

# DIA NEWSLETTER

DEMOCRACY IN AFRICA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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## HOW OPPOSITION PARTIES FIGHT AGAINST FLAWED ELECTIONS

Opposition parties in most of the world's newest and least established democracies enter elections knowing that they have little chance of winning. Over half of elections in sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and post-communist Europe saw significant irregularities between 2012 and 2016.

Worse still, few of these elections have seen decisive interventions by either the international community or the judiciary to protect democratic principles. So it shouldn't come as a surprise that more opposition parties are attempting to shift the battleground to the court of public opinion to increase the pressure of judges and international donors.

The complete version of this opposition playbook involves five main steps ... read about them [here](#).

## MOST READ STORIES

MALAWI COURT NULLIFIES THE ELECTION

THE PROBLEM OF LEADERSHIP IN AFRICA

THE STATE OF DEMOCRACY IN AFRICA

WHY BBI WILL NOT SOLVE KENYA'S PROBLEMS

VOTER APATHY : A THREAT TO DEMOCRACY IN AFRICA

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“

*...the irregularities and anomalies have been so widespread systematic and grave..that the integrity of the results has been seriously compromised.*

”

*Malawi Constitutional Court  
3rd February, 2020*

# BOOK OF THE MONTH

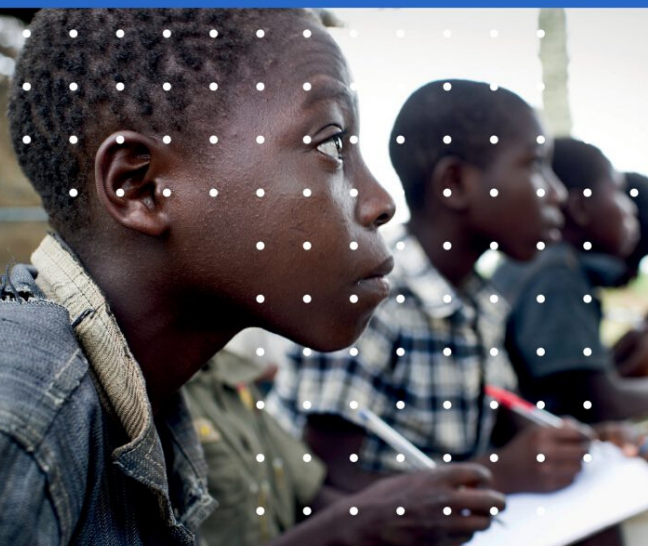
How are public services delivered in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), a country which is largely known for the absence, and fragility of its state? Kristof Titeca and Tom De Herdt share the lessons of their new volume, 'Negotiating Public Services in the Congo', which explores how public services and state institutions function on a day-to-day basis in the DRC.

## Negotiating Public Services in the Congo

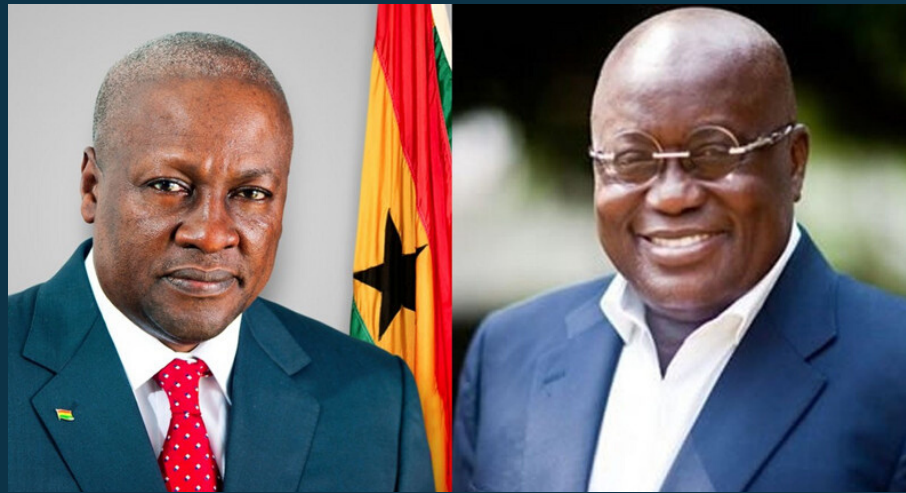
State, Society and Governance

Edited by Tom De Herdt and Kristof Titeca

POLITICS AND DEVELOPMENT  
IN CONTEMPORARY AFRICA



# 2020 GHANA ELECTIONS SIX THINGS TO WATCH



Ghana goes to the polls to elect a President and Members of Parliament in December 2020. It will be the country's eighth successive general election since the resumption of multiparty democracy in 1992. So how are things shaping up ahead of the polls? Michael Gyekye suggests that we all keep an eye on the six important questions:

1. Will there be an old or new Voter's Register?
2. Who will be President Mahama's running mate?
3. Which "elephants" will fall in the NPP's Primaries?
4. Will Ghana get 300 MPs?
5. Free SHS v Community Day Schools? Nana v Mahama?
6. How will campaign for no voters to be left behind fare?

Read why these issues are so important [here](#)

## THINGS TO LOOK OUT FOR ...

**Malawi.** President Peter Mutharika will come under great pressure to assent to legislation to reform the electoral commission and pave the way for "fresh" elections on May 19 – but will he?

**Ethiopia.** Is supposed to be having legislative and regional elections in May, but preparations do not seem to have reached a stage where high quality polls will be possible in this timeframe – so will the elections be postponed?

**Africa.** There have already been a confirmed case of Coronavirus in Lagos, so the question is now where the virus will spread and how effectively will governments respond – will it be possible to hold elections in Malawi and Ethiopia if there is an outbreak in these countries?