



Citizen initiatives' **Platform MyVoice**

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The Problem





The Solution



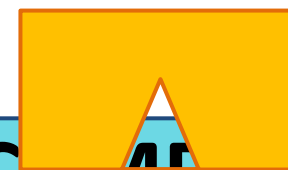
Bringing people's ideas to Parliament and putting them on the official agenda.
Citizens causing new laws the easy way.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

INITIATIVE SUBMITTED TO MANABALSS.LV, REVIEWED, IMPROVED



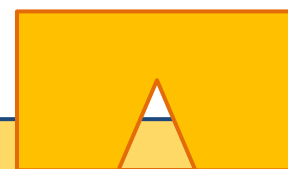
INITIATIVE PUBLISHED ON MANABALSS.LV



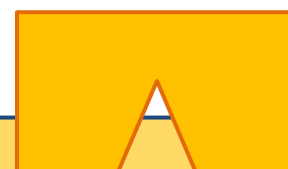
COLLECTING SIGNATURES. CIVIC LOBBY CAMPAIGNS CARRIED OUT BY AUTHORS WITH MANABALSS SUPPORT



10 000 SIGNATURES >> SUBMITTED TO PARLIAMENT



REVIEWED IN PARLIAMENT (TECHNICAL)



REVIEWED & DISCUSSED IN PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSION (CONTENT)



A VOTE IN PARLIAMENT (SUGGESTED BY THE COMMISSION)

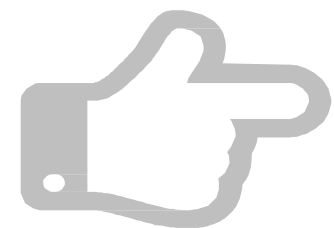
Because of ManaBalss / MyVoice



2016: A nation-wide discussion about property tax with multiple reform plans because of that suddenly being discussed



2016: Caused a potentially permanent stop to anti-human rights legislature (ban on donation of ovas)



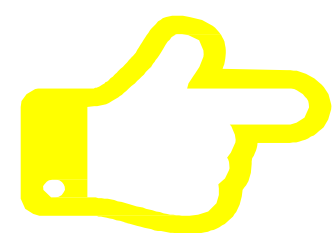
2016: Road tax and budget reforms under discussion after massively popular initiative



New law provisions on stricter consequences for breaking MP's ethical code



A new participation mechanism – collective submission



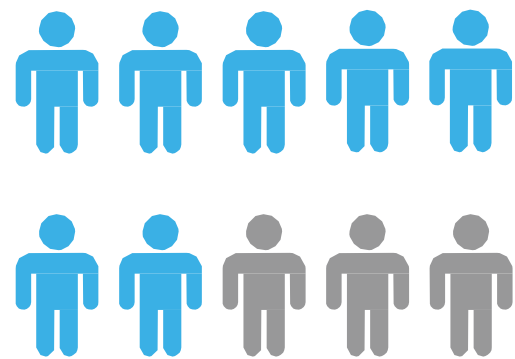
New law provisions on limiting the use of synthetic drugs



Overall 27 initiatives have been submitted to the Parliament or municipality. Of them 8 initiatives under consideration currently



13 initiatives have received a vote in Parliament or municipality and have become laws, law amendments or legislative acts. Half of them brought about changes even before gathering the necessary amount of signaturers!



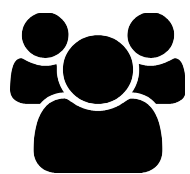
Over 70% of Latvia's population have visited ManaBalss.lv. 24'000 individual donors in 2016 makes it financially self-sustainable, though growth of functions and partnerships for now still requires extra funds. In comparison – in 2016 to all Latvian political parties 550 individuals made donations.



729 860 signatures collected in 5 years. If done on paper they would cost up to 1,2 – 2 million euros



Success rate close to 50% - as far as we know that's the highest in the world



A growing actor in political cohesion of the Latvian nation. Engaged Russian community – 180'000 new Russian users since July, 2015, when Russian version of the portal was launched.

Lessons for EU



User-centric approach (design, communication etc)



Effective communication (media, governments)



Sustainable financial model – how to survive without funds?



Bottom-up: first national, only then EU level



We would love to tell you more!

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