



# European Union Election Observation Mission Nigeria General Elections 2023

Reflecting its continued commitment to support credible, transparent and inclusive elections, the European Union has deployed Election Observation Missions to Nigeria since 1999. This is the seventh time the EU deploys an election observation mission for the general elections, aiming to promote democracy and human rights.

## About the EU EOM

The European Union has deployed an Election Observation Mission (EOM) for the Presidential, Senate and House of Representatives elections scheduled for 25 February and the Governorship and State Houses of Assembly elections scheduled for 11 March. The EU EOM is led by Chief Observer Barry Andrews, Member of the European Parliament from Ireland.

A Core Team of 11 election analysts arrived in Abuja on 11 January to analyse the political, electoral, legal and media aspects of the entire electoral process.

**EU EOM  
Chief Observer  
Barry Andrews**



40 long-term observers were deployed across Nigeria on 29 January to cover all 36 states. They observe the electoral process in their areas and report back to the Core Team in Abuja. Around 48 representatives of EU Embassies in Nigeria, as well as a delegation from the European Parliament will reinforce the Election Observation Mission for election day. They observe voting, counting and the tabulation of results.

In total, the mission will comprise around 110 observers from 25 EU Member States, Norway, Switzerland, and Canada, supported by logistical and security experts.

## EU EOM Mandate

The mission was invited by the Independent National Electoral Commission of Nigeria.

The EU EOM observes all aspects of the electoral process, and assesses the extent to which the elections comply with international and regional commitments for elections, as well as the laws of Nigeria.

The mission is independent in its findings from the Delegation of the European Union to the Federal Republic of Nigeria and ECOWAS, EU member states, EU institutions and other international organisations.

The EU EOM will observe and assess:

- the legal framework and its implementation;
- the impartiality and the performance of the election administration;
- the degree of an open and fairly contested campaign, campaign finance;
- the role of state institutions and civil society;
- the universal franchise afforded to voters, especially to women, youth, and vulnerable groups;
- the conduct of the media, including social media; access for political parties and candidates to state and private media;
- the use of election technology in the electoral process and the result management system;
- voting, counting and tabulation, as well as the announcement of the results;
- the complaints and appeals process

## Background to EU Election Observation

The EU applies a consistent methodology for observing elections. Observers do not interfere in the electoral process and have no authority to change or correct any shortcomings. All EU election observers are bound by a strict Code of Conduct and Ethical Guidelines that guarantee their neutrality and impartiality. The EU EOM seeks to enhance public confidence in the electoral process without interfering in the conduct of elections in any way, or validating its results.

The mission operates in accordance with the 'Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation' adopted at the United Nations in 2005 by a number of international bodies involved in election observation.

The EU EOM will present a preliminary statement within 48 hours after election day. This statement however is delivered while critical stages of the process remain, including the tabulation of the official results, and adjudications of petitions. A comprehensive final report, as well as recommendations for future elections will be presented approximately two months after the conclusion of the entire electoral process.

## Contact and Connect

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