Electoral capture in Zimbabwe became a key challenge in the post-2000 period
- ZANU PF was confronted with the reality of losing power to a popularly supported opposition party
- The opposition party had backing from the United Kingdom and its political allies in the international community
- ZANU PF aggressively recalibrated its electoral strategy

**Key factors influencing electoral politics**
- Subjective Violence
- Weaponisation of Essential Resources and Services
- Constituency Gerrymandering
- Voters’ Roll Manipulation
- Disenfranchisement of Voters
- Unequal Campaign Opportunities
- Nature and ideology of the postcolonial state
- Military Influence
- The first-past-the-post or winner-takes-all electoral system

READ THE FULL BOOK
HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/ELECTORALCAPTURE
Introduce first-past-the-post system or personalised proportional representation
Introduce electronic voting
Introduce an electoral court
Approve an electoral code
De-politicise the electoral administration bodies
Approve legal instruments to make it illegal for biased public press coverage
Abolish the clause stipulating 10,000 signatures for presidential candidacy
Introduce digital mechanisms to publish electoral data

**FACTORS THAT ENABLE ELECTORAL CAPTURE**
1. The system of proportional representation
2. Deficient electoral administration system
3. Weak electoral observation
4. Partisanship of the police
5. Opposition's lack of technical capacity

**IMPLIEDATIONS OF ELECTORAL CAPTURE**
1. Government's weak political legitimacy
2. Post-electoral conflicts

**RECOMMENDATIONS**
1. Introduce first-past-the-post system or personalised proportional representation
2. Introduce electronic voting
3. Introduce an electoral court
4. Approve an electoral code
5. De-politicise the electoral administration bodies
6. Approve legal instruments to make it illegal for biased public press coverage
7. Abolish the clause stipulating 10,000 signatures for presidential candidacy
8. Introduce digital mechanisms to publish electoral data

READ THE FULL BOOK
HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/ELECTORALCAPTURE
The Zambian Experience

Attempted Electoral Capture in Southern Africa

OCT 1964
INDEPENDENCE

BEFORE 1991
ONE PARTY STATE

SINCE 1991
MULTIPARTY ELECTIONS

2015 - 2021
ELECTORAL CAPTURE

AUGUST 2021
ELECTIONS

Key Features of Electoral Capture

Political Factors
- militarisation of political and youth cadre
- regional and ethnic power politics
- weak institutions

Legal and Policy Factors
- capture of state institutions

Economic Factors
- Unemployment
- Business Interests

Reasons for no electoral capture:
- The vigilance of the people and their ability to protect the integrity of the vote
- The people's ability to override attempts at capturing the institutions of governance

Priority of needs:
1. Reform all the institutions of state, including the civil service, which was packed with cronies and associates close to former President Lungu and his government.
2. Strengthen democratic and electoral processes

READ THE FULL BOOK
HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/ELECTORALCAPTURE