



QUARTERLY BRIEFING FOR MP'S

JULY 28, 2023

POST-ELECTION BRIEFING

On Monday 29th May, Bola Tinubu was sworn-in as Nigeria's new president following a controversial election campaign and process which is still being contested in court. This briefing document shares some insights from our own analysis and conclusions drawn from available international observer reports.

In his inaugural address, Tinubu lauded Nigeria's democratic progress, in which "...we have more firmly established this land as a democracy in both word and deed", while also calling for unity across the country to tackle widespread insecurity and promote economic growth and prosperity. The day after Tinubu's address (May 30th), Nigeria's election tribunal began following several petitions from opposition parties, including the Labour Party, led by Peter Obi.

Several reported incidences of violence indeed disrupted the presidential and governorship elections. Insecurity built up prior to the elections, with The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) offices, personnel, and political candidates attacked. Still, the African Union (AU) note that in 95% of the 483 polling stations they visited, voting was taking place in a calm and orderly manner. It remains to be seen what conclusions the Presidential Election Tribunal will come to following the ongoing review of evidence and witness statements.

The Commonwealth acknowledged such incidents, but still commended the 'determination' of the Nigerian people to contribute to the democratic process.

The European Union Observation Mission (EOM) reported that 'thuggery' and 'intimidation' disrupted voting in several locations, primarily the south, central, and northern areas. Twenty-one fatalities were reported. It was also documented that disinformation and inflammatory rhetoric aimed at sowing ethnic divisions between communities proliferated in the second round of voting. In response, both the UK and US Governments have announced their intention to introduce sanctions against those responsible. No further details have been provided.

Following the elections and moreover after the swearing in of Tinubu, various forms of insecurity have continued and escalated with reports of various attacks persisting. In the middle-belt's north central states, Benue, Plateau and the southern part of Kaduna continue to be killing fields.

New Security Chiefs have now been appointed and been ordered to get a grip on addressing these attacks. The coming weeks and months will tell if this is a continuation of previous cycles of 'Words without positive effect'.

The addressing of impunity and low arrest / conviction rates compared with the prevalence of attacks and crimes in various parts of the country need to be addressed urgently to forestall a looming crisis which has started with Food insecurity prompting the current government to declare a 'state of Food Emergency'.



The UK-Nigeria Defence Partnership needs to be revamped and resourced to become effective in delivering peace for the people of Nigeria.

Recommendation

Call for Commission

Call for a re-focus on the efficacy of The Defence Partnership

Following the inauguration of Bola Tinubu, the International Organisation for Peacebuilding and Social Justice (PSJ UK) would like to reaffirm our commitment to a safe and secure Nigeria, where the rule of law prevails. Whatever the decision of the tribunal, Nigeria's new administration must do more to tackle Nigeria's security crisis. The UK also has a role to play in this, with both states linked by strong diplomatic, trading, and cultural ties. Specifically, the UK and Nigeria should re-visit the Defence and Security Partnership, while establishing an international commission to accurately investigate the multifaceted nature of insecurity and proffer meaningful solutions.

Who we are - [PSJ UK - Who We Are](#)

Nigeria needs you - [Nigeria needs YOU to become Secure - Contribute your Time, Talent & Treasure!!!](#)

On the brink report - <https://psjuk.org/on-the-brink/>

Wailing church newsletter - <https://psjuk.org/stories-of-persecuted-christians-in-nigeria-newsletter/>

PSJ UK brochure - https://www.flipsnack.com/psjuk/psj_brochure.html

Please find attached some pictures from our various activities

- Advocacy training events
- Film screening event in commemoration of Leah Sharibu who was abducted in 2019 and has since not been released
- Researchers round table event

Website <https://psjuk.org/>





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