

GlobalVote

GLOBALVOTE (www.theglobalvote.org) is an innovative, Internet-based democratic tool that enhances democracy through shadow voting and polling systems. GlobalVote will empower the world's Internet users by registering their opinions and recording their votes on the world's most pressing issues, including resolutions under consideration at the UN, the World Bank, and the World Trade Organization. GlobalVote takes advantage of the global link provided by the Internet, establishing a fair and proper voting system for assessing global public opinion.

While both the private and public sectors have largely been transformed by use of the Internet, the world's most influential decision-making organizations have not yet fully embraced it. Online networks could potentially allow for fairer representation for the citizens of the 192 member states of the United Nations, but it and the majority of today's multilateral international organizations still operate within the same power structures. In many parts of the world, citizens continue to protest and fight their respective national governments for fairer, more transparent voting processes.

**MAKE
YOUR
VOICE
HEARD**



*Environment
Human Rights
Gender Equality
Civil Rights
Democracy
Equal Opportunity*

GlobalVote believes that people all over the world should have more of a say in decisions that directly or indirectly affect them. The Internet has now developed to such an extent—allowing for greater usability, connectivity, and participation thanks to the growth of wireless communication and the popularity of social networking sites—that today, innovative democratic systems online can seriously challenge international and national governments to provide fairer representation and more transparent voting processes.

GlobalVote aims to collect the opinions of the international online community and to educate users on the world's most pressing global issues. By disseminating voting results to International Organizations, universities, the media, non-governmental organizations and national governments, GlobalVote will mobilize this community and achieve the changes for which they have clearly spoken.

How does GlobalVote work?

GlobalVote consists of a combination of delegated representation and a general (popular) vote. There will be 192 national virtual parliaments—one for each of the 192 member states of the UN—with 100 representatives each. The first three parliament seats for each country will be designated as board-member seats and will be representatives from universities, non-governmental organizations, think-tanks, and the media. The remaining 97 parliament members will be chosen on a representational basis according to age, gender, marital status, education, and religion, and will be expected to have an understanding of global issues. Participants beyond the first 100 in each country will gain 'general voter' status and will represent their parliaments in the global popular vote, which consists of the opinions of all GlobalVote members.

We aim to educate and inform our voting community, especially those users who otherwise might not have access to information regarding global politics and global decision-making in an organized, systematic way. Uninformed users will become active, informed voters by utilizing our website and the information we provide, which includes links to articles from the world's most respected and reliable media outlets, as well as local coverage respective to each vote.

Vote On Global Issues and Vote Often

We plan to focus our attention on the world's most pressing international issues, such as nuclear disarmament, climate change, and the world's responsibility to take action in crisis situations. Above all, we will focus on the most current and pressing issues facing the world, week to week.

Examples of recent votes include:

- 🗳️ Should the United Nations impose sanctions on Iran because of its nuclear aspirations?
- 🗳️ Should a post-Kyoto agreement be more ambitious in target setting than the current one?
- 🗳️ Should Kosovo be independent?

Anyone over the age of 18 can cast a vote on GlobalVote. To participate, visit the GlobalVote website at WWW.THEGLOBALVOTE.ORG and register yourself as a member.

Why we need GlobalVote

The challenges facing the world today—global warming, nuclear disarmament, the crises in the Middle East, genocide in Darfur—are so vast that they warrant global responsibility. The entire world, not just ruling, largely unrepresentative national and international governments of the world, need to participate in order to solve these problems.

By promoting civic engagement online, we hope to foster an active citizenry for the twenty-first century, that is alert to the challenges facing the world and that assumes this responsibility.

The voice of the world community has yet to be articulated in an effective way. GlobalVote will do so for the first time—but we can't exist without your participation.

Go to www.theglobalvote.org to become a member and vote on the current topic. By voting with GlobalVote you're helping to realize democracy's potential to make a difference in the world.