



REGIERUNG
DES FÜRSTENTUMS LIECHTENSTEIN

MINISTERIUM FÜR
PRÄSIDIALES UND FINANZEN

Welcome Video Message

Prime Minister Adrian Hasler

fintech.li Conference 2020

22. September 2020

virtual

– the spoken word applies –

Dear Participants in the FinTech Conference 2020

We are all advocates of digital progress. And yet, half a year ago, who would have thought that we would be meeting like this today?

This year has been very challenging in every respect. The coronavirus pandemic has shown us over the past few months how vulnerable our society and our economy are. The impact on the world economy as a whole is enormous.

But the coronavirus pandemic has also caused us to rethink many things very quickly. Physical meetings and conferences have spontaneously been moved into the digital space. The crisis has accordingly given an enormous boost to a wide range of developments in digitalisation, the need for which had previously been called into question.

Please understand me correctly: I also prefer personal contact, and personal conversations from person to person. But the coronavirus pandemic has forced us to reorganise ourselves. And we have shown that in a crisis, we are capable of making such changes quickly and with a certain degree of pragmatism. Much of this will remain even after the current crisis is over.

The National Administration has been relying on eGovernment and electronic services for several years already. This is certainly an ongoing learning process. With the preparation of the Digital Agenda and the eGovernment Strategy, the Government has established the framework for further advancement.

The current situation has clearly shown that digital communication channels are becoming more significant. We are making much greater use of digitalisation when we work from home, when we go shopping, and also when we interact with public authorities.

Unambiguous identification is an important element in this regard, especially when dealing with authorities. This is why, in April of this year, we presented a modern solution for electronic identity, or "eID" for short.

eID enables natural persons to identify themselves and register securely with electronic services. This makes eID a means of identification in the digital space. Any person residing in Liechtenstein can apply for eID. Other natural persons who work here or have other ties to Liechtenstein can also obtain eID.

With this electronic identity at the level of the State, we are taking a decisive step in the interest of secure transactions without personal contact. eID makes it possible for individuals

to conduct official business conveniently from home, where in the past a printed and signed form was necessary. At the same time, the system is also available to companies in the private sector – all with an easy-to-use app on a mobile device. And the system meets the very highest technical security requirements.

The new digital identity of the Principality of Liechtenstein is, without a doubt, a milestone on our path to digitalisation. It is the key to the use of electronic services.

I am convinced that our electronic identity also offers opportunities for the FinTech community. Just as we, as the Liechtenstein National Administration, are steadily expanding our electronic services, I am sure that you likewise have innovative ideas on how to use eID for secure identification in your business models.

I am pleased that you are accompanying us into our future, and I wish you an exciting Fin-Tech Conference 2020.

Thank you very much.