



Election Authority

Solutions of the Swedish Election Authority to prevent irregularities with regard to election results and the consequences on trust in elections

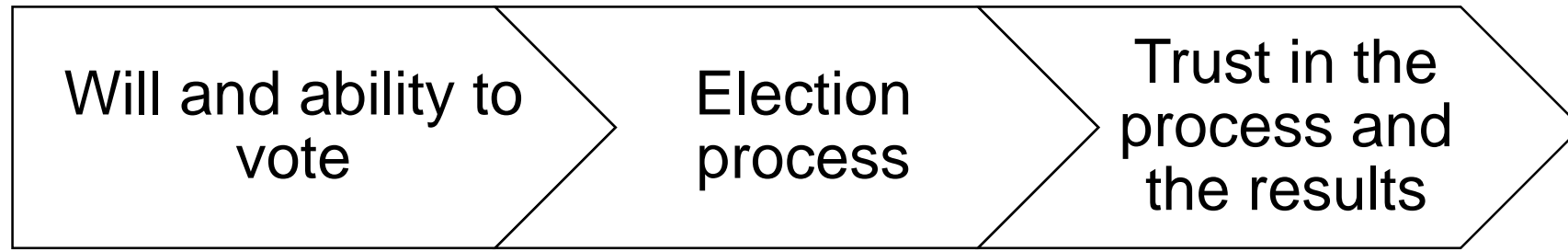
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Strenghts of the Swedish system

- The Swedish electoral system is robust
 - Decentralized
 - Transparent
 - Many manual components
- Public confidence and trust
- Long tradition of high turnout
 - Swedish Parliament (Riksdag) 2018: 87.18 %
 - Swedish Parliament (Riksdag) 2014: 85.81 %



What values needs to be protected?



The will to vote

- ✓ Trust in the election process

The ability to vote

- ✓ Understanding of the election process

The election process

- ✓ Access to, and the protection of, premises, personnel, material, technical support systems and critical infrastructure.

Trust in the process and the results

- ✓ Trust in the election process and the election results



Collaboration



Experiences from last elections – what happened?

- Incidents and errors, very few in relation to the whole
- Well-prepared, incl. work with security
- Occasional mistakes receive a lot of attention
- Discussions on social media about fraud
- Attack against our website
- Great interest in the counting
- Large increase in the number of appeals
- Reelection in one municipality



Need for change according to the Election Authority – to mitigate risks and rumours

- Ballots
- Clearer standardization / control / division of responsibilities within the election administration
- Review of overseas voting
- Resources to handle incident reporting and security work



Ongoing work

- State public inquiry into overall responsibility for electoral security, joint incident reporting, need for more central control, voting abroad, etc. Will result in changes to the law.
- New IT-system.

What did we learn?

- We need to work even harder to spread information about how the electoral system works.
- We need to strengthen the work with security.
- In the future –more focus on practical details – to improve the administration.
- Our democracy is strong – but we can't take the trust in the election system for granted.
- We need to continue and strengthen the successful cooperation between different authorities.

