

*Nigerian Presidential Elections, 2023:*

**Obi files Petition against INEC's decision of Tinubu as President-Elect**

March 21, 2023

On 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023, the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) had declared Bola Tinubu as President-Elect and Kashim Shettima as Vice-President-Elect). To beat the 21-day period's limit to file a petition against the INEC declaration, Peter Obi filed his petition at about mid-night of Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023 at the Presidential Election Petition Court in Abuja.

The Petition asks for either declaring Peter Obi as the President-Elect or to annul the Presidential Election of February 25-26.

It may be noted that the votes obtained by the four major candidates at the election were as follows:

<b>Name of Candidate</b>	<b>Party</b>	<b>No of Votes Polled by the candidate</b>
Bola Tinubu	APC	8,794,726
Atiku Abubakar	PDP	6,984,520
Peter Obi	Labour	6,101,533
Rabiu Kwankwaso	NNPP	1,496,687

Earlier on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023, the Presidential Election Petition Court (PEPC) registry has opened in Abuja. It is a statutory responsibility of the Court of Appeal, which coordinates post-election litigations, to set up the tribunals and open them for business ahead of elections. The PEPC is subject to appeal to the Supreme Court.

Adamu Mohammed is the interim Secretary of PEPC. He said that Election Petition Tribunals have opened their registries in 36 States and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Abuja.

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