

COLLECTION OF QUESTIONNAIRES



**Fifth meeting to review developments in the field of e-voting
since the adoption of Recommendation Rec(2004)11
on legal, operational and technical standards for e-voting**

Castle Hofen, Lochau near Bregenz, Austria

Tuesday, 28 October 2014

Questionnaire - ARMENIA

1. Please briefly describe your country's past activities on e-voting

In the Republic of Armenia the electronic voting is exercised via Internet on the Website of the Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Armenia through the software providing electronic voting.

The electronic voting is only exercised for those voters who are on diplomatic service in diplomatic or consular representations of the Republic of Armenia, as well as members of their families, residing abroad with them, who will be out of the territory of Armenia on the voting day, at national elections have the right to vote electronically. The number of voters who voted electronically is 200.

2. Please briefly describe your country's upcoming efforts on e-voting

It is not excluded to consider using electronic voting for whole country, which will be possible only in case of political discussions after making amendments to the Electoral Code.

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Questionnaire - AUSTRIA

1. Please briefly describe your country's past activities on e-voting

- Within the framework of increasing e-government activities, Austria (mainly the Federal Ministry of the Interior as the competent EMB) has done research on e-voting solutions since the early 2000s and participated actively in the ad-hoc group of experts from 2003-2004 whose work lead to Rec(2004)11.
- In 2004, the Federal Ministry of the Interior set up an interdisciplinary working group looking into a possible future introduction of e-voting. The group's main findings are still valid.
- In 2009, internet voting was offered for the first and only time within the framework of the Austrian Federation of Students elections. In 2010, the Federal Minister of Science and Research decided not to continue the use of e-voting for the next students' elections.
- On 13 December 2011, the Austrian Constitutional Court suspended some provisions in the election regulation, which had been the basis of the 2009 Federation of Students elections and passed some general opinions on the use of future e-enabled voting systems.
- In 2013 the governmental parties presented a bill intending the introduction of a so-called "democracy package". The key elements include the creation of a new, centralized electronic voter register (accessible nation-wide) and the possible introduction of online participation in citizens' initiatives.

2. Please briefly describe your country's upcoming efforts on e-voting

- An amendment to the Federal Constitution (two-third majority in the National Council) would be necessary in order to introduce remote internet voting on the national, provincial, and municipal level. At the moment, no such parliamentary majority is given.
- Before introducing remote internet voting for political elections on the national, provincial, and municipal level, experiences should be gathered in other electoral events including elections of self-governmental bodies, associations, or interest groups.
- Legal provisions for e-voting are only laid down in two federal acts concerning the Austrian Federation of Students ("Österreichische Hochschülerinnen- und Hochschülerschaft") and the Austrian Chamber of Commerce ("Wirtschaftskammer"), respectively. Only the Federation of Students used internet voting so far (one time in 2009, afterwards discontinued).
- The "government package" of 2013, which includes the proposed creation of a new, centralized electronic voter register and the online participation in citizens' initiatives. will be discussed in a parliamentary experts' commission from late 2014 until 2015.

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Questionnaire - BELGIUM

1. Please briefly describe your country's past activities on e-voting

We have used the electronic voting systems since 1994 with a generalisation in Brussels Région (100% of the voters used an electronic voting system) since 1998.

We are changing the philosophy of the systems in 2012 with the opportunity for the voters to verify without any system their vote (All information is written on a barcode and with normal characters) For the elections of 2012 and 2014 100% of the voters used one of the two systems. We have some problems with the old voting system those who are used since 1994.

2. Please briefly describe your country's upcoming efforts on e-voting

With the problem of 2014 all efforts are now stopped. If Brussels Region will continue, it means that region and the local level (the commune) will have to find the budgets to change all the oldest systems for the new one.

There will be no efforts to vote with the internet in Belgium, but there is the beginning of a study to make it possible for the voter to follow his own vote until it will be totalised. Another possibility is to publish all the votes so that anybody can make his own totalisation of the entire voting system

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Questionnaire – CZECH REPUBLIC

1. Please briefly describe your country's past activities on e-voting

The regulation of e-voting is being discussed in a long term in the Czech Republic, whereas the main body responsible for e-voting is the Ministry of the Interior with cooperation of the Czech Statistical Office.

As of 2007, the Ministry of the Interior dealt with the issues of introducing e-voting on meetings with the Czech Statistical Office; it particularly focused on collecting the relevant information about e-voting especially from other European countries which have practical experience with its application (e.g. Switzerland, Estonia, the Netherlands, Great Britain, Spain, Austria).

On 7 April 2008, a Memorandum on co-operation in the preparation of the conception, testing and realisation of the e-voting system in the Czech Republic was signed (hereinafter referred to as „Memorandum“) by the Minister of the Interior and by the President of the Czech Statistical Office.

Based on the Memorandum a joint project team of experts on the field of electoral law, information technologies and their safety and from related sectors was put together. This team was nominated by the Minister of the Interior and by the President of the Czech Statistical Office; external consultants were co-opted as well.

The project team prepared the conceptual base of e-voting and defined the solution options of electronic elections in the Czech Republic, and consequently elaborated the Material concept of electronic elections in the Czech Republic, which was considered to be the conclusion of the first phase of the work on the preparation of e-voting in the Czech Republic.

The following second phase aimed on technical solution of the single steps necessary for the realisation of an electronic election.

Subsequently, revisions were made to the introduction of electronic voting in the Czech Republic.

On 17 October 2012 the Government of the Czech Republic issued after re-assessing the advantages and disadvantages of the introduction of electronic voting in the Czech Republic, particularly with regard to the state budget and negative experiences with the introduction of electronic voting abroad, a resolution which decided that the pilot project of electronic voting will not be implemented now, but that will be implemented steps of a technical nature, which would allow the introduction of electronic voting in the future.

2. Please briefly describe your country's upcoming efforts on e-voting

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Questionnaire - ESTONIA

1. Please briefly describe your country's past activities on e-voting

Internet voting has been used in Estonia for seven consecutive elections since 2005. Twice in parliamentary elections, three times in local elections and twice in EP elections. The percentage of I-voters among all voters has risen to 31% in 2014 EP elections.

2. Please briefly describe your country's upcoming efforts on e-voting

Internet voting shall be used in 2015 march parliamentary elections.

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Questionnaire - FINLAND

1. Please briefly describe your country's past activities on e-voting

In Finland an electronic voting pilot was implemented in connection with the municipal elections in 2008. In the pilot project the e-voting took place only at the polling stations. In January 2010 the Cabinet decided that in Finland development of e-voting at polling stations will not be continued for the time being.

In November 2013 the Ministry of Justice set up a working group to prepare a proposal on the introduction of a possibility of using Internet voting in elections and for electronic consultative municipal referenda.

In June 2014, the ministerial working group on public administration and regional development aligned Internet voting be introduced in consultative municipal referenda along with the other voting channels. The decision on the introduction of internet voting in general elections will be made later separately.

2. Please briefly describe your country's upcoming efforts on e-voting

The working group for Internet voting continues its work with the deadline at the end of January 2015. Next decisions concerning Internet voting will probably be made in the government negotiations after Parliamentary Elections in the Spring 2015.

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Questionnaire - GEORGIA

1. Please briefly describe your country's past activities on e-voting

Georgia is at the stage of researching the options for E-voting, thus the country does not have any experience of e-voting in practice, as it requires relevant legislative basis. Before the 2013 Presidential Elections Central Election Commission of Georgia has internally tested the programme of electronic counting of election results which implied the usage of the scanners for ballot papers to ensure the quick count of the results. The program was not tested during the elections as there was no legal basis.

2. Please briefly describe your country's upcoming efforts on e-voting

The CEC of Georgia plans to conduct mock electronic counting of election results for the next elections in case the legislative basis is ensured.

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Questionnaire - HUNGARY

1. Please briefly describe your country's past activities on e-voting

Hungary has a strong IT background for supporting election administration (all needed electoral registers are digitally maintained and the respective authorities are linked via intranet as well.) Based on these solid grounds there have been attempts in 2003 and 2007 to introduce "e-voting in a controlled environment" to facilitate casting votes abroad at embassies and consulates of Hungary. During these attempts scanner based and conventional PC based solutions have been evaluated, but never approved due to lack of political compromise.

Then, during the 2014 parliamentary elections, scanners have been introduced for processing incoming mail ballots. Although it was intended initially to accept the results compiled by the scanners as legally binding, for the sake of greater transparency and verifiability it has been decided that e-enabled processing should deliver only preliminary results, final ones shall be only based on manual re-count in the presence of domestic and foreign observers. This limited system has been implemented successfully.

2. Please briefly describe your country's upcoming efforts on e-voting

Depending on funding and parliamentary approval the scanners could be introduced for casting votes from abroad, revitalising the original concepts dating back to 2003. Chances for this however remain uncertain as of yet.

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Questionnaire – THE NETHERLANDS

2. Please briefly describe your country's past activities on e-voting

2006: Nearly 99% of the Dutch municipalities used voting machines. There was a real life experiment with internet voting for Dutch living abroad and there were even plans to introduce internet voting for the general electorate. A pressure group called 'We don't trust voting computers' requested attention for the disadvantages of the used voting equipment, showed on television how fast the most popular voting computer could be transformed into a chess computer and the public trust in e-voting swiftly faded away.

2008: The Dutch government abolished all e-voting initiatives. The election of the Dutch members of the European Parliament in 2009 are the first elections where the electorate had to use a red pencil and a ballot paper again.

2013: New proposal to introduce a vote printer and vote scanner.

2. Please briefly describe your country's upcoming efforts on e-voting

2014: Various approaches are under discussion:

- a. Experiment with a new type of ballot paper (that can be scanned and automatically counted)
- b. Research on the possibility and feasibility to use vote printers and vote counters in the electoral process.

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Questionnaire - LIECHTENSTEIN

1. Please briefly describe your country's past activities on e-voting

Apart from legal framework (the Government is entitled to run tests with interested communities, no community has shown interest so far) there have been no further advancements from Liechtenstein.

2. Please briefly describe your country's upcoming efforts on e-voting

The Government has so far not taken a position re. e-voting; currently we are gathering information on the subject.

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Questionnaire - LITHUANIA

1. Please briefly describe your country's past activities on e-voting

The e-voting issue is being considered in **Lithuania** for a long time, but the necessary legislation has not been adopted yet. According to the polls the majority of the population of Lithuania supports the legitimization of e-voting. E-voting is also supported by Lithuanian citizens residing abroad who face difficulties in expressing their opinion in the elections.

The Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania on 16 November, 2006 adopted a resolution approving the concept of e-voting in elections and referendums. This concept has formulated the basic principles of e-voting and Internet voting scheme. It also provided that the election laws of the municipal councils, Parliamentary elections, Presidential elections, European Parliament elections and referendums should be changed in order to legitimate the e-voting as an alternative voting method. The draft laws were submitted to the Parliament in January, 2008, December, 2009 and in June, 2010, but they were returned to the improvement. The last drafts with amendments were submitted to the Parliament in May, 2014.

It should be noted that unlike the proposed Recommendation Rec (2004) 11 on legal, operational and technical standards for e-voting (5-6 articles) of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe the Lithuanian draft laws are set in the way that voter can e-vote multiple times, but only the latest received vote will be valid. It is assumed that if the voter has the opportunity to change his vote one can avoid the bribery risk in e-voting.

Moreover, under the proposed Lithuanian regulation, the e-voting will not limit the right of the voters to vote on the election day in the polling station in traditional way. The electoral vote delivered online should not be counted if the same voter votes in a polling station.

It should be noted, that the Lithuanian authorities have not decided yet which vote delivered in advance – performed by regular mail or online – should be included as final. It will be highly appreciated if other member states could share their experience.

In Lithuania the secrecy of e-voting will be ensured by voter identification by the electronic signature, mobile electronic signature or electronic banking system. It should be noted that the electronic signature is installed in the citizens' personal identification cards.

Lithuania's position is that all actions in e-voting, including personal data encryption should be made in the personal computer. And only then encrypted information should be passed to the institution organizing the elections.

The e-voting in Lithuania will be organized and controlled by the Central Electoral Commission.

2. Please briefly describe your country's upcoming efforts on e-voting

Upcoming plans of Lithuania are to adopt changes in the laws that would legitimate e-voting. If the Parliament adopts the laws during this fall session, they will come into the force on 1 January, 2015.

The main reasons why Lithuania cannot legitimate e-voting: there is no consensus among the political parties and the lack of political will.

Finally, the implementation of e-voting in Lithuania will cost about 2 million Euros. The sum will be used to create the e-voting information system and for the information campaign.

The most realistic schedule to introduce the e-voting in Lithuania will be the end of 2016. Therefore, it seems that Lithuania will not be the last state of the EU introducing the e-voting.

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Questionnaire - SLOVENIA

1. Please briefly describe your country's past activities on e-voting

In Slovenia, electronic voting machines have been used in some of the polling stations in each election since 2006. In 2006 election law was amended with a provision, according to which disabled voters, who cannot fill a regular paper ballot, have a right to use voting machines or other equipment that allow them to vote independently and by secret ballot. In 2006 only 6 out of 3300 polling stations were equipped with such machines. These machines are designed to enable different kinds of disabled voters to vote independently and by secret ballot. They allow voting by touch screen, voting by voice, voting by joystick, etc. Machines have a large touch-screen monitor and a printer, which prints a ballot, which comes out of a printer in a sealed envelope. In 2008 about 20 polling stations were equipped with electronic voting machines, and since then about 30 polling stations use the machines.

Each voter disabled or not, can choose to vote on the machine. In 2014 Constitutional Court of Slovenia ruled that electronic machines for disabled voters are mandatory, but not in all the polling stations.

2. Please briefly describe your country's upcoming efforts on e-voting

Since around year 2000, several governments have promised the introduction of internet-based voting. Not much has been done so far.

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Questionnaire - SPAIN

1. Please briefly describe your country's past activities on e-voting

1. POLITICAL ELECTIONS.

Project: Internet voting pilot for Spanish Electors Abroad.

In 2011 the Organic Law on the General Electoral Regime (Ley Orgánica 5/1985, de 19 de junio, del Régimen Electoral General) was modified so that: the out of country voting procedure for the Spanish electors permanently living abroad (CERA) is no longer used at Local Elections, as it was before; and the Spanish electors permanently living abroad have now to apply to vote at every election (before the modification of the Law, they did not have to do so: they, ex officio, would receive by mail the electoral documentation without having to apply for it.) CERA electors may send their vote by mail or to hand it over at the Spanish Embassy or Consulate.

The 2011 legal modification had the aim to increase legal certainty of the OCV but one of the side effects of this modification was the decrease of OCV turnout (before the electoral Law modification the OCV turnout in Parliamentary Elections was 31% and after de modification it only reached a scarce 5%).

The Organic Law on the General Electoral Regime does not regulate e-voting, but Article 75, which establishes the OCV procedure, in its last paragraph, provides the following: "The Government, previous report of the Central Electoral Commission, may regulate the criteria and limit the cases this article is of application, as well as establish other procedures for the vote of the Spaniards living abroad in Countries where it is not possible to apply what it is established in this article." At present (2012) , the Ministry of the Interior¹ is evaluating the possibility of running a non-binding Internet voting pilot, not yet defined, as a means to put to the test a complementary remote Internet-voting procedure for those electors registered at the Electoral Census of the Spanish Electors permanently living abroad (CERA) in some countries.

2. NON POLITICAL ELECTIONS. 2010-2012

2.1 Congress of Deputies.

On May 21st 2012 the Board of the Congress of Deputies passed a resolution on the remote e-voting system (using an electronic signature supported by a digital certificate to enter the Congress Intranet) to be used by Congress members on sick leave or maternity/paternity leave

¹ <http://www.interior.gob.es/web/interior/informacion-electoral>

2.2 Police Board Elections. (Ministry of the Interior).

Royal Decree 555/2011, establishes an e-voting procedure for the Police Board elections.

2.3 Consejo Superior de Deportes- Sports Board- (Ministry of Culture, Education and Sports)

In 2007 a Ministerial Order, which included a reference to an Electronic voting system, was approved. Since then, Sporting Federations could borrow e-voting machines from the Consejo Superior de Deportes. In 2012, for the first time, a Sporting Federation, the Spanish Swimming Federation, has used the e-voting machines provided by the Consejo Superior de Deportes, as regulated in the Resolución de 29 de julio de 2008, del Consejo Superior de Deportes, por la que se desarrolla el procedimiento de voto electrónico previsto en la Orden ECI/3567/2007, de 4 de diciembre. This Resolución followed the standards included in the Rec(2004)11.

2.4 UNED (National Distance Education University).

Elections to the University Board (2010 and 2012) and Students' delegates Elections (2011) have taken place using e-voting systems.

2. Please briefly describe your country's upcoming efforts on e-voting

The project on Internet voting pilot for Spanish Electors living abroad, aforementioned, was not implemented.

E-voting is not in the political agenda.

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Questionnaire - SWEDEN

1. Please briefly describe your country's past activities on e-voting

Sweden has had no e-voting experiences for official elected assemblies or in referendums. There is at present no legal scope to carry out e-voting.

2. Please briefly describe your country's upcoming efforts on e-voting

In 2011 a parliamentparty-composed committee was set up with various task, one of which was to investigate the possibilities for Sweden to introduce e-voting. The result of the committee's work was presented in the spring of 2013 and it suggested e-voting to be tested in the 2018 general elections on the condition that a new expert committee first be set up to further inverstgate what this would entail from a legal, technical and operational perspective. This expert committee has not yet been formed, and no concrete timeline and content have been brought to table yet. A proposal for a committee directive was presented just before the shift of governments in September/October this year. We are at present waiting for a response from the new government if a new committee will be set up at all.

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Questionnaire - TURKEY

1. Please briefly describe your country's past activities on e-voting

Presidency of Supreme Election Council Of Republic Of Turkey realized an electronic election management system called ELECTION INFORMATICS SYSTEM-SECSIS in 2006. Since then in every election irrespective of its type, electoral boards in provincials and districts has successfully carried out their activities, except for the tallying and counting processes, related to electoral processes and workings via this system.

As for the current situation, Due to low perception and interest of implementation of e-voting on side of public and private institutions, political parties and the lack of constitutional amendments for e-voting inside country. Supreme Election Council has not taken a decision with regard to whether or not electronic voting method will be applied in elections carried out inside and outside the country. But in recent years, there has been a legal framework amendment related to out of country voter's could use the means of e-voting methods.

2. Please briefly describe your country's upcoming efforts on e-voting

On behalf of Supreme Election Council, We, I and two esteemed member of Council, will be attending the meeting to fully understand and to attain a necessary knowledge **on legal, operational and technical standards for e-voting. We do strongly believe that experiences gained and lesson learnt in the light of Rec(2004)11 throughout the 10 years will enable us to evaluate the hardships, hurdles and necessities of implementing e-voting methods in terms of technical, legal, operational standards and social aspects.**

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Questionnaire – UNITED KINGDOM

1. Please briefly describe your country's past activities on e-voting

Between 2000 and 2007, the UK Government encouraged local authorities in England to undertake electoral pilot schemes testing new methods of voting, including e-voting and electronic counting (e-counting). Various forms (and combinations) of e-voting were piloted, including:

- Remote e-voting, using the internet, touchtone telephones, text messaging and digital TV.
- E-voting at supervised locations.
- Electronic polling stations, enabling electors to vote at any polling station within the local authority area on polling day using networked laptops.

The Electoral Commission (a body independent from the UK Government) evaluated all of the pilot schemes since 2002, as required under the Representation of the People Act 2000. Our general conclusions were that e-counting has the potential to increase both the efficiency and accuracy of the counting process and that e-voting increased convenience for voters². However, we made a number of recommendations:

- Any future e-voting or e-counting projects needed to be based on more substantial testing of the security, reliability and transparency of proposed solutions, either through an accreditation and certification process, or a more detailed and thorough procurement process.
- Sufficient time must be allowed for the planning of e-voting and e-counting projects.
- No further e-voting or e-counting pilots should be undertaken until:
 - The UK Government has put in place a comprehensive electoral modernisation strategy, setting out how the wider use of technology in elections will ensure the achievement of transparency, public trust and cost effectiveness.
 - Individual electoral registration has been implemented in Great Britain.

In research published in 2003, the Commission found that there was significant demand for electronic voting. The research showed that more than half (55%) of English adults said that being offered e-voting in some form would encourage them to vote at the next local election. And the youngest group - 18-24 year olds - were most keen to try the new methods with three-quarters saying that e-voting would encourage them to participate.

Voting via the internet was seen as most likely to encourage participation (41%) followed by text messaging (33%), electronic kiosks (30%) and digital TV (26%).

² Commission pilot evaluation reports can be found on the Commission website:

http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/elections/modernising_elections

However, it is clear that a number of barriers to nationwide e-voting remain. In 2007, the Government ran a range of electoral modernisation pilots at the local elections, including e-voting. The Commission reported in May 2007³ on all the electoral pilot schemes and found that, whilst the pilots had, on the face of it, delivered successfully, there was an unnecessary high level of risk associated with all pilots and the levels of testing, security, reliability and quality assurance adopted were insufficient. There was a general lack of transparency around the technology and its use.

Feedback on the e-voting pilots found that the internet voting channel was particularly well accepted by those who used it, with 87% describing the internet voting process as easy. Approximately 73% of all those polled and 87% of those who used internet voting wanted to see the provision continued at some or all elections in the future.

Candidates and agents, however, raised a number of concerns regarding e-voting. The main issue was that the internet voting systems were not open to scrutiny and relied almost entirely on trust.

No pilot schemes were undertaken after 2007, although the UK Government did ask as part of a wider consultation on weekend voting in 2008 whether advance e-voting might be introduced as a complement to weekend voting. The Government published its conclusions in March 2010, acknowledging that people had concerns about security, transparency and cost-effectiveness of remote e-voting. They recommended that the area be kept under review.

Individual Electoral Registration

The recent introduction of Individual Electoral Registration (IER) has provided an opportunity for some progress to be made towards the modernisation of elements of the electoral system. Under IER it is now possible, for the first time, for electors to register to vote online.

So far, the early signs are that the operation of the online registration facility, which has now been used by nearly 2.4 million people and the feedback on the system itself from those that have used it, has been positive. As at 1 October 2014, the user satisfaction score provided by the Government Digital Service (GDS) stood at 93.3%, and over two thirds of users have completed their whole application online.

This is in no small part due to the generous timetable afforded to the transition process, and the clarity about the process for the full introduction of IER. This is a valuable lesson to be learnt by anyone considering significant changes to the electoral system. The clarity around outcomes, rather than the use of ad hoc pilots, provided a clear, single goal for everyone involved in the process. The time given to implement the change allowed for detailed planning and risk assessment before the process began, this giving a greater degree of confidence in the transition than if it had been rushed through while the implementation was still being designed.

2. Please briefly describe your country's upcoming efforts on e-voting

The Electoral Commission wants the Government to bring forward proposals for a comprehensive electoral modernisation strategy, setting out how the wider use of technology in elections will ensure the achievement of transparency, public trust and cost effectiveness. We have been calling, since 2007, upon both the current and previous Governments to conduct a comprehensive electoral

³http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/_data/assets/electoral_commission_pdf_file/0008/13220/Electronicvotingsummarypaper_27194-20114_ENSW.pdf

modernisation strategy and this remains a priority for the Commission; such an initiative is now both practical and timely. This strategy could draw upon the important ongoing work of the Law Commissions in reviewing election law, but also build upon the introduction of Individual Electoral Registration (IER).

The demographic and technological context for engagement and participation in elections is also rapidly changing – with lower registration levels and turnout among younger electors, and greater expectation that public services can be accessed online. The Commission recognises that those who administer elections have a responsibility to contribute to debates about how to ensure the UK's electoral processes remain relevant to today's electorate.

Through our Electoral Advisory Board of senior Returning Officers from across the UK we are reviewing opportunities to modernise electoral processes, and we are committed to working with the UK Government and others to develop policy and legislation that delivers elections fit for the 21st century.

The Commission believes that voter choice is important to encourage participation. However, the security of any proposal to introduce e-voting would need to be properly assessed before any decision is taken to introduce it. That doesn't mean that e-voting shouldn't be a part of any coherent modernisation strategy.

Any modernised electoral system needs to be more reflective of how society engages with a range of other public services, and e-voting should be part of that conversation. Electronic and other new ways of voting have the potential to increase participation in the democratic process, and may also improve the efficiency of the administration of elections.

The Commission's May 2007 report also highlighted the need, for any pilot schemes:

- to ensure that the security and reliability of the remote e-voting process is sufficient
- to increase the transparency of the solutions adopted to ensure continued stakeholder acceptance of the technology
- for a centrally managed accreditation and certification process to provide independent assurance of e-voting solutions and to enable local authorities to make an informed choice regarding the use of appropriate technology

The Council of Europe may also wish to look towards British Columbia, where Elections BC recently convened a panel to consider introducing internet voting⁴. The panel assessed the benefits and challenges of introducing e-voting, looking closely at lessons learnt from other jurisdictions. The panel reported their findings in February 2014. In it they concluded that Internet voting has the potential to provide some benefits, including increased accessibility and convenience for voters, but that other presumed benefits - such as increased turnout and lower cost - are not typically realised.

⁴ <http://www.internetvotingpanel.ca/docs/recommendations-report.pdf>