



PRESS STATEMENT
MESSAGE FROM RELIGIOUS LEADERS AND INSTITUTIONS IN
PROMOTING PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE AHEAD OF KENYA'S
2022 GENERAL ELECTIONS

Fellow Kenyans,

As people of faith and leaders of Kenya's religious groups, we stress that the processes that define our governance systems and constitute the foundation of our common well-being be conducted with honesty and in full exercise of our faith.

Recalling our bad experiences with the 1992, 2007/2008 and 2017 post-election violence

Recognising that the emerging patterns and trends of electoral violence nationally, the polarised discourses by political elites and the mobilisation of the youth toward violence.

Committed to our religious call to provide leadership in peaceful elections and to build a nation based on the principles of social justice, unity, peace, liberty and the fear of God.

We therefore in this press statement call upon all Kenyans irrespective of the stake they hold in the 2022 election to adhere to our national constitution as well as the word of God.

We express our deep concern about the emerging political intolerance and appeal to politicians to embrace diversity of opinion. **We strongly encourage** all political parties to sign and respect the electoral code of conduct elaborated by the IEBC, the political decency charter by the NCIC and to participate in a constructive and peaceful manner in the entire electoral process, including after the elections.

We urge our congregants to embrace civic duty of making informed decisions, get registered as voters and be ready to vote. We **prevail upon** you to ensure that your name is in your preferred polling station and to observe law and order now, during and after the August 2022 elections.

We stress the need and offer our support for the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) to ensure enhanced and regular dialogue with all candidates in order to ensure a peaceful process before, during and after the elections.

We encourage the IEBC to focus on technical issues deemed critical to election legitimacy, such as the electoral database's reliability and election results compilation.

We note the youth have not turned out in large numbers for IEBC voter registration. We call upon the youth to use this opportunity to change their destiny. **We call upon** the youth to harness their full potential and leadership as effective peacebuilders and break the destructive narrative of young people as drivers of conflict, or as victims.

We urge the media to maintain a high level of professionalism, accuracy and impartiality in their coverage of political activities during this electioneering period.

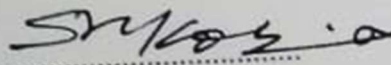
We urge users of social media to desist from using the space for incitements for violence and instead promote peace.

We commit to support the established institutions to do their role in ensuring peaceful elections and offer to be part of a national mediation team to facilitate dialogue and disputes resolution among all stakeholders.


We commit to use our religious institutions structures and functions to talk to politicians and the youth to embrace peace ahead of 2022 elections.

May Almighty God give us the wisdom to choose the correct path and the strength to persevere in His will.

SIGNED THIS DAY OF 27TH OCTOBER 2021



Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia
CHAIRPERSON NCIC



Rev. Fr. Joseph Mutie
CHAIRPERSON IRCK