



Factsheet:

2023 General Election: Possible Risk and Next Steps



Dangers to peaceful general elections in 2023:

Understanding Key Indicators

Pre-election Election Violence Risk:

01 Disruption of the electoral process

02 Destruction of opposition campaign and publicity materials

03 Denial of opposition the use public facility

04 Partiality of the security agents

05 Unlawful postponement of the election

06 Unhealthy rally

07 Illegal arrests and intimidation of political opponents

08 Fake news

09 Non adherence to electoral guidelines by political parties

10 Hate speeches

11 Media houses' biases towards a political party

12 Denier of states or local governments in accessing campaign grounds by relevant state governments.

13 Intentionally creating a timetable for campaign rallies at the state level

14 Clamp down on opposition parties at the state level

15 Not given equal access to financial resources

16 Campaign within 24 hours of the election

17 No adequate information on the side of INEC on when the INEC materials will arrive the states

18 Selection of who to give PVC to by INEC staff

19 No strict adherence to INEC time table by the electoral body himself

20 Delisting of name of any political parties on the eve of the election

Dangers to peaceful general elections in 2023:

Understanding Key Indicators

Risk during election:

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|--|
| 01 | Absent, shortage or late arrival of voting materials | 11 | Name of any candidate of a political parties not on the ballot paper |
| 02 | Manipulation of the election result | 12 | Releasing of unofficial results on social media |
| 03 | Lack of openness in the counting of ballots after voting | 13 | The use of law enforcement agencies on election day against a political party |
| 04 | Denial of party agent participation in the voting process | 14 | Traditional Media given wrong Data or information during election |
| 05 | Hate speech | 15 | Non- restrictions of movement during election |
| 06 | Partiality of the security agents | 16 | INEC ad-hoc staff being compromise/ working against the state |
| 07 | Delay in synchronization of Bimodal Voter Accreditation System (BVAS) to INEC server | 17 | INEC ad-hoc staff not properly trained |
| 08 | Raising false alarm | 18 | Vote buying and vote selling |
| 09 | Ignorance of the new electoral law on election cancelation, interference with INEC server | 19 | BVAS not functioning at some certain states or areas |
| 10 | Wearing of any form of a political party's identification | 20 | Coursing violence on election day by a political party where they are not popular or on the ground |

Dangers to peaceful general elections in 2023:

Understanding Key Indicators

Risk during election:

21

Clamp down of stakeholders on election day

24

Denying some certain group of person or individual in accessing the polling unit

22

Security men not adhering to the rules of the game

25

A voter not finding her / he's name on the displayed voters name at the polling unit

23

Restrictions on certain political parties' access to INEC materials while sensitive or non-sensitive materials are deployed to the REC center

Dangers to peaceful general elections in 2023:

Understanding Key Indicators

Post-election election violence risk

01 Post-election election violence risk

02 False declaration of results

03 Unofficial announcement of results on the media

04 Delay in announcement of results

05 Agitation on the side of the supporter's either positive or negative after the announcement of results

06 Refusal to hand over power to the winner of an election

Manifestation of the 2023 pre-election violence



145

died during 2019 elections



100

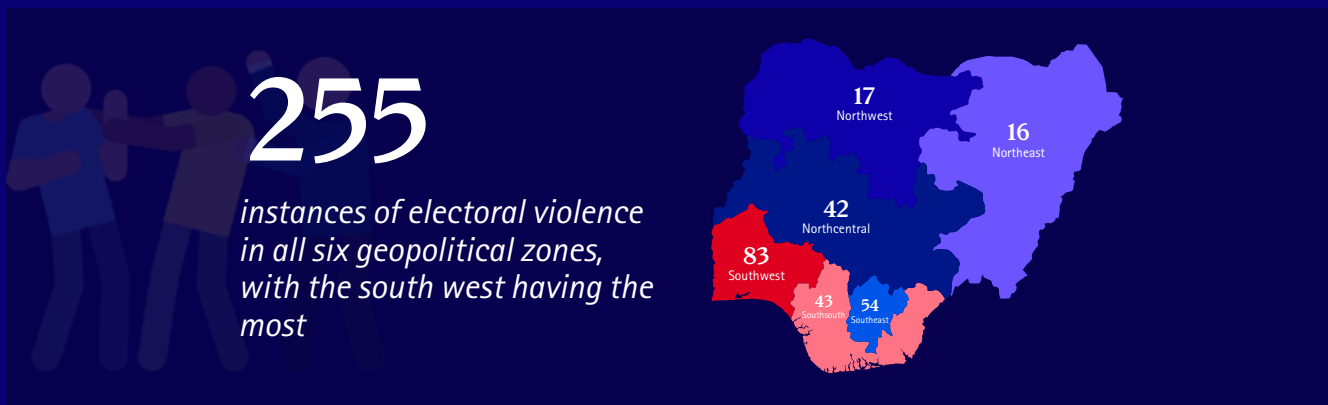
died during 2015 elections



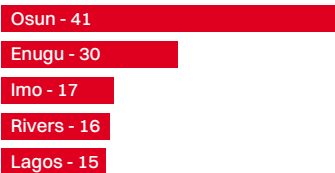
300

died during 2007 elections

**100 individuals lost their lives during the elections in 2003, compared to 80 during the polls that brought up the current democratic system in 1999.*



Electoral violence per states



170

persons lost their lives in an election-related mortality between January 2022 and January 2023



50

Independent National Electoral Commission's offices have already been destroyed since Nigeria's last election in 2019

In 2022, 1,993 ballot boxes, 399 voting booths, 22 power generators, and thousands of uncollected PVCs were destroyed as a result of the attack on INEC Facilities



Women as a Victims of electoral violence

Violence against women in election refers to any harm or threat of harm committed against women with the intent and/or impact of interfering with their free and equal participation in the electoral process during the electoral period.

Number of women have been targeted since the 2019 general election. A woman leader of the PDP, Mrs. Salome Abuh, was burned to death during the 2019 Kogi State gubernatorial election.

Violence against women in elections affect women's participation as voters, candidates, election officials, activists, and political party leaders, and it undermines the free, fair, and inclusive democratic process.

Women have been harassed, intimidated, threatened and financial pressured, and it may be committed in the home or other private spaces, or in public spaces

In a similar vein, there was also the gruesome murder of Victoria Chintex, the Labour Party (LP) women leader in Kaura LGA of Kaduna State, who was reportedly killed in November 2022.

Institutional safeguards already in place to stop election-related violence

The Nigeria legal framework:

Nigerian law forbids all forms election violence. The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offenses Act of 2000, the Economic and Financial Crimes (Establishment) Act of 2004, the Penal and Criminal Codes, and the Electoral Act of 2022 all forbid harassment, intimidation, physical harm or coercion, threats, vote buying, snatching of ballot papers and boxes, and murder. The proposed establishment of the Nigerian Electoral Offenses Commission and for Related Matters forbids, among other things, inappropriate use of voter's cards, false statements, undue influence, and incorrect voting.

Inter-Agency Consultative Committee On Election Security (ICCES):

ICCES is saddled with the task of improving the management election security. It aims to coordinate the design of a comprehensive election security management system for INEC. It develops locally focused plans for providing security before, during and after elections. It also advises INEC on rapid response to security threats around elections, including voter registration. It also, evaluate the performance of security agencies on election duties and recommend improvements and sanctions, where necessary. The members of this committee includes all the security agencies, including National Youth Service Corps.

Peace Accord:

National Peace Committee, a non-governmental organization, conceptualized this project in 2014 in reaction to new risks brought on by the general elections of 2015. Eminent elder statesmen who are part of this project work to promote transparent, fair, and free elections. By ratifying the peace agreement, all presidential hopefuls, political parties, and their spokespeople are promising to put national development issues ahead of insults and violence. The objective was to guarantee that political actors adopted a politer attitude when running for government.

Interparty Party Advisory Council (IPAC):

It is an umbrella body of all political parties in Nigeria. The platform aims to encourage and uphold a peaceful, inclusive, credible, fair, and free electoral environment in Nigeria. It encourages the conduct of political campaigns without animosity and places a strong emphasis on the virtues of tolerance, proper conduct, a spirit of accommodation, and teamwork while organizing political campaigns with the goal of bolstering and deepening the country's developing democracy. IPAC promote discipline, peace, unity, understanding as well as transparency and credibility in the electoral processes.

Election Ambassadors:

Election ambassadors are people and organizations that utilize their notoriety and platform to spread the word, interact with voters, and take part in election administration. INEC Peace Ambassadors and INEC Youth Ambassadors are two such examples. With the help of these peace ambassadors, more people can be inspired to participate in a peaceful general election. They include, among others, students, representatives of civil society organizations, and traditional leaders from many religions.



Managing the menace of electoral violence

01

Create trustworthy and effective systems for resolving electoral disputes and implement tools to punish those who violate electoral laws.

02

Establish guidelines for how security sector organizations should behave during elections.

03

Establish official coordination and information-sharing channels with political parties, other pertinent organizations, and electoral management organizations.

04

Create proactive risk management plans to address situations where there is a higher danger of electoral violence.

05

Encourage the inclusion of alternative conflict resolution mechanisms in the electoral law framework and raise awareness of the role that non-state actors play in supporting peaceful elections.

06

To minimize escalating tensions, promote fair reporting from the media.

07

To prevent violence and maintain public safety, government need to use appropriate security measures during elections.

08

Encourage communication and cooperation between political parties and other pertinent parties to support peaceful elections.

09

Encourage civic and voter education initiatives that promote election participation in a peaceful manner

10

To maintain credibility, openness, and independence, strengthen electoral institutions.



**Election Violence
Incidence Tracker**



BRAIN BUILDERS
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
INITIATIVE