



## Fact Sheet 1 – 2022 National Election

### LEGAL FRAMEWORK

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**The legal framework that governs the conduct of general elections to the National Parliament ('national elections') in Papua New Guinea (PNG) consists of:**

- *The Constitution of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea 1975* ('the Constitution') as amended
- *Organic Law on National and Local-level Government Elections 1997*, as amended in 2012 ('electoral law')
- *Criminal Code Act 1974* (particularly Division 3 – Corrupt and Improper Practices at Elections)
- *Organic Law on the Integrity of Political Parties and Candidates 2003* ('political parties' law')
- *Electoral Law (National Elections) Regulation 2007* ('electoral regulations'); and
- *Election Petition Rules 2017*

**The Government of PNG (GoPNG) has signed or agreed to the following regional and international instruments that are also relevant to the administration of elections:**

- The Commonwealth Charter (2012)
- Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Declaration on Gender Equality (2012)
- Biketawa Declaration of the Pacific Islands Forum (2000)
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)
- The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966)
- The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (1965)
- The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966)
- The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1979)
- The Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989)
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2006)