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Reputation Managers

**Institutional & Constitutional Reforms  
Required to Protect Inclusive Democracy in  
South Africa**



# FOCUS AREAS

**THE PRESIDENCY**  
Executive

**ELECTORAL SYSTEM**  
Legislative

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM**  
Judiciary

**SOEs & CHAPTER 9  
INSTITUTIONS**

**ROLE OF  
CIVIL SOCIETY, PRIVATE BUSINESS, AND LABOUR**



## WHY ARE REFORMS NEEDED ?

- To reduce the power in the Presidency
- To reverse the structural imbalance of MPs' allegiance between party bosses and voter constituencies
- To strengthen and buffer the overburdened and, often, inefficient criminal justice system from political encroachment
- To strengthen weakened SOEs & Chapter 9 Institutions
- To strengthen a weakened social cohesion and generally weak levels of civic education
- Strengthen the influence of civil society over political power.

# THE PRESIDENCY



The appointment of Heads of Key Institutions



Intelligence Services



The Establishment of Commissions of Inquiry



No multiparty-committee oversight, therefore insufficient accountability.

## ELECTORAL SYSTEM

- Party Financing and Internal Democracy
- Opaque party financing and undemocratic internal processes erode public trust and suppress voter influence.
- Laws enforcing donation transparency and internal democracy in political parties are essential. MPs do not fear the wrath of the electorate.
- Parliamentary Oversight and Legislative Capacity. Parliament often fails to hold the Executive accountable due to weak committee systems and political gatekeeping.
- Enhancing the independence and resources of Parliament will restore its constitutional role as a check on executive power.

# CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM



Judicial Independence and Access to Justice must be safeguarded from political interference



Reforms should strengthen the Judicial Service Commission and expand access to justice



Feared of an overall decline in the quality of our judicial officials, leading to backlogs and judges in the spotlight for all the wrong reasons



Only those with resources can resort to Stalingrad-style tactics to delay justice.



## SOEs & CHAPTER 9 INSTITUTIONS

- Cadre deployment has politicised public administration and undermined merit-based appointments.
- Review the real impact of race-based policies
- Structural limits of political appointments and their operational influence.
- Reform the public service to focus on competence and ensure that non-partisanship is emphasised for effective governance.
- Consider an independent Public Service Commission for key senior appointments.



## The Roles of CIVIL SOCIETY, PRIVATE BUSINESS, AND LABOUR

- Our media and NGOs are financially under siege
- The contribution of Labour and Business should continue to be encouraged and solicited organisations like NEDLAC, with “public good” placed at the heart of their engagement.
- Civil society organisations need to collaborate more and form strategic partnerships
- Multiple grass-roots initiatives need to be leveraged and supported in communities, uniting around small but impactful actions: cleaning streets, civic education, etc

**THANK YOU**