E-voting in Slovenia: MP’s view

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E-voting efforts 1/2

• No normative grounding enabling e-voting;
• E-voting amendments to the National Assembly Act (2003);
• E-voting project council established in 2003:
  – The scheme of the study on e-voting
  – The study on feasibility of e-voting
• Three (out of 33) electoral procedures exist in electronic form.
E-voting efforts 2/2

• 2004: the new Government took over the power;
• The MIS and The GCI were abolished;
• E-voting project has sunk;
Some “e” facts

• Less than 10 % of Slovenian natural persons have digital certificates (2005);
• Research: 54 % of respondents would participate in the internet voting (2004);
• Among SLO internet users 28 % have higher education (2004);
• The biggest left-wing party has more voters with higher education than the biggest right-wing party (2004).
MP’s view: Presentation of the research

- **Goal**: to find out the MP’s position on e-democracy with the stress on remote e-voting.
- **Methodology**: a poll, sent by e-mail to all (90) MP.
- **29 polls received up to 6th March 2006:**

![Bar chart showing percentages of Right and Left in the parliament and the percentage of Right/Left answers.]

- 57% vs. 31% for the Right
- 41% vs. 35% for the Left

Legend:
- % of the Right/Left in the parliament
- % of Right/Left answers
Familiarity with other countries’ e-voting projects

• 66 % already heard something, but are not familiar with all the details;
• 14 % are regularly acquainted:
  – 13 % of the right-aligned members (strange, the Right has put on the drag the amended law enabling e-voting, the most.
• 10 % are acquainted only with USA’s and Estonia’s voting projects.
• 10 % not acquainted.
Attitude to the initiatives, proposals and questions mediated via e-mail

Do Slovenian representatives consider e-mediation equal to classical mediation of initiatives, proposals and questions?

- Yes: 48.3%
- Partly: 48.3%
- No: 3.4%
Frequency of initiatives, proposals and questions received via e-mail and treatment of them

- **66%** at least once a week
- **21%** at least once a month
- **10%** at least once in 6 months
- **0%** at least once a year
- **0%** less than once a year
- **3%** never

**The level of consideration**
- **85%** thoroughly study
- **11%** skim through
- **0%** don't read
- **4%** else

Interesting: 48% consider e-mediation only partly equal to classical
E-democracy and e-voting effects 1/6

- Citizens' e-participation influence on the quality of legislation and other decisions;
- E-voting effects on authority's legitimacy;
- E-voting effects on the turnout;
- E-voting effects on the movement in electoral body and
- The safety of e-voting.
E-democracy and e-voting effects 2/6

Citizens' e-participation influence on the quality of legislation and other decisions

![Graph showing the influence of e-participation on legislation and decisions with percentages for different categories: would not have at all, would not have, neither would nor would not have, would have, would have great influence. The graph includes data for All, Left-aligned %, and Right-aligned %.]
E-democracy and e-voting effects 3/6

'E-voting would contribute to a greater legitimacy of elected authority'.
E-democracy and e-voting effects 4/6

Higher polling participation
E-democracy and e-voting effects 5/6

E-voting effects on the movement in electoral body

![Bar chart showing percentages of responses to a question about e-voting effects on the movement in electoral body. The chart includes categories for completely disagree, disagree, neither agree nor disagree, agree, and completely agree. The percentages are shown for all respondents and for left-aligned and right-aligned respondents.](chart_image)
E-democracy and e-voting effects 6/6

‘E-voting is safe’.

E-voting is safe'

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>All</th>
<th>Left-aligned %</th>
<th>Right-aligned %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>completely disagree</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>disagree</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>neither agree nor disagree</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>agree</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>completely agree</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

0% 0% 0%
The reasons for Slovenia still not having the normative basis enabling e-voting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reasons</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>the fear of some parties</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>immature technology</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lacking means</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>other countries' bad experiences</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>else</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Savings?
E-voting threats

- violation of some basic election principles: secrecy, freedom and (re)check (66 %)
- exclusiveness of those, who don't use the internet and those, who are not educated enough to e-vote (52 %)
- system (collapse) (45 %)
- influence on voter's decision (31 %)
- manipulation by current ruling power (28 %)
- double voting (24 %)

13 % of right-aligned (current)
46 % of left-aligned
The future of e-voting project in SLO 1/2

‘On which levels do You support the implementation of e-voting?’

• Soon coming local elections.

`E-vote for anyone, but not for us.`
The future of e-voting project in SLO 2/2

‘When, in Your opinion, will Slovenia start with e-voting testing?’

![Bar chart showing opinions on start of e-voting testing in Slovenia]

- Before 2010:
  - All: 46%
  - Left-aligned %: 62%
  - Right-aligned %: 33%

- After 2010:
  - All: 54%
  - Left-aligned %: 38%
  - Right-aligned %: 67%
Conclusion

• We can not expect implementation of e-voting in the near future.

• Current ruling power is not in favour of e-voting.
Thank you for your attention!

Discussion