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"BALLOT PAPERS: WHY IS IT NECESSARY TO CHANGE THEM?"



PURPOSE OF THE CHANGE

- Determining Actions When Your Sole Supplier Is No Longer Available.
- Considering the geopolitical situation and its associated risks.



THE NEED TO MANAGE RISKS

- Transitioning to a Unified Platform
- Change from individual modules to a unified platform.
- Implement a direct voter registration system.
- Shift from relying on a single supplier to a government agency, consolidating all digital solutions in one place.



VOTING PROCESS

- Voting Process at the Polling Station
- Personal ID is scanned upon entering the polling station.
- The ID is double-checked and signed at reception.
- Each voter receives ballot papers for all political parties.
- The voter chooses one ballot paper (representing one party).
- The ballot paper is placed in a pre-stamped envelope.
- The voter drops the envelope into the ballot box.



MARKING BALLOT PAPERS

Support for a candidate: A plus sign

(+) must be placed next to the
candidate's name.

Dislike for a candidate: If you want to

express dislike for a candidate, their
name should be crossed out.

Neutral mark: If you do not want to

express an opinion about a candidate, you can leave the mark unchanged.

BALSOŠANAS KĀRTĪBA





BALLOT PAPERS

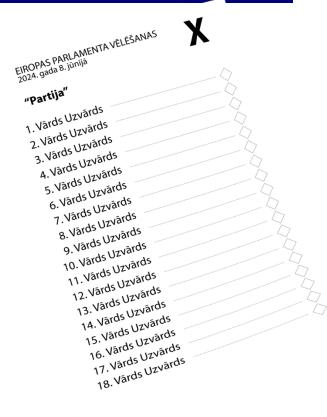
- Challenges in the Electoral Process
- In force since the restoration of the Latvian state;
- Inaccuracies in reading special marks (for and against) when scanners are used for counting ballot papers;
- There is still confusion when filling out election ballot papers.
- There are opportunities for interpretation by election station staff.

EIROPAS PARLAMENTA VĒLĒŠANAS 2024. gada 8. jūnijā "Partija" 1. Vārds Uzvārds 2. Vārds Uzvārds 3. Vārds Uzvārds 4. Vārds Uzvārds 5. Vārds Uzvārds 6. Vārds Uzvārds 7. Vārds Uzvārds 8. Vārds Uzvārds 9. Vārds Uzvārds 10. Várds Uzvárds 11. Vārds Uzvārds 12. Vārds Uzvārds 13. Vārds Uzvārds 14. Vārds Uzvārds 15. Vārds Uzvārds 16. Vārds Uzvārds 17. Vārds Uzvārds 18. Vārds Uzvārds



BALLOT PAPERS

- Issues with Electronic Vote Counting
- Difficulty in accurately applying electronic vote counting using scanners.
- The scanner interprets crease locations as strikethroughs.
- Frequent errors occur in scanning results.
- The auditor acknowledges that this method is not safe, especially considering the geopolitical risks.





CONCLUSION. OUT WITH THE OLD

The focus group results show that instead of strikes, negative marks are often drawn in the boxes.

EIROPAS PARLAMENTA VĒLĒŠANAS 2024. gada 8. jūnijā "Partija" 1. Vārds Uzvārds 2. Vārds Uzvārds 3. Vārds Uzvārds 4. Vārds Uzvārds 5. Vārds Uzvārds 6. Vārds Uzvārds 7. Vārds Uzvārds 8. Vārds Uzvārds 9. Vārds Uzvārds 10. Vārds Uzvārds 11. Vārds Uzvārds 12. Vārds Uzvārds 13. Vārds Uzvārds 14. Vārds Uzvārds 15. Vārds Uzvārds 16. Vārds Uzvārds 17. Vārds Uzvārds 18. Vārds Uzvārds



NEXT STEPS

- Full Audit of All Systems
- **Conclusion:** The current systems are inefficient and riddled with risks, making it challenging to salvage the existing modules.



WAY FORWARD

- Effective Risk Management Across All Areas
- Change of Ownership: Transitioning from Private to Government.
- IT Solutions for All Types of Voting and Public Engagement.
- New, More User-Friendly, and Accurate Ballot Papers.



NEW SOLUTIONS

- User-Friendly Ballot Paper Layout
- Two columns for marking "For" and "Against."
- Introduction of colours for easy visibility.
- No specific requirements for making marks in the columns.



THE NEW AND IMPROVED





MARKING BALLOT PAPERS



Vēlēšanu zīmē var:



Aizkrāsot aplīti zaļajā lauciņā kandidātiem, kurus **īpaši atbalsti**



Aizkrāsot aplīti sarkanajā lauciņā kandidātiem, kurus **neatbalsti**

Atstāt vēlēšanu zīmi negrozītu



Centrālā vēlēšanu komisija



NEW VOTING SYSTEMS IN PLACE

- Municipal Elections: June 2025
- Parliamentary Elections: October 2026





