Inclusive Elections
What are Inclusive Elections?

Two fundamental aspects:

• Avoid discrimination on the basis of voter’s disability

• Make all aspects of the election process accessible to persons with disabilities
There is more than voting to an election process…

- Voter registration
- Political campaigns
- Voting
- Election results
Voting technology addresses accessibility for people with physical and visual impairments

2019 European Elections - Pilot project: voting machines in Portugal (Evora District)

- Audio recording assistance
- Zoom to enlarge print on screen plus increased contrast
- Voting booths designed for wheelchair accessibility
Other services for elections

- Remote voting applications
- Web sites: Election process - public information (pre-election)
- Web sites: Reporting of election results

**WCAG 2.1 Level AA** compliant following EU Directive 2018/2048
Some additional thoughts

Help America Vote Act 2002 (HAVA)
• Requires citizens with disabilities be able to vote independently and privately
• At least one accessible voting system at each polling centre for Federal Elections
• Aprox. $3.5 billion of HAVA funds appropriate from Y2003 to Y2016
• Still the National Council on Disability reported shortfalls in the 2012 Election Cycle
Some additional thoughts …

• Accessibility of voters and of polling station staff, both need to be addressed

• One solution does not fit all. Our vision for future elections: **multichannel voting**
  
  • Voting at polling, online voting (digital, telephone..), vote anywhere and postal voting will coexist

• A fully accessible voter registration solution

• Comprehensive training of election administration staff on accessibility