



Invitation

Elections in Nigeria - The End of an Era?

On 25 February 2023, Nigeria, Africa's most populous country, will hold presidential elections. This is a turning point for the country, as the current president, Muhammadu Buhari, cannot run again after two terms in office. Furthermore, for the first time since the state's return to democracy in 1999, no retired general is running for president. The candidates are former Vice President Atiku Abubakar (75) of the *Peoples' Democratic Party* (DCP), Bola Ahmed Tinubu (70) of the current ruling *All Progressives Congress* (APC) and Rabi'u Musa Kwankwaso (66) of the Nigeria Peoples Party (NNPP). Moreover, 61-year-old Peter Obi, who is considered an outsider, although increasingly popular among the young population, is running for the presidency as candidate of the Labour Party.

For many Nigerians, the election is considered a landmark. Especially among young people, this year's election is perceived as a watershed in its own right: Although 70% of the population is under 30 years of age, young people have so far had comparatively little influence on political processes and their interests have often been neglected. Regardless of the election outcome, the challenges the new government is facing are enormous. For example, the West African country, which is Germany's second most important trading partner in Sub-Saharan Africa and plays a central role in stabilising the region, faces great challenges in terms of economic affairs and security policy. Additionally, there are social and domestic tensions that have become apparent in recent years, among other things, in the protests of the young #ENDSARS movement against police violence.

What role do the young population in general and the #ENDSARS movement in particular play in the upcoming election? What demands and expectations do the voters have? And what impact will the election result have on German-Nigerian relations and on Nigeria's role in the region?

In order to discuss these and other questions together, the German Africa Foundation and the Heinrich Böll Foundation cordially invite you to an expert discussion.

Programme

Welcome Remarks: **Sabine Odhiambo**, Secretary General, German Africa Foundation

Discussion: **Abubakar Adam Ibrahim**, Journalist, Author and Political Analyst
Rebecca Enobong Roberts, PhD Student, Technical University of Berlin

Closing Remarks: **Sabine Odhiambo**, Secretary General, German Africa Foundation

Moderation: **Elisabeth Massute**, Senior Programme Officer in the Africa Department, Heinrich Böll Foundation

Date

**Thursday,
19 January 2023,
15:00 – 16:00hrs,
online via Zoom**

The discussion will be
in English.

Please register [here](#) by
17 January 2023. We will
forward the zoom link on the
day before the event.





Deutsche Afrika Stiftung e.V.
Fondation Allemande pour l'Afrique
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Speakers



Abubakar Adam Ibrahim

Journalist, Author and Political Analyst

Abubakar Adam Ibrahim is a journalist, political analyst and author based in Abuja. He has won numerous prizes and scholarships for his coverage and short stories, including the BBC African Performance Prize. In his column in the Daily Trust, he comments on political events in Nigeria and on the African continent. An assessment by him on the 2023 elections was recently published by the Heinrich Böll Foundation. His much-discussed debut novel "Where We Stumble and Where We Fall" (orig. "Season of Crimson Blossoms", 2015) was awarded the Nigerian Prize for Literature 2016.



Rebecca Enobong Roberts

PhD Student, Technical University of Berlin

Rebecca Enobong Roberts is a PhD student at the Habitat Unit of the Technical University of Berlin and teaches community engagement at the Humboldt University of Berlin. This project is co-supervised by the Department of Urban Planning at the University of Lagos, Nigeria. In her doctoral thesis, she investigates the connection between internal displacement and forced migration in the broader context of urbanisation. She has 11 years of experience implementing and managing development projects in 23 states and multiple cities in Nigeria as well as in Dakar (Senegal), Pretoria and Johannesburg (South Africa), Accra and Kumasi (Ghana).



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