



## **Electronic democracy case studies in the Republic of Slovenia**

(Prepared for the Ministry of Public Administration report for the Council of Europe CAHDE Committee)

1. Open source **web portal E-participacija.si** ([E-participation web portal](http://www.e-participacija.si)). The portal represents single access point to different e-democracy / e-participation web links/sites (e.g. e-petitions, government e-mail consultations, civic e-forums, online debates, web logs, e-polls) that enable Slovenian citizen's virtual engagement in democratic decision-making process. More than 100 links to e-democracy web tolls is arranged according to relevant policy area (environment, economy, health etc.), phase of democratic policy cycle (problem identification, agenda setting, decision making, implementation, etc.), territorial level of participation (local, European, global) and citizens focus groups (NGOs, students, employees, experts, etc.). The portal also provides extensive library of literature and case studies in that area, up to date political science reflection on current developments on e-democracy/e-participation and materials for students of the E-democracy course at the University of Ljubljana. More than 10.000 on-line users visited the portal in a half of year. The portal is administered by the Centre for Electronic democracy, which is recognized as the first e-democracy think thank in Slovenia.

2. Open source web **Forum Prihodnosti** ([Citizens' Forum](http://www.forumprihodnosti.si)). The aim of this application is to involve Slovenian citizens, NGOs and members of European Parliament in a deliberative and moderated on-line debates and consultations concerning the future of Europe. Current topics include Introduction of the Euro currency in Slovenia, The future of the European Constitution and moderated consultations on the future Energy Policy in EU and The Wine sector reform in EU. The consultations and debates are summarized by the team of moderators and sent to mass media, European Parliament and Republic of Slovenia National Assembly. During the Student Arena exhibition in Ljubljana (17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> October), a three day web debate on the future of the European social model took place with more than 110 on-line participants and 100 post published, summarized and sent to the mass media, Republic of Slovenia National Assembly and Slovenian member of the European Parliament, who included them in decision-making phase (this was the first successful e-democracy experiment of such a large scale in Slovenia). Other applications such as e-poll and bulletin board for Euroschool programme were also created within the web forum. The project is running under the European Parliament Information Office for Slovenia.

3. Open source **online consultation on government tax legislation proposals for Slovenian NGOs sector** ([web site](http://www.mf.gov.si)). The consultation was carried out in 2006 by consortium of Slovenian non-governmental organizations. Although the application was well created, moderated and consultation materials prepared, the consultation period was too short for NGOs to initiate a large scale consultation. There were also problems with involving and motivating Slovenian NGOs to participate in web consultation with the Ministry of Finance.