



A CONSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR INTERNET VOTING PROJECTS

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I – The audit problem in e/i-voting systems.

II – Audit measures.

III – Social approach

I – THE AUDIT PROBLEM (i)

- Technical / Legal / Social issues.
- Importance of legal questions: freedom, equality, secrecy, anonymity, **auditability**.
- but ... sometimes social data are more important. Maybe in this case.

II – THE AUDIT PROBLEM (ii)

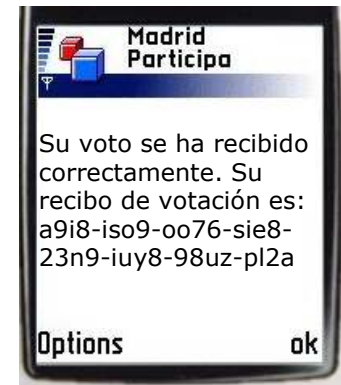
- Traditional system → opaque envelopes + transparent urns + public tally → EASY CITIZEN CONTROL (individual and universal)
- Electronic vote → technicians role → citizen verification?

II – AUDIT MEASURES

- Possible individual & universal voting verification → 1 - **Paper Trail**
- Balancing measures:
 - 2 – **Independent audits**
 - 3 – **Electoral Boards**
- Other solutions: the social approach

1 – PAPER TRAIL

- great debate (USA, Ireland, Argentina, etc.)
- e-voting → Venezuela
 - Smartmatic
 - random sample → no individual & universal verification, but acceptable results if carried out well.
- i-voting → Barcelona Engineering Association (CETIB):
 - Scytl
 - Alphanumeric receipt → it is not actually a paper trail because the technicians role remains high.
 - it only proves that the Electoral Board receives the vote, but not its inclusion in the tally



2 – *INDEPENDENT AUDITS*

- Is it really feasible?
- It is carried out by technicians, not by the citizens themselves.
- Only acceptable if there is a full disclosure of the technical data, but it can never provide the same credibility of the traditional tally.

III – SOCIAL APPROACH (a)

- Why some countries use to accept weak legal electoral controls?
 - mail vote [Switzerland, Spain (without identification)]
 - no compulsory voting booths (Spain)

3 – SOCIAL APPROACH (b)

- Their **political and electoral cultures** (history, relationships among parties and citizens, existence of other social controls) prefer not to include some common electoral rules.
- No major problems, no claims.

3 – SOCIAL APPROACH (c)

i-voting:

- always generates a decreasing citizen control over the electoral process, but
- this bad outcome could be accepted **in some countries** with a specific electoral culture if this new voting channel is able to solve other problems (turnout, disabled people, absentee).



THANK YOU!!

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