

# E-Estonia

"E-ESTONIA" IS A TERM COMMONLY USED TO DESCRIBE ESTONIA'S EMERGENCE AS ONE OF THE MOST ADVANCED INFORMATION SOCIETIES IN THE WORLD.



e-Estonia's success relies on a strong infrastructure that has made it possible to build a safe and user-friendly e-services ecosystem. The information exchange platform X-Road and electronic ID enable Estonia to offer sophisticated e-solutions for governments and businesses.

Thanks to e-solutions, the required errands and communications with the state, are very fast and convenient for our citizens and our country is more effective for it. Estonians can vote online, access fully digital health records, and file taxes online. E-solutions can help reduce the risk of fraud and corruption, making Estonians trust in e-solutions and use them enthusiastically.

Thanks to modern e-solutions, setting up and administering a business in Estonia is quick and easy. This helps increase the competitiveness of companies based here by saving them time, money and hassle. E-Residency now enables anyone in the world to access Estonian e-services and establish an EU company regardless of their location. In fact, according to the World Economic Forum, Estonia is the most enterprising country in Europe.

## ID-card and the digital signature

**eID enables information systems to identify users digitally and safely sign all kinds of documents.**

Since the year 2000, a digital signature has the same legal value as a conventional signature in Estonia. Digital signing is simple - the user is identified by an ID-card or Mobile ID by entering a short code. The certification centre gives an instant confirmation of data accuracy. Estonians give annually nearly 50 million digital signatures, which is more than the whole of the European Union together.

The ID-card and its capabilities can be used by both the people of Estonia, as well as its e-Residents.

## Popular e-solutions

**Estonia is the only country in the world where you can vote in the elections on the internet.** At the last election, i-vote option was used by over 30% of the voters. Registering a functioning business takes less than 20 minutes and declaring taxes in the e-tax office, is usually even quicker. One of the most widely used e-solutions belongs to the health care field - 99% of drug prescriptions are issued digitally.

As e-solutions save users time and money on a daily basis and make life more comfortable, Estonians trust in e-solutions and use them enthusiastically.

## Questions & answers

**When was the first national e-service finished in Estonia and what was it?**

The Tax and Customs Board of Estonia was the first state institution, which began to offer e-services in 2000.

**When was the internet voting option first used in Estonia?**

In 2005, Estonia became the first country in the world to hold nation-wide elections using this method, and in 2007, it made headlines as the first country to use i-voting in parliamentary elections. I-voting is in many ways even more secure than the polling stations because the electronic votes will move to a central server in an encrypted state, which can be checked and edited only by the citizen.

## Facts and figures

- Estonians sign nearly 50 million digital signatures annually
- Estonia ranks 1st on the internet freedom scoreboard Freedom of the Net (2016)
- 5 workdays saved by every Estonian thanks to digital signing
- More than 20 000 e-residents
- Broadband Coverage over 30Mbps 86.7% of Estonians
- More than 1,600 new companies established by e-residents
- More than 3,000 e-residents involved in companies (owners, board members)