THE ROLE OF E-GOVERNMENT IN IMPRIVING THE PERFORMANCE OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES

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Abstract:

Various developments, particularly during a period marked by the emergence of the digital revolution and concepts of globalisation, have increased the need to provide services that are compatible with technological and scientific progress and to implement e-government at the local community level. and the pursuit of improving the performance of local communities, given the important and vital role played by local communities, especially after connecting all municipal branches to the fibre optic network, with the aim of improving the performance of local communities through the digitisation of civil status records, passports, national identity cards and biometric driving licences, in addition to implementing e-government in public procurement and the electoral process, especially after confirming that the most significant instances of public money squandering and financial corruption were in public procurement, and that election results were not credible due to double voting, fraud and manipulation of election results.

Keywords: E-government; Local communities; public procurement portal; E-voting.

Introduction :

The development of information and communication systems and networks has led to the emergence of the term "e-government" to improve the quality of public services, which are characterised by speed, efficiency and performance, thus significantly reducing transaction and delivery times and costs, while improving the quality of goods and services provided to customers and reducing paper accumulation by replacing paper documents with electronic ones. E-government has become a strategic tool for achieving sustainable local development.

It has therefore become imperative for institutions to invest in e-government in local communities in Algeria, by simplifying their administrative procedures, improving the relationship between citizens and the administration, and driving economic development. The implementation of e-government at the local community level has become an absolute necessity for the development of a policy of reform, modernisation and improvement of the performance of local communities, through the implementation of an electronic portal for public procurement. In this context, Law No. 23-12 of 5 August 2023 was enacted to enshrine the principle of transparency and reduce the waste of public funds, as well as to implement electronic voting to eliminate fraud and manipulation of election results.

From this perspective, we find ourselves faced with a key question: how does e-government contribute to improving the performance of local authorities in Algeria?

Section One: The Nature of E-Government

E-government has become one of the fundamental pillars of economic and social development. This is reflected in public administration, which is considered the mechanism that drives development in the state, with the aim of achieving greater efficiency, transparency and better performance by the administration and its employees.

Requirement 1: The concept of e-government

E-government, in its modern sense, is the use of electronic means and technologies to carry out all its work, functional transactions and administrative functions. E-government provides a wide scope for all administrators to deal with each other immediately and simultaneously to achieve common goals.

First: Definition of e-government

Although the term e-government is relatively new, there are many definitions that have been proposed for it.

These include:

E-government has been defined as relying on linking its most prominent elements, (technology, goal achievement, resource utilisation), where it is defined as dealing with″ information resources that rely on the internet and business networks that tend more than ever to abstract things and their associations to the extent that intellectual knowledge capital has become the most effective factor in achieving its goals and the most effective in using its resources″ [1] .

Mohammed Samir Ahmed defines e-government as ″the use of technology and communication systems, particularly the Internet, in all administrative processes within an organisation with a view to improving productivity and increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of the organisation's performance.″[2]

The World Bank defines it as "a concept that involves using information and communication technology to change the way citizens and businesses interact in the decision-making process, connecting better ways to access information, increasing transparency and strengthening civil society. "[3]

Its definitions are also numerous. Najm Aboud Najm defined it as" the administrative process based on the unique capabilities of the Internet and business networks in planning, directing and

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[1] – Hussein Muhammad al–Hasan, **E–Government**: **Concepts**, **Characteristics**,

Requirements, Al–Waraq Publishing and Distribution, Amman, Jordan, 2010, p. 39.

[2] –Mohammed Samir Ahmed, **E–Government**, Dar Al–Masirah Publishing, Distribution and Printing, Amman, Jordan, 2009, p. 42.

[3] – –Abdelkrim Gharsi, Cherif Mohamed, **The Role of E–Government in Rationalising and Improving Public Services**, Algerian Journal of Public Finance, Issue 3, December 2013, p. 80.

controlling the resources and core capabilities of the company and others without limits in order to achieve the company's objectives."[4]

From the above, it is clear that e-government is an integrated system that aims to change the forms and methods of providing services and information from manual administrative work to computerised management, relying on powerful information systems that help in making decisions as quickly and cost-effectively as possible.

Second: Characteristics of e-government: These include: [5]

1- Optimal use of time and money with the application of information technology systems in various tasks through the use of advanced methods for immediate work and daily tasks.
2- Reducing the effort required to complete transactions quickly and send and receive them in a short time to take advantage of the time-saving process by using email systems instead of outgoing and incoming mail.
3- Eliminate the location factor and communicate with employees, send orders and instructions, supervise performance, and hold seminars and conferences through video conferencing and remote meetings.
4- Provide services via intranet or internet networks, without customers having to visit departments in person to complete their transactions.
5- Accuracy and clarity: Many of the administrative obstacles and barriers that have persisted for years due to bureaucracy can be eliminated and become a thing of the past by switching to e-government, which does away with the rules and paperwork involved in completing transactions.
6- Flexibility through rapid response and interaction with events.
7- Direct monitoring and authentication are characteristics of e-government, meaning that it can monitor its various work sites through screens and digital cameras that e-government can deploy in every corner of its administrative sites, as well as at its outlets and devices that deal with the public. Thus, the administration has a reliable and honest tool with which it can monitor its activities and follow up on its sites with confidence, away from the method of follow-up through memos and reports submitted by individuals in traditional administrations.
8- Since e-government does not rely on storing documents and files, but rather on uploading them to its network and storing them electronically, it is easy to store, modify and retrieve these documents.
9- Confidentiality, privacy, and the concealment of important information and data, making it available only to those authorised to access such information, and the development of

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[4] ––Najm Aboud Najm, **Management and Electronic Knowledge – Strategy – Functions – Fields**, Al–Yazouri Scientific Publishing and Distribution, Amman, Jordan, 2009, p. 158.

[5] – Omar Abu Hashim Al–Sharif, et al., E**–Governance**: **An Introduction to Modern Educational Management**, Dar Al–Manahij Publishing and Distribution, Amman, Jordan, 2013, p. 70.

intrusion prevention systems, which made access to its secrets and concealed files extremely difficult.[6]

Second requirement: Objectives and benefits of e-government

The objectives and benefits of e-government are evident in its ability to keep pace with the tremendous qualitative and quantitative developments in the application of information technologies and systems and the accompanying emergence of what can be called the ongoing industrial revolution, or the permanent information and communications technology revolution.

First: Objectives of e-government

Most e-government initiatives work to achieve a transition and radical shift from traditional administrative methods to electronic work in order to realise a number of general objectives, which we summarise as follows:[7]

1. Managing files and reviewing content instead of saving them, and reviewing document content instead of writing it.

2. Shifting towards relying on email correspondence instead of outgoing and incoming mail.

3. Saving time and speeding up transactions, as dealing with them is done instantly without waiting.

4. Reducing the severity and complexity of the bureaucratic apparatus, as there is no need for bloated and multiple administrative levels.

5. Moving towards transparency in administrative work, transparency of information and its presentation to customers, citizens, suppliers, etc.

6. Rationalising financial costs by reducing expenditure in the completion and follow-up of various administrative processes, leading to enhanced economic efficiency.

7. Concentrating decision-making at specific points of work, while providing greater support for monitoring. [8]

8. Maintaining the confidentiality of information and reducing the risk of its loss.

9. Collecting data from its original sources in a unified manner.

10. Reducing decision-making by providing and linking data.

11. Interconnection between employees and senior management, and monitoring the management of all resources.

12. Improving economic recovery and attracting investment through advanced mechanisms available in relevant institutions.

13. Employ information and communication technology.

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[6] – –Ghribi Ali, Renouba Al–Akhdar, **Reforming Public Services through E–Government and Prospects for Rationalisation**, Journal of Islamic Sciences and Civilisation, Issue 3, October 2016, p. 411.

[7] – Saddam Al-Khamaisa, **E–Government**: **The Path to Administrative Reform**, Modern Book Publishing and Distribution, 2013, p. 80.

[8] – –Ashour Abdelkrim, **The Role of E–Government in Streamlining Public Services in the United States and Algeria**, Master's Thesis, University of Mentouri Constantine, Algeria, 2009–2010, p. 16.

14. Develop management in general by using modern digital technologies from system solutions that will develop administrative work, thereby increasing employee efficiency and productivity and creating a new generation of cadres capable of dealing with modern technologies.[9]

Second: Benefits of e-government

The developed world's interest in using administrative information technologies did not come out of nowhere. Significant benefits have been achieved as a result, and countries have begun to compete in implementing e-government in their institutions. The most important of these benefits are:[10]

1- Simplifying procedures within these institutions has a positive impact on the level of services provided to citizens, as well as improving the quality of services provided.

2- Reducing the time required to complete various administrative transactions.

3-Ensuring accuracy and objectivity in various operational processes within the institution.

4- Facilitate communication between different departments within the institution, as well as with other institutions inside and outside the country.

5-The proper use of e-government will significantly reduce the use of paper, which will have a positive impact on the institution's work. [11]

6- The use of paper will also address a problem that most institutions suffer from in the process of storage and documentation, eliminating the need for storage space, which can then be used for other purposes.

E-government will lead to the conversion of surplus labour into essential labour in the implementation of this administration through retraining to keep pace with new developments in the organisation and the dismissal of incompetent employees who are unable to adapt to the new situation.

E-government offers many benefits and advantages to the government, the private sector and society, with the aim of delivering better services, providing advanced transactions for commercial and industrial businesses, and allowing citizens to conduct their own business through access to information or through more accurate and effective e-government. On the other hand, the e-government system facilitates internal operations and improves performance at the lowest cost and with the least effort.

Section II: Digitisation of local communities within a future vision

The main motivation behind the move towards e-government was the prevalence of corruption in public administration, as a mechanism that has proven effective in reducing it. This was reflected in the gradual implementation of e-government in public

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[9] – –Belkidoum Sabah, **The Impact of Modern Information and Communication Technologies (NTIC) on the Strategic Management of Economic Institutions**, doctoral thesis, unpublished, Faculty of Economics and Management Sciences, University of Mentouri, Constantine, Algeria, 2012–2013, p. 181.

[10] –Mustafa Youssef Kafi, **E–Government**, **Ruslan Publishing House**, Amman, Jordan, 2012, p. 44.

[11] – Houria Kati, Iman Madoui, **Study on the impact of the use of e–government by public services on improving the quality of public services in Algeria**, exploratory study on the biometric passport issuance service, Majma'at al–Ma'rifah, 2017, p. 236.

procurement and the electoral process, especially after it was confirmed that the most significant manifestations of public money squandering and financial corruption were in public procurement, the lack of credibility of election results, and the emergence of voter abstention.[12]

First requirement: E-government applications in local communities in Algeria

Definition of local government (local communities) as: ″A method of administrative organisation of the state, based on the idea of distributing activities and duties between central and local authorities, so that the former can focus on setting the state's general policy and managing national facilities, while the latter can manage their facilities efficiently and achieve their legitimate objectives."[13]

According to the United Nations and the International Union of Local Authorities, local communities are: ″the geopolitical division of a simple unified state, below the level of state, republic or province in complex federal states.″

French writer Waline defines them as: ″the transfer of administrative decision-making power to freely elected councils of those concerned.″[14]

In this context, and in implementation of the government's action plan aimed at improving and developing the performance of public administration and making it transparent and effective, the Ministry of the Interior and Local Authorities has carried out several important projects in the field of modernising public facilities using modern technology. All of these achievements aim to provide citizens with high-quality public services.

To achieve these goals, the Ministry of the Interior and Local Authorities has implemented several projects to modernise local authorities and their public facilities and improve their performance, the most important of which are:

- Digitising civil status records at the national level and creating a national automated civil status register linking all municipalities and their administrative extensions, as well as diplomatic missions and consular offices.

- The creation of a national automated vehicle registration system, which enables citizens to obtain registration cards for their vehicles in real time without having to travel to the registration office.

- The introduction of a number of online services, such as applying for a national biometric identity card and a biometric passport via the internet and tracking the progress of procedures without having to travel.

-Establishment of a national observatory for public facilities under the Minister of the Interior and Local Communities, which is responsible for a number of tasks, the most important of which are those related to the modernisation of public facilities. In this area,

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[12] – Kachal Khaloud, **Improving Public Service in Municipal Administration**, Doctoral Thesis, Faculty of Law and Political Science, Abbas Laghrur University, Khenchela, 2019, p. 344.

[13] – Al–Wafi Rabah, **Establishing E–Government in Local Communities**: **A Case Study of the Sidi Aissa District**, Master's Thesis, Faculty of Economics, Business and Management Sciences, Akli Mohamed Oulhaj University, Bouira, 2015, p. 51.

[14] –Bikara, Sara Hasna, **Management of Local Communities in Algeria in the Light of Modern Information and Communication Technology**: **A Case Study of the Municipality of Mascara**, Master's Thesis, Faculty of Economics, Business and Management Sciences, Abou Bakr Belkaid University of Tlemcen, 2012, p. 54.

it is tasked with studying and proposing any measures that would contribute to the establishment of public administrations and institutions.[15]

-Smart municipality: The implementation of a 'smart municipality' requires, according to the head of the Communication and Information Technology Committee of the Provincial People's Council of Algiers, Zoubir Omar Saidi, requires a set of characteristics and components, foremost among which is the replacement of paper documents with computers and the provision of electronic archives, electronic mail, electronic diaries and automated follow-up application systems, in addition to eliminating the limitations of time and space by storing all these services on modern technological media, Not to mention the elimination of rigid routine administrative systems and the improvement of the relationship between the administration and citizens by simplifying administrative procedures and enhancing transparency to reduce the intensity of conflicts arising between the two parties in the classical administration and to upgrade the service to the level of the digital world that has come to define international capitals. The programme must rely primarily on the application of information technology in public administration, by creating a database specific to the municipality containing all municipal projects and problems. The latter connects its administrative districts via a fibre optic network, which is then linked to the state. The process affects the entire municipality of the capital, 57. which has been provided with a secure website to communicate with citizens easily, where any citizen can browse the latter and learn about the entire government in accordance with a set of regulations and laws that govern various processes related to e-government, such as electronic signatures, electronic acknowledgement and certification, exchange and mechanisms for protecting e-government from cybercrime, in addition to providing qualified human resources with expertise in the field of information technology, such as programmers, network staff, maintenance, security and protection, etc., as well as signing all the technological and logistical means necessary for the success of the project.

-For the first time in Algeria, registrations for the 2016 Hajj lottery will be conducted online via the Ministry of the Interior's website. In future seasons, the electronic registration process will be followed by an electronic lottery across all municipalities.[16]

Second requirement: Prospects and future of digitisation in local communities

Public procurement and electronic voting are among the most important legal and administrative mechanisms used by local communities to implement their development policies.

 First: The concept of the electronic portal for public procurement

: "It is a database that facilitates access to information and the provision of services related to the sector, and allows for the collection of information mainly related to the following: contracting authorities, economic operators and their administrative files, announced public procurement contracts, with the specification of important dates related to the

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[15] –Bahulul Sumaya, **The Application of E–Government at the Regional Level**: **Modernising Public Services and Combating Bureaucracy**, Al–Fikr Magazine, Issue 16, Faculty of Law and Political Science, Mohamed Khider Biskra, p. 742.

[16] – –Ali Saïh Habour, **E–government and its role in the development of local communities in the context of e–government implementation in Algeria**, Al–Makar Journal of Economic Studies, Issue 01, Tindouf University Centre, December 2017, p. 19.

contract, economic statistics cards for public contractors, and the exchange of documents and information between contracting authorities and economic operators ".[17]

It is also a website specialising in public contracts, providing a wide space for all public contractors in the field of public contracts and for all those interested in them, with the aim of allowing the publication and exchange of documents and information relating to public contracts, as well as the conclusion of public contracts electronically.[18]

The importance of the electronic portal for public transactions

One of the things that has become clear to us following the implementation of contracting via the electronic portal is that the latter is of great importance, as evidenced by the following points:[19]

1- Saving time and effort needed to complete contracting procedures in the traditional way due to the speed of completion.

2- Strengthening the framework governing public procurement and simplifying and clarifying contracting procedures.

3- Providing comprehensive information to the administration about markets around the world, enabling comparison of prices and services within and outside the country, thereby increasing competition among producers of goods and service providers.

4- Enabling management to benefit from increased competitiveness among those wishing to contract in order to obtain the best offers by ensuring transparency, openness and equality among competitors.

5- Reducing administrative irregularities often committed by employees who contract on behalf of and for the account of management.

6- Assessing the real economic situation of the state by activating the database of economic statistics cards for public demand, which helps to identify data on the technical and legal economic aspects of public demand and analyse them in order to improve the level of public procurement.

Updates to the Public Procurement Law of 2023:

The most important updates to the Public Procurement Law of 2023 are as follows:[20]

1-Consolidating good governance in public procurement law: The Public Procurement Law of 2023, in which the legislator emphasised the concept of good governance and governance, which stipulates that the efficiency of public procurement requires the proper use of public funds on the one hand, and the need for public procurement to be subject to governance principles through free access to requests on the other. Within the framework of enshrining the principles of good governance, the Public Procurement Law stipulates rules that promote integrity by providing for the establishment of a code of ethics for

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[17] – Wadan Bouabdallah, Merkan Mohamed El Bashir, **The Electronic Portal for Public Procurement**: **Towards Better Public Service in the Context of E–Government**, Finance and Markets Magazine, 2015, p. 111.

[18] – **Ibid**, p. 112.

[19] – Klasch Khaloud, **previously cited reference**, p. 364.

[20] –Samir Assiak, **Key Developments in Public Procurement Law for 2023**, Journal of Studies on the Effectiveness of Legal Rules, Volume 03, Issue 1, 2023, pp. 109–113.

officials involved in the conclusion and implementation of public procurement contracts, as well as direct negotiations, the establishment of which is referred to by regulation.

Equal treatment and transparency of procedures, the Public Procurement Law requires mandatory publication in the official gazette of contracts, in addition to the print media, and to enhance transparency, the legislator requires publication in an electronic newspaper on the electronic portal dedicated to public contracts.

2- Embodiment of legal certainty in public procurement 2023: The adoption of the principle of legal certainty under the 2020 Constitution is reflected in the transition from making public procurement an inherent competence of the legislative authority in order to create legislative stability and avoid frequent amendments. Under Public Procurement Law No. 23-12, the Algerian legislator has moved towards adopting and enshrining legal certainty by not going into detail on matters relating to public procurement in this regard. The legislator has refrained from adopting the financial criterion for public procurement.

3-Establishing public procurement on more effective criteria: This includes the following:

-Establishing the environmental dimension in public procurement: Law No. 23-12 on public procurement established the environmental dimension by making it mandatory to include provisions on environmental protection and renewable energy in the terms and conditions of public procurement.

- Digitisation of public procurement: a public procurement portal was created under Law No. 23-12, containing all information and documents relating to public procurement, and the mandatory electronic publication of the contract on the electronic portal and in the electronic press. Furthermore, in the context of direct negotiation, the legislator has given preference to start-ups that are recognised in the field of digitisation and innovation, provided that the solutions are innovative and unique.

Second: Electronic voting

In recent years, the method of voting in elections in many countries has shifted from the traditional method that people have been accustomed to for decades to an electronic method in which electronic means play a fundamental role in its implementation, enabling citizens to cast their votes from wherever they are and facilitating the voting process for those unable to travel to polling stations.

Definition of electronic voting

The term electronic voting is derived from the English term E-voting, and is also known as electronic balloting or remote electronic balloting. There are many definitions of its meaning, including:

Definition of electronic voting: "An activity that facilitates electronic democracy and includes the electorate, the official registration destination, and the approved election destination, whereby any electronic system through which votes are recorded (balloting) and not a paper or mechanical system is considered an electronic voting system."[21]

Electronic voting: "The use of electronic tools such as software, computers and other devices to carry out the electoral process instead of traditional methods."[22]

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[21] –Abdelal Hebal, **Electronic Voting**: **International Experiences**, Algerian Journal of Security and Development, Volume 08, Issue 15, July 2019, p. 81.

[22] –Balaghem Ali, Mazwagi Nabila, **Electronic Voting**: **Concept and Challenges**, Journal of Legal and Social Sciences, Volume 08, Issue 03, p. 398.

Electronic voting is an activity that facilitates electronic democracy, which comprises four stages: registering voters with the registration department, issuing documents covering eligible voters and candidates, voting using electronic tools, and finally, electronic counting. The last stage is considered an important development, as the preparation of voters and results is done quickly and instantly.[23]

Benefits of electronic voting

Electronic voting has several benefits and advantages, which we summarise in the following points:[24]

1-As a result of imaging and the use of biometric data, it is impossible for non-voters or those who do not have the right to vote to vote, as deceased or absent persons cannot vote, thereby completely preventing identity theft.

2- Electronic machines enable people with special needs to cast their votes, as enhanced voice technology is used for the visually impaired, for example.

3- The use of the internet and electronic voting broadens political participation in society and provides an opportunity for many who have the right to vote to cast their votes without the hassle of travelling, commuting or standing in queues. Political participation in elections or voting is achieved via the internet or telephone from the voter's location. In the case of the telephone, using a recorder for centralised voice recording at the time of voting and a secret identification code, the voice is recorded and it is known that the person can be identified by their voiceprint in the event of a dispute or objection.

4-Voting via the internet and modern means of communication reduces the cost of the electoral process, as it does not require administrative, clerical or security procedures, nor does it require the rental or use of premises, thereby achieving significant savings.

5-Voting via the internet and modern means of communication eliminates the possibility of security breaches resulting from voter congestion or interference to influence, prevent or hinder voters from casting their votes.

6 – One of the results of electronic or online voting is the ability to save and store data in more than one original and alternative location, in addition to the speed of data processing and extraction of results, with the difficulty of falsifying or interfering with the electoral process, if the electronic election systems are calibrated and tested with continuous technical inspection and monitoring by a neutral technical, administrative and political body.

7- It is well known that the electronic system has all the characteristics of office management systems, and therefore results can be extracted in printed paper form.

Disadvantages of electronic voting:

Perhaps the most significant disadvantages of the electronic voting system are:[25]

1-The possibility that those with political power and influence may tamper with the system in order to rig the elections to serve their interests, either by interfering with the system by installing certain software or instructions during its establishment, or through its administration or maintenance.

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[23] –Imad Ahmad Abu Shanab et al, **Electronic Services**, **Dar Al–Kitab Al–Thaqa**fi, Jordan, .2012, p76.

[24] – Abdel Aal Habal, **previously cited reference**, p. 83.

[25] –Khanif Mohamed, Maizi Guider, **Electronic voting as a proposed model for activating e–government in Algeria**, Management Journal for Research and Studies, June 2018, p. 58.

2-The possibility of hacking or pirating the electronic system, which facilitates the manipulation of results electronically.

3- The possibility of errors, malfunctions or damage to electronic systems, leading to the failure of the computerised voting system, which affects the transparency and results of the elections.

4- Doubt and uncertainty about the integrity of the electronic system due to continuous monitoring by the same entity or person.

The reality of electronic voting in Algeria:

The **2019** presidential elections are supported by a database and an electronic platform to monitor and supervise the presidential election mechanism, according to the head of the Independent National Electoral Authority, **Mohamed Charfi**. Algeria has taken a giant step forward in the field of elections by creating an independent body to organise and supervise elections, called the Independent National Electoral Authority. What distinguishes this authority is that it is permanent and its tasks do not end with the announcement of the provisional results. Organic Law **21-01** on elections enables the Independent Electoral Authority to implement electronic voting in practice, in terms of registering voters and elected officials, determining the lists, conducting the voting process, announcing the results, and punishing violations of this process.[26]

-The Independent National Electoral Authority used digitisation to compile and sort the results. Practical experience has shown that the Independent Electoral Authority has resorted to using information systems through special applications at several stages of the electoral process. The submission and processing of candidacy forms has also become electronic, and the work of the municipal and provincial electoral commissions has come to rely on information technology, without any amendment to the legal text, so that information technology has been incorporated into the law without amendment. [27]

- Electronic voting is not implemented in Algeria.

Conclusion :

E-government is considered a strategic alternative to traditional (paper-based) administration, through its effective contribution to improving the performance of local authorities. Public procurement is one of the most vital resources for local authorities and one of the areas most prone to financial corruption. Therefore, the e-portal for public procurement introduced by Law No. **23 of 5 August 2023**, is considered a mechanism for combating corruption in the process of concluding administrative contracts and improving the effectiveness of public management, responding to the requirements of good governance and digitisation. It is considered an essential guarantee for enshrining the principle of transparency, attracting the largest number of operators, promoting a climate of legitimate competition, obtaining numerous and varied offers in a short period

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[26] – Al–Mastari Muhammad Amin, Abbar Omar, **Electronic Voting and Opportunities for its Application in Algeria**, Journal of Comparative Algerian Public Law, Volume 8, Issue 2, 2022, pp. 348–349.

[27] **– Ibid**, p. 334.

of time, promoting national and local development, eliminating favouritism, nepotism and bribery, saving time and effort, It also brings administrations and their customers closer together and eliminates human intervention in these processes.

Electronic voting is considered a vision for the future and the fruit of the application of e-government in Algeria, to achieve transparency, accuracy and security in the integrity of the electoral process, to eliminate fraud and manipulation of election results, as well as to reduce election costs, save time, speed up the display of results, and facilitate the voting process for people with special needs. Many developed countries have begun to implement electronic voting in order to take advantage of its benefits, including Belgium, France, Switzerland and India. After the spread of the coronavirus, elections were postponed in several countries, such as Iran and Bolivia, with Algeria lagging behind in adopting electronic voting.

Recommendations :

-All stages of public procurement, from announcement to conclusion and implementation, should be conducted via the electronic portal, thereby enhancing transparency.

-Training of public procurement department staff on how to use the portal and improve their digital skills.

- Provide legal protection for electronic transactions in the field of public procurement by enacting data protection measures to build trust among users, through encryption protocols and the widespread use of electronically certified electronic signatures.

- Organising forums and meetings involving experts in this field to encourage them to use electronic contracting in public procurement.

-The need to benefit from the experiences of advanced countries in the field of electronic voting.

-The existence of effective and advanced security and protection systems and programmes to protect against information piracy.

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