



Finland: recent advancements in the field of e-voting

In November 2013 the Ministry of Justice set up a working group to prepare a proposal on the introduction of a voting method based on e-services, i.e. internet voting, to be used along with the traditional voting methods.

During the spring 2014 the working group

- consulted several experts
- looked into some other countries' experiences of electronic voting
- organised a technical dialogue with eight companies participating in it



In its interim report of June 2014 the working group noted

- there are companies on the market that could deliver a functioning internet voting system
- none of the systems would be suitable as such to be used in Finnish elections or referenda
- the introduction of internet voting requires that several questions concerning the technical and functional details be further examined and solved



In June 2014, the ministerial working group on public administration and regional development aligned that

- work for the development of an internet voting system shall be continued
- internet voting be introduced in consultative municipal referenda along with the other voting methods
- the decision on the introduction of internet voting in general elections be made later separately



What next?

- The working group continues its work until 30 January 2015
- Next decisions concerning Internet voting will probably be made in the government negotiations after Parliamentary Elections in the Spring 2015