Promoting good governance & citizen engagement

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

November 23, 2026

#OfficeOfTheCitizen | #RSVP2027

# Communiqué: Political threats have no place in Nigeria's elections

**An urgent call to electoral bodies, security agencies, political parties, and public officeholders to halt voter intimidation and enforce accountability ahead of the 2027 General Elections.**

Issued by: Enough is Enough (EiE) Nigeria | Date: November 23, 2026

## A rising threat to democratic integrity

An election should be a contest of ideas, policies, and citizens' confidence. Nigerians must be free to support any candidate or political party, campaign for their preferred choices, and cast their votes without fear of violence, intimidation, or retribution.

However, as Nigeria approaches the 2027 general elections, the rhetoric of politicians and public officials is raising serious concerns about the safety and integrity of the electoral environment. Enough is Enough (EiE) Nigeria has documented alarming instances of threats to kill political opponents, warnings that residents must support specific parties or face expulsion from their communities, attempts to weaponise employment and public benefits, and targeted ethnic profiling.

These are not merely controversial remarks; they are direct assaults on citizens' safety, their constitutional freedom to participate in elections, and the fundamental duty of public officials to protect the people they serve.

**Our position is resolute: no political ambition justifies threatening citizens, intimidating opponents, or abusing public authority to compel political support.**

| 25 | 18 | 17 | 0 |
|---|---|---|---|
| distinct incidents of political threats and intimidation documented | of the 25 are from 2026 | involve individuals holding public office | criminal prosecutions or convictions resulting from these threats |

# What the trend reveals

As of November 10, 2026, EiE Nigeria has documented 25 distinct incidents of political threats and intimidation. An analysis of these incidents reveals highly concerning patterns:



### Escalation ahead of elections

Political threats are accelerating. Eighteen of the 25 documented entries are from 2026, with 15 recorded from August onward following the opening of campaign seasons.




### Complicity of public officials

Seventeen entries involve individuals holding public office, including governors, a minister, a senator, local government chairmen, and state appointees.



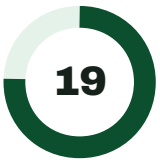

### Severe forms of intimidation

Ten entries feature language threatening physical violence, including references to killings, firearms, and "dealing with" opponents. Other threats target livelihoods, access to public spaces, and employment.




### Local government weaponisation

Seven entries involve council chairmen or their aides, highlighting the coercion of grassroots structures to deliver partisan electoral victories under threat of removal.




### A cross-party crisis

Nineteen entries involve speakers from the ruling party, but opposition figures are also implicated, including a senatorial aspirant threatening lethal violence against alleged riggers.

**3** police probes

**1** civil suit

**0** prosecutions

### A crisis of accountability

Institutional response remains severely limited. While police announced investigations into three cases and one civil suit was filed, available data shows zero criminal prosecutions or convictions resulting from these threats.

## Corroborated by the National Peace Committee

These internal findings are corroborated by the National Peace Committee's monitoring report (August 19 to October 27, 2026), which recorded 109 breaches of the National Peace Accord across 26 states and the FCT, including:



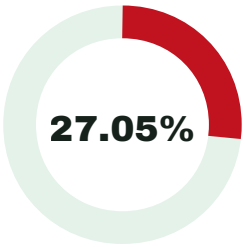

| | |
|---|---|
| Political violence and thuggery | 33 |
| Misinformation and disinformation | 29 |
| Attacks on political activities and campaign assets | 19 |
| Intimidation and threats | 15 |
| Restrictions on expression and assembly | 7 |
| Inflammatory statements | 4 |
| Intra-party conflict and voter inducement* | 2 |

*The report names these two categories without counts. The 2 shown is the remainder of the 109.

# What is at stake for 2027?

Political threats do not need to culminate in physical violence to successfully undermine a democracy. The mere fear of punishment or retaliation is often enough to disenfranchise voters.

With Nigeria's 2023 presidential election voter turnout sitting at a historic low of 27.05%, we cannot allow intimidation to erect another barrier to participation.




**Five critical pillars of our democracy are currently at risk:**

### 1 The freedom to choose

Pressuring citizens through threats to their livelihoods, communities, or personal relationships severely compromises their freedom to make independent political choices.

### 2 The right to campaign

Elections are not competitive when opposition supporters are treated as enemies or restricted from organising and mobilising safely.

### 3 The responsible use of public office

Public offices exist to serve the citizenry, not to function as partisan vote-delivery mechanisms. Blurring this line demands immediate institutional scrutiny.

### 4 Citizen safety and dignity

No Nigerian should be marginalised, threatened, or excluded based on their ethnic, regional, or political identity.

### 5 Confidence in the rule of law

Settling political disputes through intimidation rather than established legal frameworks destroys public trust in electoral and legal processes.

# Call to action: what needs to happen

Political threats must carry institutional consequences. We call upon the following stakeholders to act immediately within their statutory mandates:

### Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC)

- Actively monitor and document violations of the Electoral Act regarding campaigns, intimidation, and threats.
- Exercise statutory powers to query political parties whose activities violate electoral laws.
- Pursue the prosecution of Electoral Act offences where evidence exists, and publish updates transparently.

### Nigeria Police Force

- Provide immediate public updates on previously announced investigations into political threats.
- Investigate all credible allegations of intimidation, threats, and attacks against political opponents or gatherings.
- Guarantee adequate, impartial security for all political rallies and processions, irrespective of party affiliation.

### National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)

- Investigate credible complaints of threats and intimidation that infringe upon fundamental human rights.
- Assist affected citizens in seeking legal redress.
- Publish investigative findings and refer actionable cases to appropriate prosecutorial authorities.

**Call to action, continued**

### Political parties

- Issue clear public condemnations of threats and intimidation perpetrated by their own members, candidates, and officials.
- Enforce strict internal disciplinary actions against members who intimidate voters or opponents.
- Ensure state resources and public offices are strictly separated from partisan campaigning.

### The President and state governors

- Publicly condemn the weaponisation of government influence to compel political loyalty.
- Hold appointed and elected officials under their direct authority accountable for utilizing their platforms to threaten citizens.

### The media and civil society

- Accurately document political threats and relentlessly follow up on institutional investigations.
- Sustain the demand for accountability and the promotion of peaceful civic participation.

## A message to Nigerians

Your political choices belong entirely to you. No candidate, party, or public official possesses the right to dictate your support or threaten you for exercising your constitutional rights.

As we look toward 2027, we urge you to reject intimidation, verify information before circulating it, and demand clear stances against political violence from every candidate seeking your vote.

**Do not allow fear to silence your voice. Your vote is your right; your choice should never compromise your safety.**

## EiE Nigeria's commitment

Enough is Enough (EiE) Nigeria will continue to document political threats, monitor the responses of our law enforcement and electoral institutions, and publish our findings.

In December 2026, EiE will convene a webinar with relevant stakeholders to assess the political landscape, review institutional responses, and establish actionable frameworks to protect peaceful political participation ahead of the 2027 elections.

**Webinar**
**December 2026**

**We remain committed to questioning those in authority and demanding accountability from any political actor whose conduct threatens the democratic rights of Nigerians. The 2027 elections must be defined by the will of the citizens, not by the threats of those desperate for power.**