

6TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE INFORMATION LAW AND ETHICS

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“THE PRINCIPLE OF PRIVACY IN THE E-VOTING SYSTEM”

According to the Greek Constitution the provisions which establish the procedure of elections and voting introduce the following basic, essential and fundamental principles of Universality, Immediacy, Secrecy and Simultaneity.

The system of e-voting is not prohibited by Greek Constitution, so the procedure followed should require strict identification and authentication of the individual. A main tool in this technical system can be the digital signature for every voter, issued by the public administration, delivered in a secure manner to identified and authenticated citizens.

In accordance with the principle of technological neutrality, the electronic signature can also be made via other technical means, such as mobile phone, pc/internet.

An other fundamental principle is the protection of privacy and voter anonymity.

This study analyzes the E-voting procedure which has to be as secure and reliable as the traditional voting methods (i.e. postal voting and voting at polling stations).

In any case the legal standards follow the pattern of the five basic principles of democratic elections and referenda: universal, equal, free, secret and direct suffrage. These five principles have to be equally applicable to e-voting as to traditional elections or referenda. However, e-voting is not ruled by specific provisions, in Greek Legislation, although the process is followed in elections collective management bodies (higher education).

KEYWORDS

Legislation, jurisprudence, voting, authentication, individual, privacy.