

The use of digital in elections internationally

- 1 14 countries have used internet voting for binding political elections or referendums, but Estonia is the only one to have introduced permanent national internet voting. It has an advanced system for verifying citizens' identity online, but there have been concerns about the security of its system; these concerns were outlined in an independent report published on 12 May 2014 which called for internet voting to be halted as concerns were so high. The United Arab Emirates use internet voting from polling stations.
- 2 In New South Wales, Australia, the strategy of the electoral commission has been to recognise that there is not yet a "secure and reliable electronic voting system which removes all the known risks". It is building confidence in online voting by putting checks and balances in place and starting with a manageable segment of the electorate—people with disabilities (300,000 voters with visual impairments using 29 machines) and those who live a long way from a polling station. Military personnel serving overseas are able to use internet voting via the Defence Restricted Network.
- 3 Those who use also internet voting for certain geographical parts or groups are: Canada since 2003 as well as e-counting, France since 2003 for French citizens living in the USA to elect representatives to the Assembly of French Citizens Abroad) Mexico since 2012 and Switzerland since 2003 for expatriates living abroad.
- 4 Some countries have ongoing pilots, such as India which commenced in 2010 and Norway in 2011. In Norway, voter turnout has not increased and concerns regarding safety have been raised.

E-voting pilots

- 5 Ireland purchased 7,000 machines for a €40m pilot. The pilot led to public dissatisfaction regarding security and fraud and the pilot was stopped at a cost of €54.6m including €3m for storage of the hardware.
- 6 Romania piloted internet voting on a limited basis for overseas troops but concerns were raised when the machines were bought and deployed within a period of 30 days.
- 7 Countries who have piloted internet voting but decided not to continue are Finland, the USA and the UK (excluding GLA elections). Countries which adopted internet voting and then decided to discontinue its use are the Netherlands and Spain 2003.

