

# Open Source Policy ESTONIA



## 1

### General Information

The State Information System Authority (RIA) is a state agency operating under the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications. Amongst other things, it facilitates secure data exchange between institutions as part of X-Road and oversees state information systems and databases. Many of its projects are partially based on open source software (OSS). The government often co-develops its eGovernment projects with the private sector, as is the case of eID.

## 2

### Actors



Estonia does not have an appointed central and federal entity for the development and supervision of open source software to date.



**Alvatal** is an open source software association with which several government bodies have partnered. It active in the educational sector and has implemented various pilots on cloud computing, desktop migration, and the use of different OSS solutions.

## 3

### Policy and Legal Framework

2011

2012

2020

#### National Interoperability Framework of the State Information System

A chapter is dedicated to software and specifications on interoperability and OSS. In the context of the Framework, the public sector must take into consideration alternatives such as open specifications, standards and software.

#### Interoperability of the State Information System: Software Framework

The Framework outlines the principles of procurement, management, and development of public sector software. It covers both proprietary and OSS. It favours OSS but does not impose any restrictions on the development and use of proprietary software.

#### Digital Agenda

The Agenda outlines interoperable solutions earmarked for further development in order to ensure that they function securely both nationally and across borders. The Estonian eID, partially based on OSS will be further developed.

## 4

### Open Source Software Initiatives



#### Government repository:

The first version of the government repository platform, Koodivaramu, was launched in 2019. OSS solutions developed for the government are made public and are freely available.

#### eVoting:

The Estonian government has developed an eVoting system. It has published the source code for the electronic voting software, the control application, the mixing application, and the audit application. The latest updates are released on GitHub.

#### X-Road:

X-Road is an open source data exchange layer solution that enables organisations to exchange information of the Internet. It was established through cooperation between Estonia and Finland.

#### eGovernment building blocks:

- Document exchange protocol;
  - Personal Data Usage Monitor;
  - State authentication service TARA;
  - RIHA-Browser;
  - Consent service.
- These OSS solutions developed by various Estonian government agencies are available on GitHub.