



Citizen initiatives' **Platform MyVoice**

“ManaBalss.lv now puts Latvia at the forefront of European efforts to shift some forms of political participation to the Internet.”

The New York Times
April 9, 2013

The Problem



The Solution



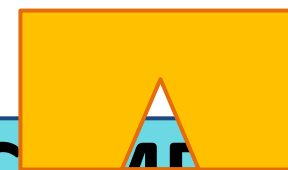
Bringing people's ideas to Parliament and putting them on the official agenda.
Citizens causing new laws the easy way.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

INITIATIVE SUBMITTED TO MANABALSS.LV, REVIEWED, IMPROVED



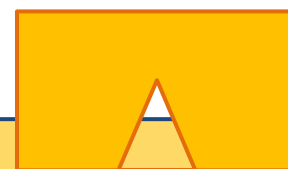
INITIATIVE PUBLISHED ON MANABALSS.LV



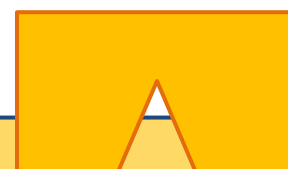
COLLECTING SIGNATURES. CIVIC LOBBY CAMPAIGNS CARRIED OUT BY AUTHORS WITH MANABALSS SUPPORT



10 000 SIGNATURES >> SUBMITTED TO PARLIAMENT



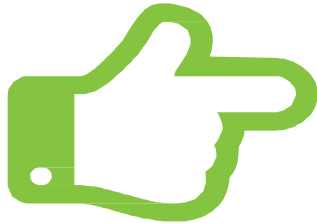

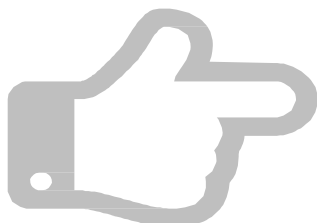
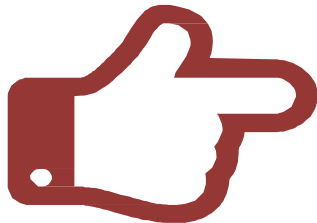
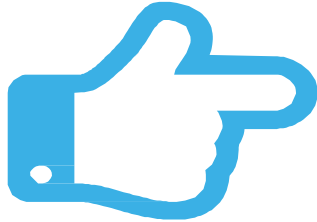

REVIEWED IN PARLIAMENT (TECHNICAL)



REVIEWED & DISCUSSED IN PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSION (CONTENT)



A VOTE IN PARLIAMENT (SUGGESTED BY THE COMMISSION)

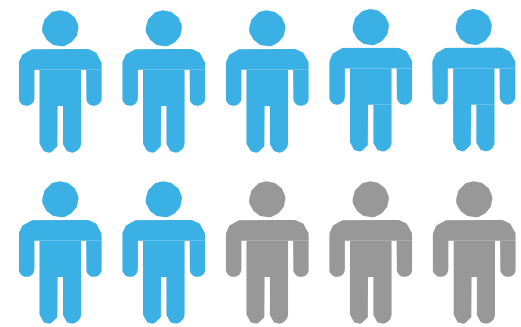
-  2016: supported initiative – Parliament votes for the funding of the treatment of oncological diseases
-  2016: A nation-wide discussion about property tax with multiple reform plans because of that suddenly being discussed
-  2016: Caused a stop to anti-human rights legislature (ban on donation of ovas)
-  2016: Road tax and budget reforms under discussion after massively popular initiative
-  A new participation mechanism – collective submission
-  New law provisions on limiting the use of synthetic drugs



Overall 25 initiatives have been submitted to the Parliament or municipality. Of them 8 initiatives under consideration currently



11 initiatives have received a vote in Parliament or municipality and have become laws, law amendments or legislative acts.



Over 70% of Latvia's population have visited ManaBalss.lv.

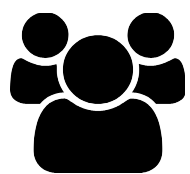
16'000 individual donors in 2016 makes it financially self-sustainable, though growth of functions and partnerships for now still requires extra funds. In comparison – in 2016 to all Latvian political parties only 150 individuals made donations.



646 000 signatures collected in almost 6 years



Success rate close to 40% - 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 – 75'000 new Russian users since July, 2015, when Russian version of the portal was launched.





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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