

## Press release

### **Trend of higher turnout in Europe & Lowering political barriers with Online Elections**

**Berlin, 04.20.2017 - Turnout is rising across Europe and in order to foster a fragile interest in politics in recent years barriers of entry should be reduced as much as possible. The debate surrounding online elections should not be overlooked.**

For many years, voter turnout was a source of concern for many in the realm of politics. However, a new trend is emerging - in the Dutch Parliamentary election this year, participation rates increased from 74% to over 80%. Similarly, the French presidential election is expected to see a record turnout. In Germany, more people are turning up to their polling stations - in local elections in Saarland we saw the highest turnout since 1994 at 70%.

#### **Break down barriers and strengthen political participation**

This development shows that people all over Europe want to get more involved in politics. This is fantastic news for democracy strengthening the legitimacy of elected governments. Politicians can do a lot to prevent this spike of interest from fading. The Bertelsmann Institute introduced an eight-point plan to increase the turnout in 2016. One of their key points: the introduction of "Internet voting".

The introduction of online elections would suit all people who are not able to vote at the ballot box on Election day, challenging the need to rely on postal voting. Not only is Online - Voting more secure than postal voting, it is cheaper, easier to manage and far better for the environment.

Polyas is an IT company with 20 years of experience in the realm of Online-Voting. Polyas has developed software for the secure implementation online-voting. More than five million voters have already cast their votes online with Polyas.

#### **Press contact**

Christine Kroke  
c.kroke@polyas.de  
[www.polyas.com/press](http://www.polyas.com/press)