

International Congress Technology and Elections (Expo ICT)

Presentation

The Federal Electoral Institute (IFE) is organizing the International Congress on Technology and Elections, in order to know the different alternatives for information and communication technologies (ICTs) that have been implemented in Mexico and other parts of the world, for the development of the electoral process, from the preparation to election day, and then the election results stage.

The topics discussed during the Congress should provide sufficient information for the IFE, citizenship, political actors and the public to be able to analyze the benefits and implications of the use of ICTs in electoral processes from four different dimensions: technological, legal, political and cultural.

The comparison between different international and national experiences on the subject, will serve as input for informed decision-making on the implications of the use of ICTs in any electoral process. The Congress will be open to those who want to know and propose technological solutions to improve our electoral processes considering various opinions and perspectives, as public and private companies, regulators, scholars, national and international electoral authorities.

The topics will be discussed in eight workgroups. Each subject addresses a goal and a question to be answered.

ICT can offer advantages to give speed and greater certainty to the complex procedures involved in modern elections. Therefore, the Congress will have an exclusive area for specialized institutions and companies to present and showcase their technology. This way, everyone will have a comprehensive view of the performance, not only of the performance of technological solutions, but also of the scope of their implementation and results in specific cases.

Workgroups

Session 1. Voting modalities: in-person (electronic voting machine) and remote (Internet). National experiences

Objective:

To get to know the legal and technological experience of those local electoral authorities who have implemented electronic voting with binding effects.

Thematic content that may answer the following question: what is the scenario of the use of technology for voting in Mexican elections?

- Sharing the experience concerning the legal changes and technological development processes of those local electoral authorities who have implemented electronic voting in their elections.
- Determine the level of citizenship acceptance for technology in elections.

Authorities to be invited:

- **Carlos Arredondo Sibaja**, Councilor of the Electoral and Civic Participation Institute of Coahuila
- **Mauricio Rodríguez Alonso**, Electoral Councilor of the Electoral Institute of Mexico City
- **José Tomás Figueroa Padilla**, President Councilor of the Electoral and Civic Participation Institute of Jalisco

Session 2. Data Transmission on Election Day

Objective:

To get to know the technological solutions that other authorities have use to convey information during the electoral process, especially during the day of the election, and to speed up the registration of results after polls close on Election Day.

Thematic content that may answer the following question: how can data transmission be sped up during elections, thus building confidence in the use of technology?

- Identifying the experience of electoral authorities that have implemented technology solutions to facilitate information transference during Election Day.

- Identifying whether the electoral authorities have mechanisms for the transmission of results, other than those used in federal elections in Mexico, and how these could be implemented in our country.
- Knowing the state-of-the-art on the characteristics of speed, amounts of information, security and cost of data transmission technologies that could streamline the management of information and be used during Election Day.

Authorities to be invited:

- **Ana Cristina López López**, Chief of the Electoral Cooperation Unit, Ministry of Interior of Spain
- **Esteban Erick Carillo Werring**, Director of Information and Telecommunication Systems of the Electoral Institute of Guanajuato
- **Erasmó Pinilla Castillero**, Presiding Judge of the Electoral Tribunal of Panama
- **Rosario Graciano de los Santos**, Central Electoral Board of Dominican Republic

Session 3. Technological Solutions for Oversighting

Objective:

To get to know the existing international options in ICT as to accountability and management of information related to the financing of political parties.

Thematic content that may answer the following question: How can accountability processes be improved to become more efficient?

- Getting to know the technological solutions there are in other countries to manage information related to political parties' expenditures during political campaigns.
- Getting to know the ICTs that exist in the market for accountability processes in the world.
- Identifying the areas of opportunity found in the Mexican accountability system, from an international perspective.

Experts to be invited:

- **Ernesto Morales**, International Expert
- **Jean Suoto**, ScytI Innovating Democracy's expert
- **Mauricio Merino Huerta**, Expert in the Mexican Electoral System
- **Alfredo Figueroa Hernández**, Electoral Councilor of the Federal Electoral

Session 4. Risks and challenges of electronic voting

Objective:

To get to know the experiences that led some countries to stop implementing electronic voting and return to the traditional form of voting.

Thematic content that may answer the following questions: why did the electoral authorities adopt electronic voting? and why did they decide to return to traditional voting?

- Sharing the electoral authorities of other countries' experience that led them to decide not to implement electronic voting any longer.
- Identifying the type of issues faced when using technology in elections, regarding public trust.
- Getting to know the most frequent and common vulnerabilities that can affect both electronic urns and communication in the transmission of results.
- Identifying experiences where the ICT security was breached and the results obtained.

Authorities to be invited:

- **Sebastian Seedorf**, Electoral Expert of the Ministry of Interior of Germany
- **Melle Bakker**, Secretary-Director of the Electoral Council of Holland
- **Robert Krimmer**, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights
- **Rui Santos Simoes**, Smartmatic Expert

Session 5. Technology applied to overseas voting

Objective:

- To ponder the feasibility of using biometric voter lists for Election Day, analysing the risks for voting secrecy and the security opportunities for the identity of citizens who go to vote. Also to know the technological solutions, which have facilitated citizens living in other countries to participate in elections.

Thematic content that may answer the following questions: what are the advantages and disadvantages of using electronic electoral rolls for the biometric identification of voters?

- Getting to know the development of the technology that specializes in biometric identification for Election Day.
- Getting to know the experience of countries that have used electronic electoral rolls via biometric registration.
- Identifying technological options to encourage and facilitate the participation of Mexicans living abroad.

Authorities to be invited:

- **Wilfredo Ovando Rojas**, Vice-President of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal of Bolivia
- **Carlos Ariel Sánchez Torres**, Director of the National Registry of the Civil State of Colombia
- **Gerardo de Icaza Hernández**, Partner/ Director of International Affairs, Democracy Building International (DBI)
- **Francisco Guerrero Aguirre**, Electoral Councilor of the Federal Electoral

Session 6. Acceptance and ICT coverage in Mexico

Objective:

- To determine the level of coverage and use of different technological solutions throughout the country, and the degree of acceptance and trust that their use can generate, in order to identify institutional policies to be implemented without affecting public trust.

Thematic content that may answer the following question: how wide is the coverage and how are ICTs used all throughout Mexico?

- Sharing historical results on the progress of ICTs use in Mexico, contrasting this with developed countries.
- Introducing infiltration or coverage of different technologies throughout the country.
- Identifying areas of opportunity to implement changes which involve the use of ICTs.

Expert to be invited:

- **Mr. Eduardo Sojo Garza-Aldape**, President of the National Institute of Statistics and Geography

Session 7. Electronic voting. Successful international experiences

Objective:

To get to know the procedures and the successful experiences on electronic voting methods in other countries, and the levels of acceptance and trust generated among citizens to use technology in electoral processes.

Thematic content that may answer the following question: how can technology help to have better electoral processes?

- Sharing the experience of electoral authorities of other countries that have implemented electronic voting in their elections.
- Understanding the issues they have faced when using technology in elections regarding public trust.
- Identifying the steps they followed to implement the use of technology, security policies, and the response of voters.
- Identifying the types of computer audit that should be taken for the ICT to be used in elections, both software and hardware.

Authorities to be invited:

- **Nasim Zaidi**, Electoral Commissioner of India
- **Epp Maaten**, Director of the Electronic Voting Committee of Estonia
- **José Thompson**, Executive Director of the Inter- American Institute of Human Rights (IIDH)

Session 8. Legislative perspective on the incorporation of ICT in federal elections in Mexico

Objective:

To get to know the perspective of political parties on the use of ICTs in electoral processes in Mexico.

Thematic content that may answer the following question: are we ready for a reform on the use of technology in voting?

- Getting to know the position of the political parties as to the implementation of electronic voting.
- Getting to know the position of the political parties as to the implementation of internet voting for Mexicans living abroad.
- Identifying whether it is feasible to have a reform that would allow for pilot testing with binding effects for the next federal election.

Legislators to be invited:

- **Miguel Ángel Chico Herrera**, Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI)'s Senator
- **Javier Corral Jurado**, National Action Party (PAN)'s Senator
- **Armando Ríos Piter**, Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD)'s Senator
- **Carlos Puente Salas**, Ecologist Green Party of Mexico (PVEM)'s Senator
- **Manuel Bartlett Diaz**, Work Party (PT)'s Senator
- **Dante Delgado Rannauro**, National Coordinator of Citizen's Movement Party (Movimiento Ciudadano)
- **Luis Castro Obregón**, National President of New Alliance Party

Programme

Thursday, September 19th.

From	To	Session	Guests
8:15	9:00	Registration of attendees	Ms. María Marván Laborde Electoral Councilor of the Federal Electoral Institute
09:00	9:50	Opening ceremony	Mr. Leonardo Valdés Zurita President Councilor of the Federal Electoral Institute
10:00	11:20	Session 1. Voting modalities: in-person and remote. National experiences	<p>Mr. Carlos Arredondo Sibaja Councilor of the Electoral and Civic Participation Institute of Coahuila</p> <p>Mr. Mauricio Rodríguez Alonso Electoral Councilor of the Electoral Institute of Mexico City</p> <p>Mr. José Tomás Figueroa Padilla President Councilor of the Electoral and Civic Participation Institute of Jalisco</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. María Macarita Elizondo, Electoral Councilor of the Federal Electoral Institute</p>

11:30 13:10 Session 2.
Data Transmission on Election Day

Ms. Ana Cristina López López
Chief of the Electoral Cooperation Unit, Ministry of Interior of Spain

Mr. Esteban Erick Carillo Werring
Director of Information and Telecommunication Systems of the Electoral Institute of Guanajuato

Mr. Erasmo Pinilla Castellero
Presiding Judge of the Electoral Tribunal of Panama

Ms. Rosario Graciano de los Santos
Central Electoral Board of Dominican Republic (TBC)

Moderator: Mr. Miguel Ángel Solís Rivas, Executive Director of Electoral Organization of the Federal Electoral Institute

13:20 15:00 Session 3
Technological Solutions for Oversighting

Mr. Ernesto Morales
International Expert

Mr. Jean Suoto
ScytI Innovating Democracy's expert

Mr. Mauricio Merino Huerta
Expert in the Mexican Electoral System

Mr. Alfredo Figueroa Hernández
Electoral Councilor of the Federal Electoral Institute

Moderator. Mr. Benito Nacif Hernández , Electoral Councilor of the Federal Electoral Institute

15:00 16:00 Lunch

16:00 17:40 Session 4.
Risks and challenges of
electronic voting

Mr. Sebastian Seedorf

Electoral Expert of the Ministry of Interior of
Germany

Mr. Melle Bakker,

Secretary-Director of the Electoral Council of
Holland

Mr. Robert Krimmer

OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human
Rights

Mr. Rui Santos Simoes

Smartmatic Expert

Moderator: Ms. María Marván Laborde , Electoral
Councilor of the Federal Electoral Institute

17:50 19:10 Session 5
Technology applied to overseas
voting

Mr. Carlos Ariel Sánchez Torres

Director of the National Registry of the Civil State of
Colombia

Mr. Wilfredo Ovando Rojas

Vice-President of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal of
Bolivia

Mr. Gerardo de Icaza Hernández

Partner/ Director of International Affairs
Democracy Building International (DBI)

Mr. Francisco Guerrero Aguirre

Electoral Councilor of the Federal Electoral Institute

Moderator: Mr. Ciro Murayama Rendón, Belisario
Domínguez Institute

19:20 - Cocktail in the showroom

Friday, September 20th.

From	To	Session	Guests
08:30	9:50	Coffee break in the showroom	
10:00	10:50	Session 6. Acceptance and ICT coverage in Mexico	Mr. Eduardo Sojo Garza-Aldape President of the National Institute of Statistics and Geography
11:00	14:40	Session 7. Electronic voting. Successful international experiences	<p>Mr. Nasim Zaidi Electoral Commissioner of India</p> <p>Ms. Epp Maaten Director of the Electronic Voting Committee of Estonia</p> <p>Mr. José Thompson Executive Director of the Interamerican Institute of Human Rights</p> <p>Moderator: Manuel Carrillo Poblano, Chief of International Affairs Unit, of the Federal Electoral Institute</p> <p>Mr. Miguel Ángel Chico Herrera Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI)'s Senator</p> <p>Mr. Javier Corral Jurado National Action Party (PAN)'s Senator</p>
12:50	15:00	Session 8. Legislative perspective on the incorporation of ICT in federal elections in Mexico	<p>Mr. Armando Ríos Piter Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD)'s Senator</p> <p>Mr. Carlos Puente Salas Ecologist Green Party of Mexico (PVEM)'s Senator</p> <p>Mr. Manuel Bartlett Díaz Work Party (PT)'s Senator</p>

Mr. Dante Delgado Rannauro

National Coordinator of Citizen's Movement Party (Movimiento Ciudadano)

Mr. Luis Castro Obregón

National President of New Alliance Party

Moderator: Mr. Marco A. Baños Martínez , Electoral Councilor of the Federal Electoral Institute

Presentations on the development of technological solutions applied to electoral processes

Objective:

To get to know the development on technological solutions made by companies in Mexico and around the world, to apply to electoral processes, during which the invited companies can:

- Sharing technological solutions which could be implemented in Mexico.
- Knowing the problems and risks they have faced by using technologies in elections.
- Knowing the options for the development of application for mobile devices, which facilitate the location of voting places, transmission of information during Election Day and of results.

Invited companies (TBC):

Thursday, September 19th		Friday, September 20th	
Hours	Company / Institution	Hours	Company / Institution
10:00 to 10:40	Smartmatic	10:00 to 10:40	IEPC Coahuila
11:00 to 11:40	IEPC Jalisco	11:00 to 11:40	ScytI
12:00 to 12:40	Central Electoral Board, Dominican Republic	12:00 to 12:40	National Registry of the Civil State of Colombia
13:00 to 13:40	Electoral Institute of Federal District	13:00 to 13:40	Federal Electoral Institute
16:00 to 16:40		16:00 to 16:40	
17:00 to 17:40		17:00 to 17:40	