

ZIMBABWE ELECTION SUPPORT NETWORK



*“We will ensure that Zimbabwe delivers **free**, credible, **fair** and indisputable elections to ensure Zimbabwe engages the world as a qualified democratic state,”*
President Emmerson Mnangagwa in Maputo, Mozambique.

What constitutes free and fair elections?

FREE

- Freedom of movement
- Freedom of speech (for candidates, media, voters and others)
- Freedom of Assembly
- Freedom of Association
- Opportunity to participate in elections
- Freedom of choice (no bribery, corruption)
- Equal Universal suffrage
- Legal possibilities of complaints

FAIR

- A transparent electoral process
- An Electoral Act and an electoral system that grant no special privileges to any political party or social group
- Absence of exclusion from the electoral register
- Establishment of an independent and impartial election commission
- Impartial treatment of candidates by the police, the army and the courts of law
- Equal opportunities for political parties and independent candidates to stand for election

FAIR *continued...*

- Impartial voter education programs
- An orderly election campaign (observance of a code of conduct)
- Equal access to publicly controlled media
- No misuse of government facilities for campaign purposes
- Access to all polling stations for representatives of parties, local and international observers, and media
- Secrecy of the ballot
- Absence of intimidation and harassment of voters
- Effective design of ballot papers
- Proper ballot boxes
- Impartial assistance to voters
- Transparency in counting and results management
- Proper treatment of valid ballot papers
- Proper precautionary measures when transporting election materials
- Official and expeditious announcement of election results
- Impartial and expeditious treatment of any election complaints
- Impartial reports on the election results by the media
- Acceptance of election results by all stakeholders.

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