



Elections Observation Group

CREDIBLE, PEACEFUL, FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS



Gala Night Celebration & Impact Showcase

CONCEPT CSO

16 October 2025



CREDIBLE, PEACEFUL, FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS



"Credible, Peaceful, Free and Fair Elections."

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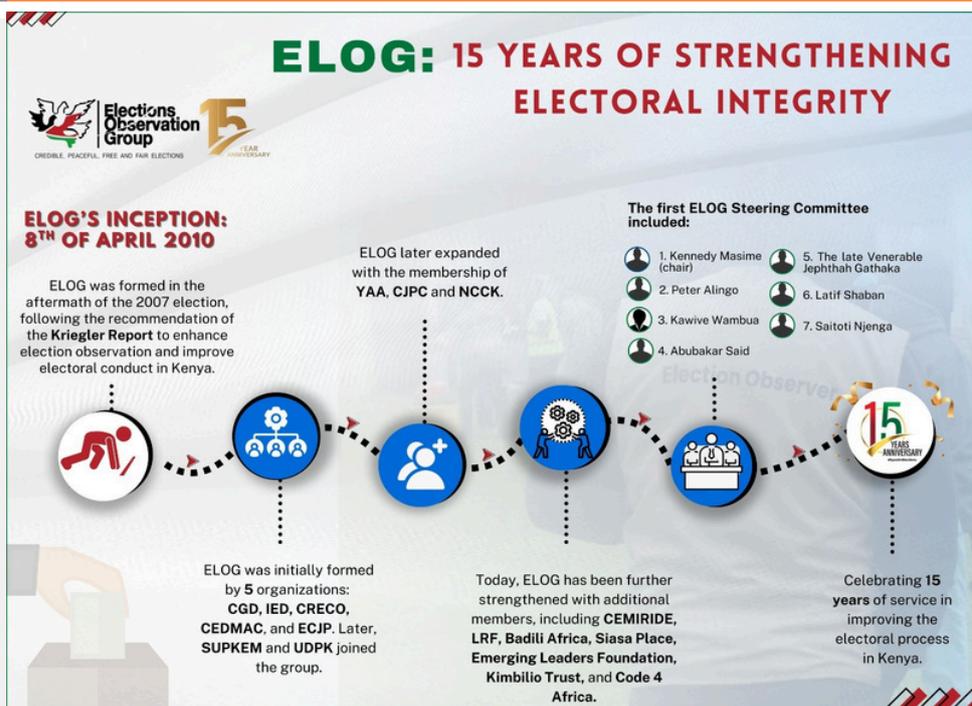
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About Ven. Gathaka



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ELOG@15: Celebrating 15 Years of Citizen-Led Electoral Observation in Kenya

1. About ELOG

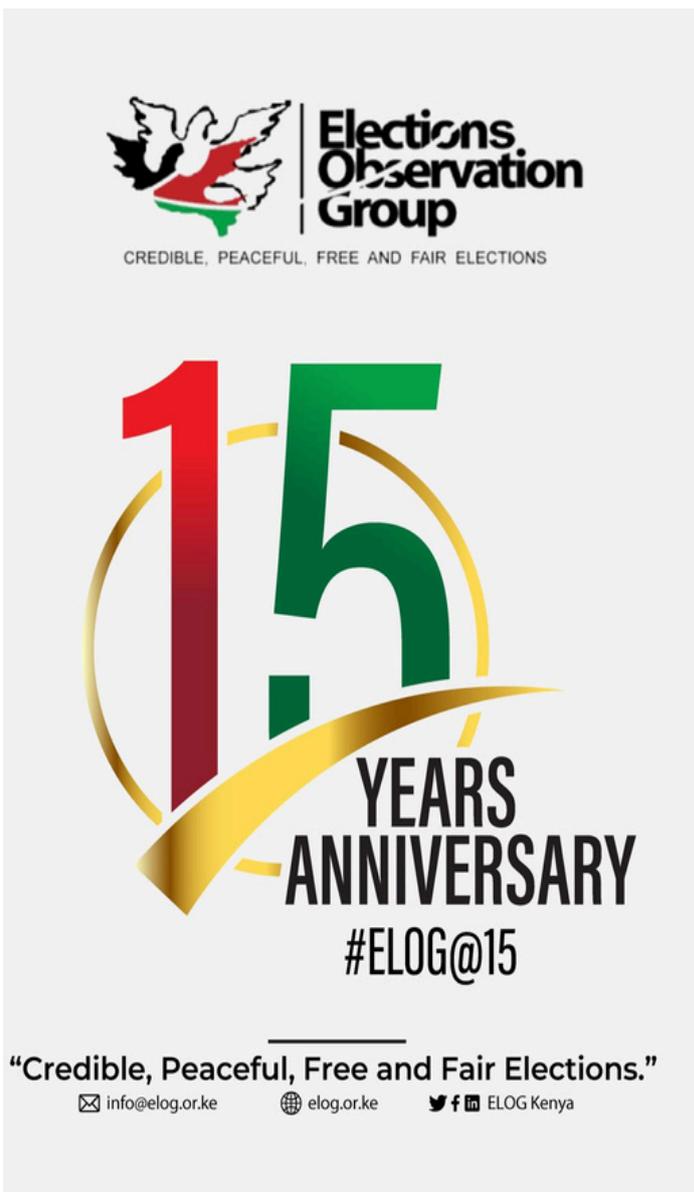
The Elections Observation Group (ELOG) is a non-partisan, civil society-led platform committed to promoting transparent, inclusive, and accountable electoral processes in Kenya. Since its establishment in 2010, ELOG has observed three general elections, two referenda, numerous by-elections, and institutional elections, producing over 50 evidence-based reports that have influenced electoral reform and civic engagement.

Working through a robust structure of 18 member organizations, ELOG operates with a two-tiered membership model that ensures both strategic leadership and thematic expertise. At its core are 10 Steering Committee members drawn from leading Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs), providing governance, oversight, and institutional anchoring. Complementing this are 8 Thematic Members, each representing a critical focus area of the electoral cycle—ranging from voter education and legal reforms to media monitoring, campaign financing, and inclusion.

To bring its work closer to citizens and align with Kenya's devolved governance framework, ELOG established 10 Regional Observation Platforms (ROPs) that comprehensively cover all 47 counties. These ROPs serve as decentralized hubs for electoral observation, civic engagement, and real-time reporting—ensuring that local voices influence national discourse and reform efforts.

Beyond its structural design, ELOG plays a central role in coalition-building and sector coordination. It convenes the Technical Working Group on Elections, comprising 38 CSOs active in Kenya's governance and electoral space. It also anchors the Uchaguzi Platform, a multi-stakeholder civic engagement and election response platform, and FURIC, which advances inclusive reform dialogue.

At the regional level, ELOG serves as the Permanent Secretariat of the East and Horn of Africa Election Observation Network (E-HORN), fostering peer learning and regional collaboration. It is also an active member of the African Election Observers Network (AfEONet) and the Global Network of Domestic Election Monitors (GNDEM)—amplifying Kenya's voice in continental and global electoral accountability spaces. Through these roles, ELOG contributes to setting standards, sharing innovations, and shaping the future of citizen-led observation across Africa and beyond.



2. About the ELOG@15 Gala Celebration

The ELOG@15 Gala Night is a high-profile evening celebration commemorating 15 years of impact in electoral governance. This by-invitation-only event will bring together business leaders, civil society champions, diplomats, and governance stakeholders to:

- Reflect on Kenya’s journey toward free and fair elections
- Celebrate key contributors to electoral progress
- Launch ELOG’s future direction and deepen stakeholder partnerships

This special evening is designed to offer prestige, visibility, and strategic alignment to brands and institutions committed to governance, transparency, and inclusive development.

3. Event Highlights

- Awards Ceremony: Presentation of two major recognitions—the Gathaka Award and the Electoral Cycle Champions Awards, honoring individuals and institutions that have shaped Kenya’s democratic trajectory.
- Documentary Screening – “ELOG@15”: A moving short film tracing ELOG’s milestones, grassroots voices, and institutional legacy.
- Keynote Speeches: Thought leaders from corporate Kenya, civic society, and regional institutions share insights on democracy and governance.
- Performances & Networking Dinner: Cultural entertainment, shared dining, and valuable networking moments.
- Impact Showcase: Visual exhibition of ELOG’s achievements and future roadmap, plus recognition of partners and sponsors.

4. ELOG's Impact at a Glance

Key ELOG Highlights and Achievements

1

Institutionalization of ELOG

Prior to 2010, election observation was spontaneous, ad hoc, and limited to Election Day. ELOG established a permanent presence to observe and monitor the entire electoral cycle.

2

Establishment of a "community of practice"

Cumulatively trained and deployed over **30,000** Kenyans drawn from all **290** constituencies to observe national & institutional electoral processes & elections (2010-2022). Forming a strong grassroots network critical to electoral governance.

3

Timely, Evidence-Based Reports

In all its election interventions, **ELOG** has consistently produced accurate & timely reports to inform national and local conversations on improving the conduct of elections in the country.

4

Devolvement of its operations

Established **10 regional observation platforms (ROPs)** across Kenya to anchor ELOG's operations and activities at the local level, ensuring broader and more inclusive oversight.

5

Networks and Collaborations

ELOG is a member of the **GNDEM & AfEONet**, where it sits as the permanent secretariat for **E-HORN**. These affiliations have strengthened ELOG's position in the global community, enhancing its regional work through peer learning and experience sharing.



5. Award Categories

The Gathaka Award – Justice, Peace & Democracy

This annual award honors the enduring legacy of Ven. Jephthah Kiara Gathaka, a founding member of ELOG and a pillar of Kenya's civic and peace movements. The award is conferred on individuals or institutions whose work embodies the highest standards of civic responsibility, non-violence, democratic accountability, and justice.

Electoral Cycle Champions Award

This award recognizes institutions, including CSOs, media houses, and policy influencers, whose work supports democratic progress across the entire electoral cycle—voter education, campaign finance oversight, legal reforms, inclusion, and beyond.

Nomination forms:

- Gathaka Award: <https://elog.or.ke/gathaka-award/>
- Electoral Cycle Champions: <https://elog.or.ke/electoral-cycle-champions-awards/>

6. Sponsorship Categories

Given the strategic importance of the event to the national discourse on electoral processes we invite the contribution of partners and peers towards relatable components of the event and awards. These contributions offer visibility, thematic alignment, and recognition—without the complications of sub-granting.

Support Area	What It Enables	Estimated Cost (KES)
Judging & Award Evaluation Support	Honoraria and logistics for Gala Awards judges, documentation of nominations	150,000
Awards Contribution	Trophies, framed citations, and recognition for honorees (Gathaka + Thematic Awards)	200,000
Honoraria for Special Guests & Speakers	Inviting respected civic leaders and keynote speakers	250,000
Venue Decor Contributions	Co-financing the Gala venue décor for ambiance	250,000
Livestream & Media Package	High-quality livestreaming, coverage, and video production	250,000
Out-of-Town Participant Support	Accommodation for regional/grassroots observers, ROP members, and SIG nominees	250,000
Sponsor a Nominee + 5 More Participants	Cover transport, meals, and visibility for a nominated awardee + 5 civic actors	60,000 per package
Volunteer and Youth Mobilization Tokens	Meals/tokens for support staff, ushers, youth teams	100,000

Customized visibility will be granted to CSOs who select a thematic line item to support (e.g., “This award is sponsored by...”). All partners will receive a report and certificate of appreciation.

7. Why Partner with Us?

As a civil society sponsor of this high-level event, your organization will:

Civic Agency: Support election-related public engagement, regional participation, and recognition

Targeted, Impactful Giving: Choose exactly what you want to support; no sub-granting required

Visibility & Credibility: Be recognized alongside Kenya's leading civic organizations and reformers

Influence & Positioning: Join a high-level platform with diplomats, media, reform leaders, and governance actors

Meaningful Engagement: Celebrate and reward the very people driving Kenya forward

ELOG STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS (SC) REPRESENTATION OVER THE YEARS

National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK)

- Canon Chris Kamau Kinyanjui
- Susie Ibutu

The Constitution and Reform Education Consortium (CRECO)

- Kawive Wambua
- Regina Opondo
- Joshua Changwony

Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims (SUPKEM)

- Lattif Shaban

Centre for Governance and Development (CGD)

- Dr. Kennedy Masime

Youth Agenda (YAA)

- Susan Mwangera
- Diana Sifuna
- Kelvin Keya
- Victor Nyongesa

Transform Empowerment for Action Initiative (TEAM)

- George Collins Owuor

United Disabled Persons of Kenya (UDPK)

- Hellen Obande
- Saitoti Njenga
- Gitonga Anderson
- Sally Nduta

Federation of Women Lawyers in Kenya (FIDA)

- Grace Maingi
- Teresa Omondi
- Anne W. Ireri

Ecumenical Centre for Justice and Peace (ECJP)

- Venerable Jephthah Gathaka
- Ruth Angwa

Catholic Justice and Peace Department. (CJPD)

- Jane Marine
- Beatrice Odera
- Eusebius Atamalo

Institute for Education in Democracy

- Peter Aling'o
- Joshua Changwony
- Brian Weke
- Elyne Okaya
- Joyce Majiwa SC

Centre for Minority Rights Development

- Nyangori Ohenjo

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ELOG'S ADVISORY AND PEACE PANEL (APP) CO-CONVENERS

(2021 - Present)

- Joyce Majiwa SC
- Canon Chris Kamau Kinyanjui

(2017 - 2021)

- Josephine Mongare
- + Cornelius Korir
- Alfred Rotich

(2013 - 2017)

- George Collins Owuor
- Jane Ogot

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ELOG ADVISORY AND PEACE PANEL (APP): REPRESENTATION THROUGH THE YEARS

01 Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims (SUPKEM)

- Prof. Abdulghafur El-Busaidy
- Amb. Yusuf Nzibo
- Hassan Ole Naado

02 National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK)

- Canon Rosemary Mbogo
- Canon Peter Karanja
- Canon Chris Kinyanjui

03 Ecumenical Centre for Justice and Peace (ECJP)

- Prof. Zablon Nthamburi

04 Centre for Governance and Development (CGD)

- Davinder Lamba
- Mwambi Mwasuru

05 The Constitution and Reform Education Consortium (CRECO)

- George Collins Owuor
- Cornelius Oduor
- Catherine Mutanu
- Davis Malombe

06 Co-opted

- Regina Opondo

07 United Disabled Persons of Kenya (UDPK)

- Godliver Omondi
- Joseph Rono
- Eric Ngondi

08 Catholic Justice and Peace Department. (CJPD)

- Zachus Okoth
- + Cornelius Korir
- Alfred Rotich
- Fr. Bernard Ngaruiya

09 Institute for Education in Democracy

- Jane Ogot
- Joyce Majiwa SC

10 Youth Agenda (YAA)

- Javas Bigambo
- Philippe Sadja
- Dennis Kikiro

11 Legal Resources Foundation (LRF)

- Rev. Elias Agola

12 Federation of Women Lawyers in Kenya (FIDA)

- Ruth Aura
- Josephine Mongare
- Nancy Ikiuni
- Christine Kungu

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8. Target Partners

We are reaching out to Development, Corporate and CSO partners and service providers who have engaged with ELOG or shown interest in governance, transparency, and corporate responsibility. These include the following:

- Development agencies/Embassies/Foundations
- CSO actors in the governance sector
- Media actors
- Financial Sector
- Telecoms
- Media Houses
- Hospitality Sector
- Transport and Logistics
- Event Services



The Gathaka Award — Honouring a Legacy of Justice, Democracy, and Peace In Honor of the Late Venerable Jephthah Kiara Gathaka (1952–2023)

As the Elections Observation Group (ELOG) marks 15 years of unwavering commitment to electoral integrity, democratic governance, and citizen participation, we take this solemn and celebratory moment to honour a visionary, a pioneer, and a tireless advocate for justice and peace in Kenya and beyond — the late Venerable Jephthah Kiara Gathaka.

The Gathaka Award, at the ELOG@15 Gala Night, is named in tribute to one of our founding lights. Venerable Gathaka was not just a founder member of ELOG's Steering Committee; he was a moral compass and an intellectual force whose work and values continue to shape the contours of citizen engagement, electoral justice, and ecumenical peacebuilding across Kenya.

A Life of Purpose and Conviction

Ven. Gathaka's life was rooted in deep theological grounding, having graduated from the Australian College of Theology. He combined his faith with action, embodying the spirit of servant leadership through his various roles in the Anglican Church of Kenya, where he served as Parish Priest, Diocesan Administrative Secretary, Director of Communications, and missionary Archdeacon in The Gambia. But his influence went far beyond the pulpit.

As a Senior Director for the Programme of Justice, Peace and Reconciliation at the National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCCK), Ven. Gathaka conceptualized and led Kenya's first civic education programme — Education for Participatory Democracy — in 1991. This landmark initiative laid the groundwork for decades of civic engagement and voter education.

THE LATE VENERABLE JEPHTHAH KIARA GATHAKA



A Champion of Democracy and Accountability

Venerable Gathaka was instrumental in establishing and nurturing the Ecumenical Centre for Justice and Peace (ECJP) and the Ecumenical Trust, offering spiritual and intellectual leadership that inspired countless civic actors. He also played key roles in national and regional election observation efforts, both as a domestic long-term observer and as part of international missions under the African Union, EISA, and other organizations — in countries such as Ghana, Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, The Gambia, and Namibia.

From constitutional reforms to electoral justice, governance, devolution, and human rights, his writings and trainings have empowered multiple generations of civic educators and human rights defenders across Africa.

A Legacy of Leadership

Ven. Gathaka also served as:

- Chair of the NEPAD/APRM National Governing Council (2005–2007), guiding Kenya through its first peer review.
- Board Chair and long-standing member of the Institute for Education in Democracy (IED).
- Consultant, trainer, and advisor to national bodies such as the IEBC, URAIA, KNICE, and various CSOs, particularly in the areas of civic/voter education and peacebuilding.

His commitment to interfaith dialogue, environmental stewardship, and justice advocacy was unwavering. His engagements — from local barazas to global forums — left an indelible mark on policy, practice, and the people he mentored.

The Gathaka Award: A Call to Legacy

The Gathaka Award will be conferred annually to a Kenyan citizen or institution whose work embodies the principles of justice, peace, democracy, and civic responsibility— values that Ven. Gathaka lived by.

This award is not only a tribute but also a challenge — a challenge to all of us to carry forward his work with the same humility, intellect, and resolute courage that defined his life.

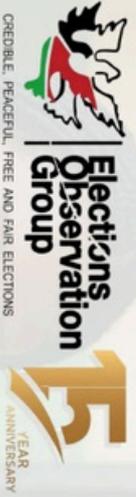
As we raise our voices and glasses at ELOG@15, we also bow our heads in honour.

Rest in peace, Venerable Gathaka.

Your light endures in the work we do, the elections we watch, and the future we strive to build.

THE LATE VENERABLE JEPHTHAH KIARA GATHAKA





ELOG's Journey: Chairpersons and Host Organizations Over the Years

Chairpersons



Kennedy Masime, CGD

2010



Centre for Governance and Development (CGD)



Brian Weke, IED

2015



Institute for Education in Democracy (IED)



Regina Opondo, CRECO

2017



National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK)



Anne w. Ileri, FIDA

2022



The Constitution and Reform Education Consortium (CRECO)



Victor Nyongesa, YAA

2025



The Constitution and Reform Education Consortium (CRECO)

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ELOG Host Organisations



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**Elections
Observation
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Ready to get started?

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