



# The Electorate



ROLE OF THE COURTS 3.0

Achieving free, fair and credible elections in Nigeria remains challenging as every election is fraught with voter apathy, rigging, vote-buying, voter suppression, violence among others.

With the fragile state of our democracy, the role of the judiciary in resolving election disputes cannot be overemphasized.

In Kenya, the court has a timeline of only **21 days** to receive, hear and give a verdict on any election petition. For instance, the Kenya Supreme Court decided on the August 9, 2022 presidential election petition before the inauguration of William Ruto on September 13, 2022. However, in Nigeria, this is not the case - our timeline is **240 days** or **8 months** and inauguration will happen as scheduled.

## PROCESS OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION TRIBUNAL

	 NIGERIA	VS	 KENYA
1	The petition challenging the results should be filed within <b>21 days from the declaration of the results</b> by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).		The petition challenging the results should be filed within <b>7 days from the declaration of the results</b> by the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC).
2	The Tribunal Court has <b>180 days</b> to determine a verdict from the day the petition was filed.		A pre-trial conference will be held <b>8 days from the date of filing</b> the Presidential election petition.
3	The verdict of the tribunal (Court of Appeal) can be appealed and determined at Supreme Court <b>within 60 days after the tribunal judgement.</b>		Immediately after the pre-trial conference, hearing of the petition will take place in the Supreme Court. The decision of the court should be pronounced <b>14 days from the day the petition was filed.</b>
4	The total petition has the life cycle of <b>240 days after being filed.</b>		The total petition should be determined <b>21 days from the day it was filed.</b>



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KNOW YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

- Governors
- Senators
- House of Representatives Members
- State House of Assembly Members
- Local Government Chairmen & Councillors

ELECTIONS

- Registration
- PVC Collection
- Polling Unit (PU) Locator
- Debates etc.

Get started Send "Hello" via WhatsApp to 017006381

- ### Building Trust in the Judiciary
- Tribunals should be live-streamed, especially the Presidential. The high cost of TV airtime can be mitigated with technology - a dedicated Youtube channel for each Tribunal.
  - State-level Tribunals should be moved to Abuja if witnesses have security concerns.

Source: EiE Research



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