



i-Voting a European solution for citizens living abroad?

Online Roundtable on ZOOM - **POLITICAL LEVEL**

ABOUT THE EVENT

Millions of Eastern Europeans live and work abroad. Because of geographical reasons and few polling stations in the country of residence, their right to influence the democratic development of their home country through voting is denied. The project examines if internet voting could be a solution. We will debate the i-Voting system and its functionality to the public and stakeholders from East and Central Europe, using the key findings from research in Moldova and Romania.

EVENT SCHEDULE

4 June 2020

10:00 – 12:30 EEST (UTC+3) Bucharest | Tallinn | Chisinau | Sofia

10:00-10:10 Opening and Presentation

Daniel Kaddik, Executive Director at European Liberal Forum

Raimar Wagner, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom, Romania and Republic of Moldova

10:10-10:25 **General principles of i-Voting:** current state of affairs regarding internet voting; voting systems in the world, various models including failed ones; comparisons across countries and electoral systems.

Victor Guzun, Expert on e-transformation and public administration reform at LID Moldova, Visiting Lecturer at Tallinn University of Technology, Former Ambassador of Republic of Moldova to Estonia.

10:25-10:55 **Estonian electoral model and IFES perspective on i-Voting**

Keynote speakers:

Taavi Rõivas, Former Prime-Minister of Estonia.

Liisa Past, Election Technology Expert, Nominated by IFES.

10:50-11:40 **State of affairs on i-Voting from a political point of view:** situation in Bulgaria, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Moldova, Netherlands, Romania, Spain, Ukraine and other European countries presented by liberal MPs and MEPs.

11:40-12:30 **Roundtable discussions** and Q&A Session.

Working language will be English.



RATIONALE OF THE PROJECT

Hundreds of thousands of citizens could have exercised their democratic right to vote abroad if in their home countries modern solutions were implemented by responsible governments. All countries face similar problems when speaking about elections and electoral rights of their citizens. They have large communities living abroad with a limited possibility to exercise their electoral rights. The number of polling stations opened abroad by Election Committees is critically insufficient. The costs are very high due to large distances to reach the polling stations, the queues are very long and consequently, citizens cannot exercise their basic right to elect their representatives. Recent elections for the EU Parliament in Romania and parliamentary elections in Moldova fully proved this. A rapid, working and elegant solution to this problem is the adoption of i-Voting system, similar to Estonian model. This mechanism is making the voting exercise much easier, transparent, accountable and widespread.

COOPERATING PARTNERS

Liberal Institute for Political Analyses ([LIPA](#)) [Bulgaria](#)
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