system in 2015

The Central Commission for Elections and Referenda (CCER) of Tajikistan plans to use an electronic voting system in the parliamentary elections in 2015. A lack of finance could hinder the project. More info

@ <http://bit.ly/dPX1Cz>

### Electronic Voting in New South Wales

Disabled and blind people, as well as people who live outside the state, can vote online or via telephone in the elections in March.

Read the article @ <http://bit.ly/dSliAc>

### Symbolic Voting for Irish Emigrants

Irish emigrants who live abroad can now cast their symbolic vote in a shadow election via BallotBox.ie for the General Election. Before this implementation of this system Emigrants were not able to vote at all.

More info @ <http://bit.ly/dTfHB>



Upcoming Events,  
Conferences and Workshops

**CEDEM** – Conference on Electronic Democracy, May 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Krems, Austria. More info: <http://bit.ly/hBNWZJ>

**PhD Workshop**, May 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Krems, Austria. More info: <http://bit.ly/bjRry1>

**ACEEEO** – 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. More info: <http://bit.ly/h52y0k>

**Workshop hosted by polis and E-Voting.CC** "Electronic Democracy and electronic voting", April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Salzburg, Austria. More info (only German): <http://bit.ly/fhiiYV>

