

2023

Out-of-country Voting for Ukraine: Challenges and Solutions

CEC



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Election Commission

Ukraine's victory in the war is the priority!

Victory will come!

Thinking of the future, looking for solutions!

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Out-of-country Voting



2019 Presidential Elections in Ukraine

2019 Parliamentary Elections in Ukraine

First Round



Voters
435,046



Participated
in the Vote
55,037

12.65%



Polling Stations
101

Second Round

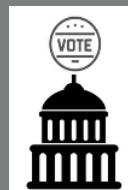


Voters
449,174



Participated
in the Vote
59,834

13.32%



Polling Stations
101



Voters
450,680



Participated
in the Vote
32,764

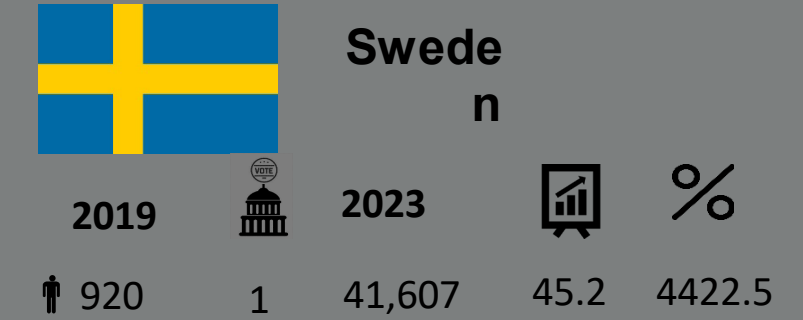
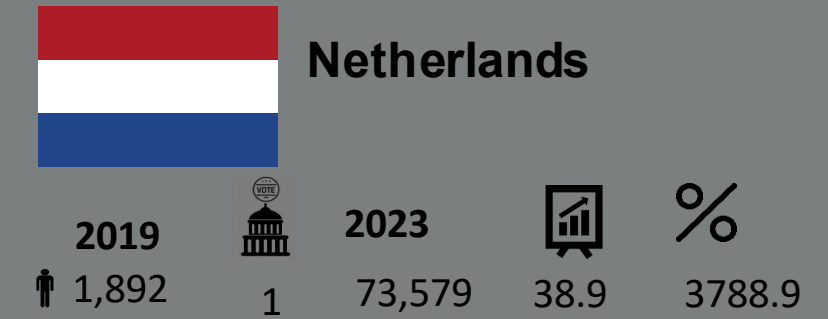
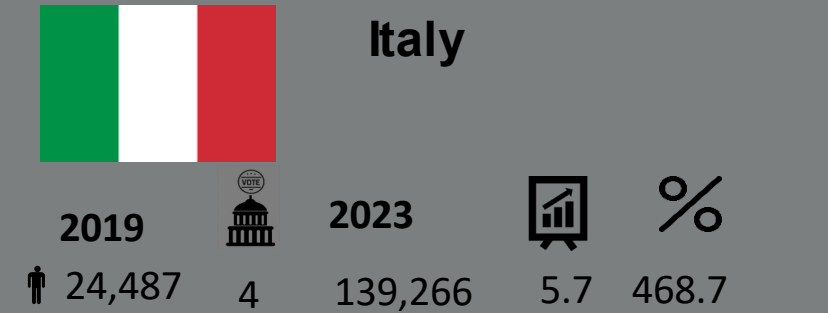
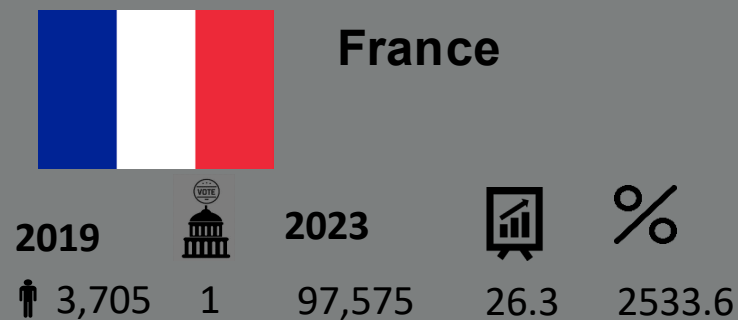
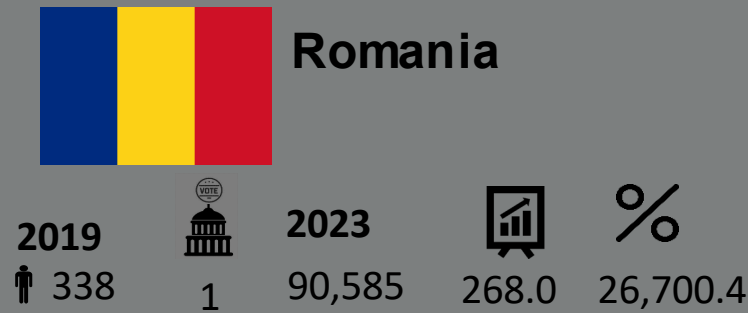
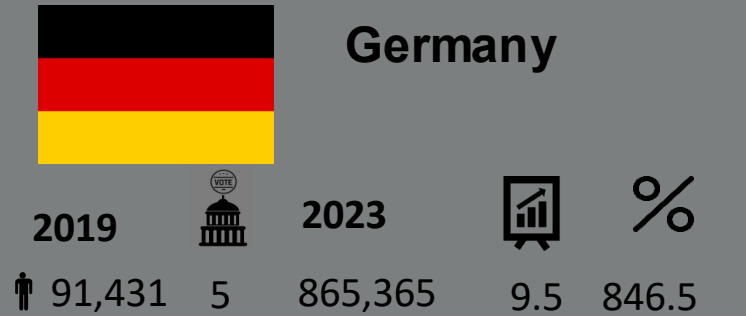
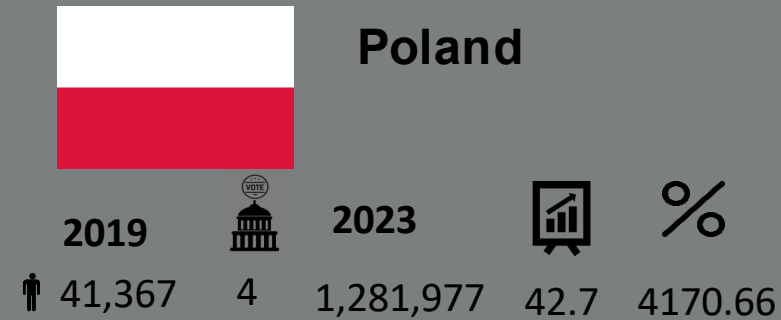
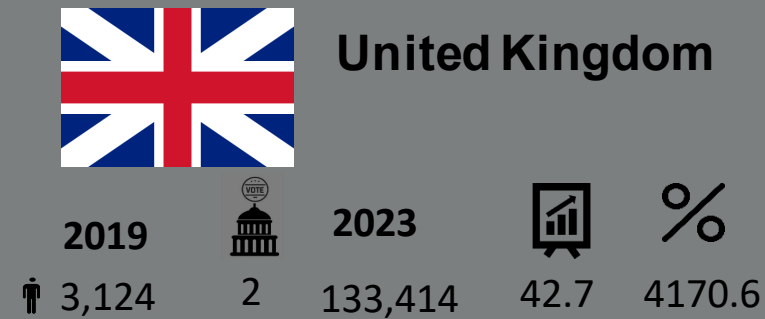
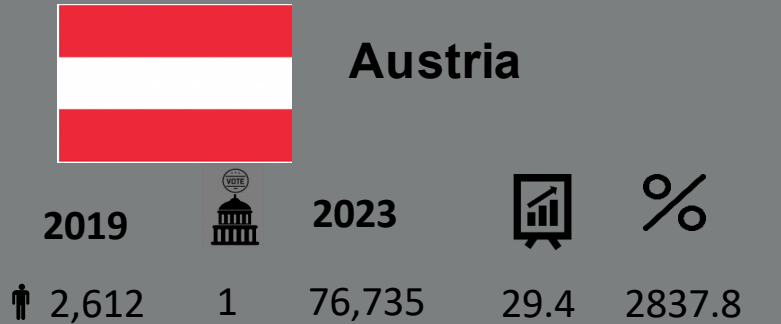
7.27%



Polling stations
102

Challenges

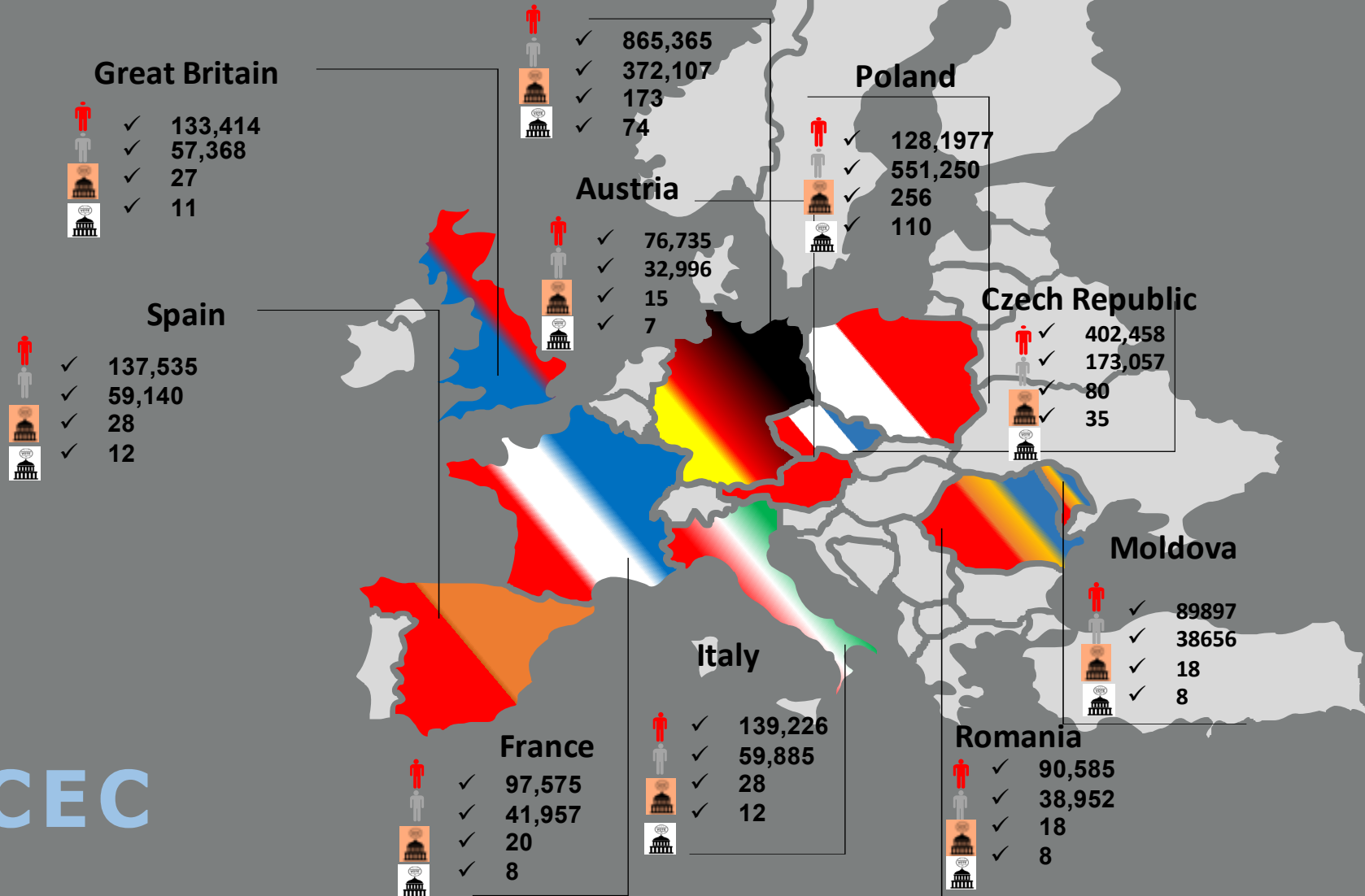
Number of Overseas Voters Before and After Full-scale Russian invasion



Challenges

Europe

UNHCR Data as of January 2023



Registered Ukrainian refugees
5,215,924



Voters
4,276,320



Voters who do not plan to return to Ukraine after the war
1,838,817



Extra polling stations for voters who do not plan to return to Ukraine
368



Additional polling stations in case of participation of all overseas voters
855



43 polling stations in EU countries



Insufficient polling stations for Ukrainian refugees to vote in 23 countries

Voters' Opinion

Which format participation in elections is more convenient for you?

Digital voting with ID verification

27.8%

Visiting a polling station in a foreign constituency in Poland

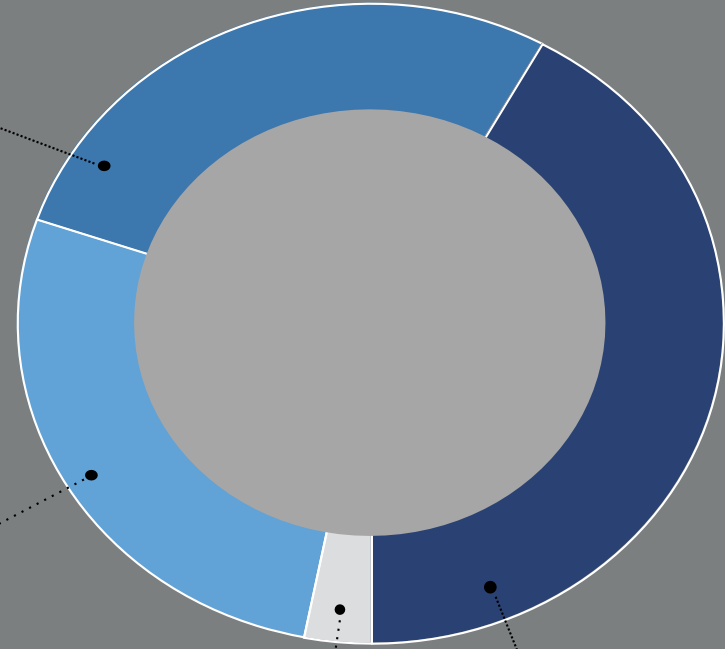
27.2%

Hard to say

3,0%

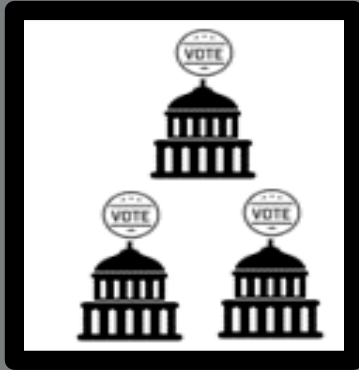
Both formats are equally convenient

42,0%



Solutions

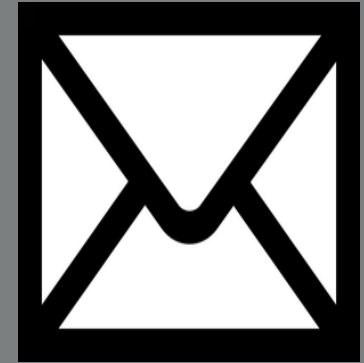
Alternative Means of Voting by Overseas Voters



Increasing Number
of Polling Stations



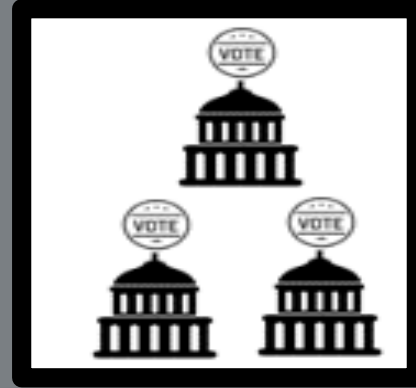
E-voting



Postal Voting

Increasing Number of Polling Stations

Advantages and Disadvantages

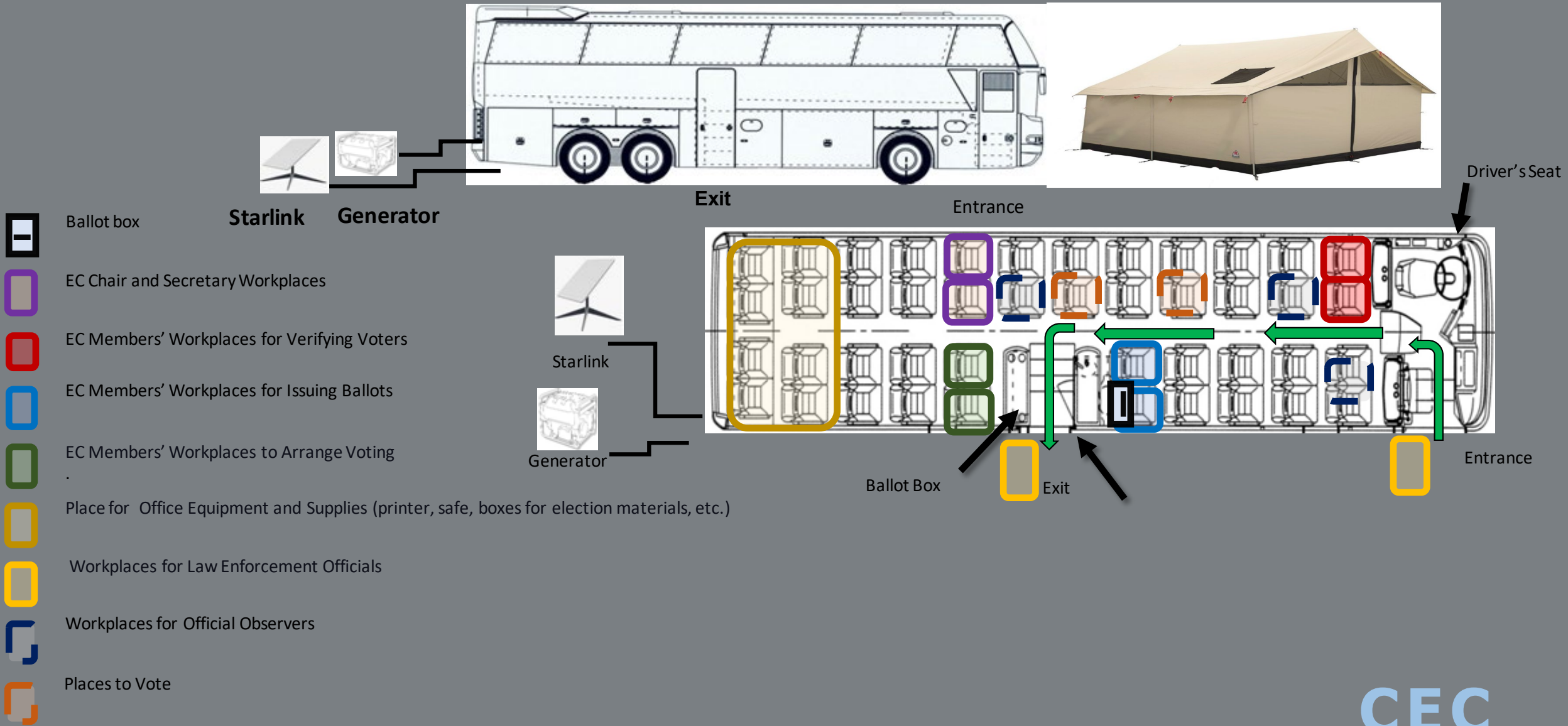


- ✓ Significant experience in administration
- ✓ Precise voting format for voters
- ✓ Available paper trail
- ✓ Credibility
- ✓ Maximum compliance with current Ukrainian legislation

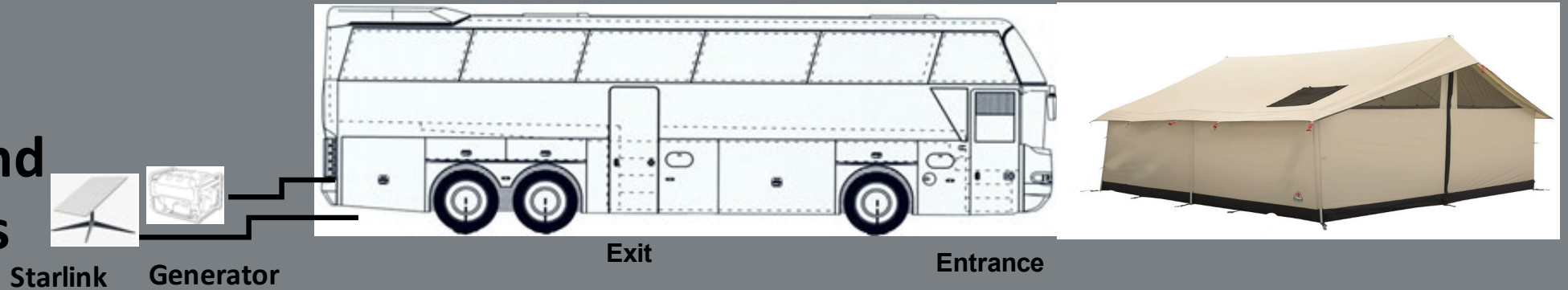


- ✓ Requires permission from host countries
- ✓ Organizing voter registration
- ✓ Locating voting places
- ✓ Training and raising awareness
- ✓ Security
- ✓ Cost
- ✓ Observation and campaigning

Increasing Number of Polling Stations



Advantages and Disadvantages



- ✓ Precise voting format for voters
- ✓ Logistical efficiency
- ✓ Mobility
- ✓ Paper trail
- ✓ Credibility



- ✓ Requires permission from host countries
- ✓ Organizing voter registration
- ✓ Locating voting places
- ✓ Training and raising awareness
- ✓ Delivery of election materials
- ✓ Security

E-voting



Advantages and Disadvantages



- ✓ Logistical efficiency
- ✓ Inclusiveness
- ✓ Fast data processing
- ✓ Convenience for voters
- ✓ No need for election commissions



- ✓ New technology not familiar to Ukrainian voters and election management bodies
- ✓ Ensuring trust in the system
- ✓ Requires developing new legislative regulation
- ✓ ID verification
- ✓ Voting secrecy
- ✓ Influencing the vote – Voting in a poorly-regulated environment
- ✓ Cyber threats
- ✓ Disinformation and manipulation
- ✓ Security
- ✓ Training and raising awareness
- ✓ Cost
- ✓ Observation and campaigning

Postal voting



Advantages and Disadvantages

- ✓ Logistical efficiency
- ✓ Inclusiveness
- ✓ Available paper trail
- ✓ No need for election commissions
- ✓ No need for permission from host country authorities



- ✓ Requires developing new legislative regulation
- ✓ Complex process for administration
- ✓ Voting secrecy
- ✓ Influencing the vote - voting in a poorly-regulated environment; substitute voting
- ✓ Risk of failure to receive a ballot by a voter
- ✓ Risk of failure to receive a completed ballot by the election commission before the established deadline
- ✓ Changes in timing of electoral processes
- ✓ Training and raising awareness
- ✓ Cost
- ✓ Observation and campaigning

Let us Discuss

Voter Registration

1. Is the declarative principle for inclusion in the voter lists the only format for election participation abroad?
2. What are deadlines for submitting applications to update voter lists?
3. How to communicate with voters?

Polling Stations

1. Mobile (buses, tents, temporary structures)
2. How many voters can a polling establish accommodate?
3. How to secure state support for establishing additional polling stations?

Simplifying Procedures

1. Printing and labeling ballots at the polling station.
2. Voting timeline
3. Ballot form for indicating political party and candidate number?

Solutions in Partnership with the European Union

1. Are EU countries ready to assist Ukraine in organizing post-war elections?
2. Does EU legislation allow for adding additional polling stations?
3. Can EU countries help provide premises for election commissions?
4. Can EU authorities provide mobile polling station sites?
5. Is renting specific election equipment, such as ballot boxes and voting booths, possible?
6. Can EU authorities ensure public order during voting?
7. Can EU authorities assist in protecting transportation of election materials?

Protecting Democratic Values is a Common Value

We are Only as Strong as We are United!



Thank You for Your Attention!

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