



SOUTH AFRICA

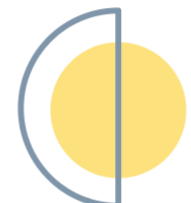
# Electoral Commission Research Seminar

**SAFEGUARDING ELECTORAL DEMOCRACY  
IN THE AGE OF GROWING MISTRUST**

Holiday Inn, Sandton  
Johannesburg

21<sup>st</sup> September 2022

**SEMINAR PROGRAMME**





## SOUTH AFRICA

**Programme Director: Ms Cathy Mohlahlana (Award-winning broadcast journalist and senior news anchor)**

08h00 – 09h00 Registration and Welcome Refreshments

09h00- 09h20: Welcome remarks by Vice-Chairperson Ms Janet Love (IEC)

### 09h20 – 13h00: Session 1 - Scene Setting

*This Session sets the scene for the seminar, with three presentations exploring and highlighting the findings of research work into the state and quality of research into the field of electoral democracy as well as the state and quality of electoral democracy in South Africa. The presentations will draw on studies conducted over the years, reflecting on patterns and trends in various aspects of electoral democracy such as voter registration, participation, voter turnout, levels of citizen engagement and trust in electoral democracy in South Africa and other related issues.*

#### **Presenters:**

09h20 – 10h20: Presentations by Dr Ben Roberts (Human Science Research Council - HSRC) Long Term Trends in South Africa's Electoral Democracy.

10h20 – 10h50: Presentation by Mr Jan Hofmeyr (Institute for Justice and Reconciliation/Afrobarometer).

10h50 – 11h20: Presentation by Mr Reza Omar (Citizen Surveys).

### 11h30 – 11h40: Break

11h30 – 13h00: Questions & Answers Session

### 13h00 – 14h00: Lunch



## 14h00 – 16h00: Session 2: Discussion Panel Session

### The state we are in, and the future: Conversation about quality of electoral democracy in South Africa, and restoring the spirit of 1994

*The Discussion Panel will identify, discuss and analyse key issues and factors affecting the quality of electoral democracy in South Africa. The Panel will also discuss the emerging issues and challenges facing South Africa's electoral democracy, using evidence and trends reflected in research studies conducted over the past decade or more. Finally, the Panel will discuss what needs to be done by the Electoral Commission and other key role players, in light of the widely acknowledged declining popular trust in core political institutions and the country's democracy, to restore public faith in South Africa's electoral democracy in a manner reminiscent of the dawn of democracy in 1994.*

#### Panellists:

- Prof. Mcebisi Ndletyana (University of Johannesburg)
- Ms Susan Tolmay (Gender Links)
- Mr Ebrahim Fakir (AUWAL Socio-economic Research Institute - ASRI)
- Dr Collette Schulz-Herzenberg (Stellenbosch University)

## 16h00 – 16h30: Session 3: Closing remarks by IEC

- 16h00-16h30: Closing Remarks - (IEC)