



Two projects developed in Turkey are amongst the finalists competing for the **4th European eGovernment Awards 2009** - an initiative of the European Commission to stimulate innovation by identifying best practice examples using information and communication technologies in public sector organisations. This year 52 awards finalists from 17 countries are competing for the prizes. The winners will be announced on 19 November at the Ministerial eGovernment Conference 2009 in Malmö (Sweden). For the first time the finalists' projects are accessible online through a virtual exhibition.

Selected finalists 2009: Turkey

The call 2009 for good practice cases received 21 cases from Turkey. This is the highest number of Turkish submissions ever received for the European eGovernment Awards. Both Turkish cases selected as finalists aim at empowering and increasing efficiency of legal processes:

- **SMS INFO** is an innovative example of mobile technologies used for a faster information circulation in legal processes;
- **UYAP** is an integrated information system for the Turkish justice system.

Two Turkish submissions were recognised as good practices.

SMS Information System (SMS INFO)

Text messages for greater rights, reduced costs

Category 2a: eGovernment empowering citizens



SMS INFO offers a subscription service for lawyers and citizens. The service enables users to receive SMS messages containing legal information on ongoing cases, dates of court hearings, latest developments in the cases, as well as lawsuits or claims against them. The sending of an SMS does not replace official notification. It does provide instant information to the parties so that they can take all necessary steps in time to prevent the infringement and deprivation of their legal rights.

→ www.adalet.gov.tr/english/sms/

National Judiciary Information System (UYAP)

Connecting within a secure network to enhance judicial effectiveness

Category 3: eGovernment enabling administrative efficiency and effectiveness



UYAP is an eJustice system developed to ensure a fast, reliable and accurate justice system. As a central information system, it covers all the judicial institutions and other government departments. These are connected through a secure network and make use of ICT on a daily basis, as all processes and transactions have been digitalised. As a result, public confidence in the justice system has risen sharply thanks to greater transparency and the reduced time involved. → www.uyap.gov.tr/english





4th EUROPEAN eGOVERNMENT AWARDS 2009 – FACTS

- Submissions from 31 out of 34 eligible countries
- Total number of submissions: 259
- Number of finalists: 52 from 17 countries
- Number of finalists by categories:
 - Category 1: eGovernment supporting the Single Market - 5 finalists
 - Category 2a: eGovernment empowering citizens - 18 finalists
 - Category 2b: eGovernment empowering businesses - 6 finalists
 - Category 3: eGovernment enabling administrative efficiency and effectiveness - 23 finalists

4th EUROPEAN eGOVERNMENT AWARDS 2009 - CATEGORIES

- **Category 1. eGovernment supporting the Single Market:** strengthening the Single Market by increasing mobility for businesses and citizens in the EU;
- **Category 2. eGovernment empowering citizens:** improving access to public services for citizens;
- **Category 2b. eGovernment empowering businesses:** improving access to public services for companies, by creating business opportunities and generating savings for businesses (particularly SMEs);
- **Category 3. eGovernment enabling administrative efficiency and effectiveness:** making public services and administrative processes simpler and more efficient, thus reducing the administrative burden.

A separate **public prize** will be awarded based on the online votes cast by members of ePractice.eu (membership open to all).

EUROPEAN eGOVERNMENT AWARDS BACKGROUND

The purpose of the European eGovernment Awards is to support the implementation of European eGovernment policy and strategies and facilitate good practice exchange. In this context, since their launch in 2003 the Awards have been promoting the best ICT-based solutions for public services in Europe.

The European eGovernment Awards are organised every two years, coinciding with high-level EU Ministerial eGovernment conferences. Their aim is to monitor progress and identify policy and research priorities for the future. This year the 5th Ministerial eGovernment Conference, "Teaming up for the eUnion", is a European Commission-Swedish Presidency joint event. It will take place on 19-20 November 2009 in Malmö (Sweden). The European eGovernment Awards ceremony and Finalists Exhibition are integral parts of the conference.

VIRTUAL EXHIBITION

Virtual Exhibition of European eGovernment Awards is accessible at <http://www.expopolis.com/>

FURTHER INFORMATION

Awards website: www.epractice.eu/en/awards

Full list of finalists: www.epractice.eu/en/awards/finalists

5th Ministerial eGovernment Conference, 19-20 Nov 2009, Malmö (SE): www.egov2009.se

Press queries: info-eGov-conference-press@ec.europa.eu Tel: +32 2 299 45 31

EUROPEAN eGOVERNMENT AWARDS CONSORTIUM

- Center for European Public Administration, AT www.donau-uni.ac.at/verwaltung
- Danish Technological Institute, DK www.teknologisk.dk
- RSO S.p.A., Rome, IT www.rso.it
- P.A.U. Education, ES www.paueducation.com

