



INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC &  
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# Improving the Transparency of Remote E-Voting

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# Elections Context

- Elections happen in a political, social, and technical context
- American experience is very different than the European one
- However, certain principles are the international: including transparency and auditing

# Trust in Elections

- Key issue in elections is trust and confidence.
  - Do we trust the outcome of the election?
  - Do we trust the voting technology?
    - American context
  - Do we trust the process by which the election was held?
    - British move to postal voting.

# Trust and Transparency

- Can we trust the process?
  - Observation
    - Does observation improve transparency?
  - Auditing
    - Can we produce a chain of custody for the election?

# E-Voting and P-Voting

- Threats to E-Voting and Paper-Voting Analogous
  - Security Risks
  - Transparency
  - Fraud Risks

# Potential Barriers

- Legal requirement for audit
- Barriers on time
- Biases in audit requirements
- Auditing chains of custody
- Responding to problems found

# Scope and Time Frame

- Auditing is comprehensive process.
  - Pre-election to post-election
  - Laws, processes, and procedures
  - Implementation
  - Post-election process
- Entire process should be transparent.
- Need third-party, independent observers.

# International Interests

- ACE Project and NGO Efforts
- OSCE Evaluation of Estonian Elections
- American Efforts Funded by the Pew Charitable Trust



# Estonian Survey

- What explains e-voting in Estonia?
  - Computing Knowledge
  - Frequency of Internet Use
  - Trust in the Procedure of Internet Voting
  - Trust in Politicians
  - Language (Estonian Fluency)

