



People at the Nial Reserve oval in Lae last Friday listening to Prime Minister James Marape speaking at the launch of Lae MP John Rosso's 2022 general election campaign. Marape is urging Pangu supporters to stop retaliating against supporters of opposing parties who maybe perpetrating violence on Pangu candidates and property.
- Picture supplied

Marape: Do not retaliate



UPNG UPDATE 2022

By Mr. Russel Yangin

Political Party Presence in 2022 election: Section 63 of the Organic Law on the Integrity of Political Parties (OLIPAC) and its impact on the taggepera and laakso Index

Question

- How is section 63 of the OLLIPAC **salient in establishing** visibility political parties after 2002?
- Using the Taagepera and Laakso index to **calculate the strength** of effective number of party (ENP) seats shares won by dominant political parties (i.e. NA, PNC & PANGU) after 2002

Commonwealth & Comparative Politics >

Volume 43, 2005 - Issue 3: Political Culture, Representation and Electoral Systems in the Pacific Islands

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Original Articles

The 'Fluid' Party System of Papua New Guinea

Henry Okole

Pages 362-381 | Published online: 09 Aug 2006

 Download citation

 <https://doi.org/10.1080/14662040500304924>

- PNG exhibit a **weak party system**
- Electoral Volatility _ Taagepera and Laakso index to calculate high electoral volatility 1977 – 2002

Objectives of OLLIPAC 2001

- The OLIPPAC reforms have two key objectives
- 1. to stabilise and encourage the development of political parties through new rules that regulate the formation, composition and funding of parties
- 2. to stabilise the executive through provisions that limit how MPs can vote on a motion of no-confidence against the executive, as well as establishing rules for the formation of government, defections from political parties and offences for breaking the law, and imposing restrictions on independent MPs.
- Note: In 2010 certain section of the OLLIPAC breached section 50 of the constituting however the court upheld section 63 of the OLLIPAC

What is section 63 of the OLLIPAC

Section 63

- preceding an election of the prime minister, the **largest party in parliament is invited** to nominate a person to seek the majority endorsement in the house and hence to form government (even though he or she may not at this stage have the largest coalition of parties)

Taagapera and Laakso Index (1979) calculate the strength of political parties in the party system

- Taagepera index is a mathematics formula to calculate the strength of a political party seat in a political party system
- $ENP = 1 / \sum (p_i^2)$
- When there is Visibility of political party the ENP decrease, No Visibility the ENP increases
- In dominant two party system the $ENP = 2 - 2.6$ indicating a strong or dominant party system. In a multiparty system the ENP will be more than $3 - 6$ indicating a multiparty system.

The Interpretation of the Laakso-Taagepera
Effective Number of Parties*

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ENP Calculation by Okole, 2006

TABLE 2
THE NUMBER OF POST-ELECTION PARLIAMENTARY PARTIES, 1972-2002

Election:	1972	1977	1982	1987	1992	1997	2002
Number of parties in parliament	n/a	6	7	10	9	13	22
Laakso/Taagepera Index (effective number of parties)	3.98	4.50	3.74	9.29	12.60	15.99	16.16

Notes: (1) The numbers in Table 1 are somewhat higher than those calculated by Lijphart (*Patterns of Democracy*, 76) for PNG.

$$ENP = 1 / \sum (p_i^2)$$

Election	1972	1977	1982	1987	1992	1997	2002
NoP	n/a	6	7	10	9	13	22
ENP	3.98	4.5	3.75	9.92	12.6	15.99	16.16

Number of parties in Parliament (NOP)

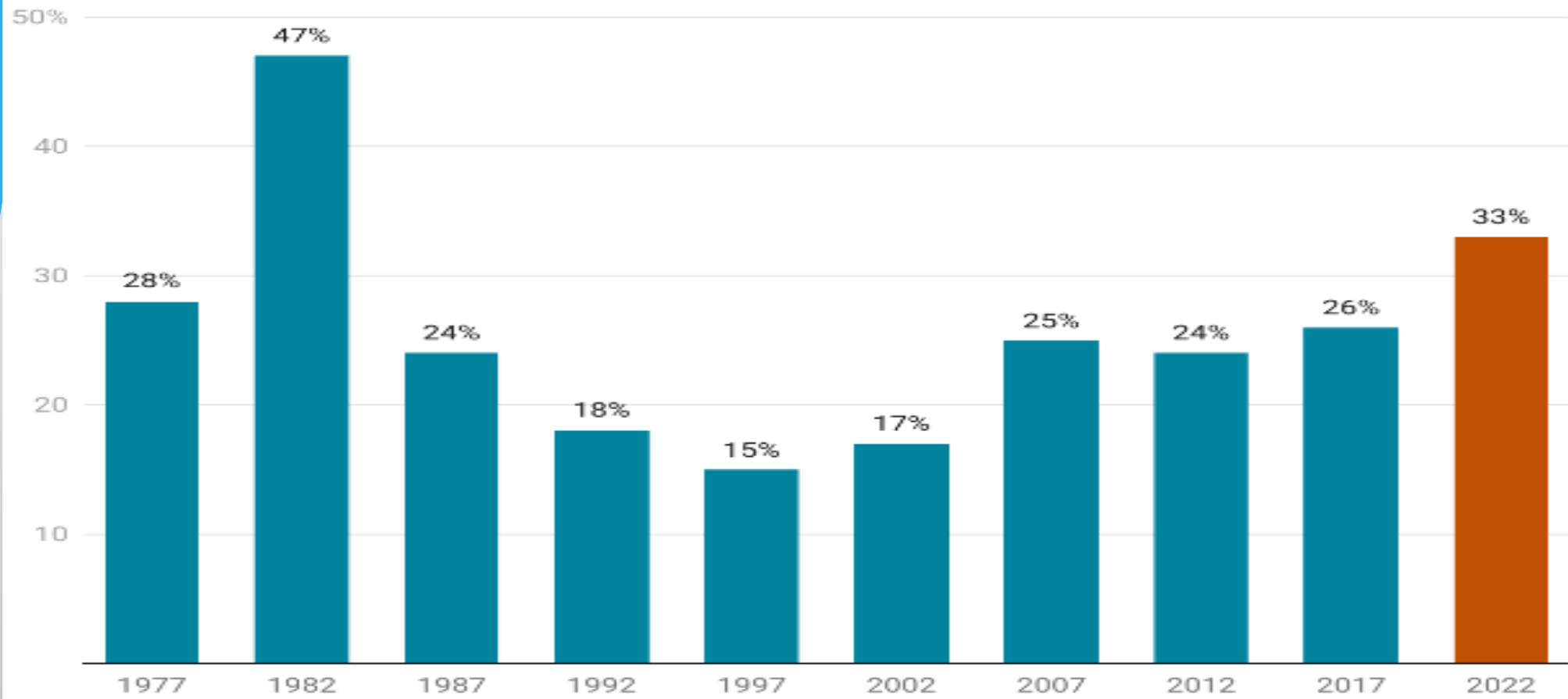
Effective Number of Party per seats (ENP)

source: Okole (2006)

ENP calculation an extension from Okole 2006

	$ENP = 1 / \sum (pi^2)$												
Election	1972	1977	1982	1987	1992	1997	2002	2007	2012	2017	2022		
NoP	n/a	6	7	10	9	13	22	21	21	20	25		
ENP	3.98	4.5	3.75	9.92	12.6	15.99	16.16	11.85	10.74	9.23	6.52		
	Number of parties in Parliament (NOP)												
	Effective Number of Party per seats (ENP)												
source:	Okole (2006)												

Figure 1: Percentage of seats won by the largest party



$$ENP = 1 / \sum (p_i^2)$$

Election	1972	1977	1982	1987	1992	1997	2002	2007	2012	2017	2022
NoP	n/a	6	7	10	9	13	22	21	21	20	25
ENP	3.98	4.5	3.75	9.92	12.6	15.99	16.16	11.85	10.74	9.23	6.52

What is the story ?

- Taagepera and Laakso index of calculating the strength of political parties indicate that after 2002 there was a decline of ENP from 16.16 in 2002 – 6.52 in 2022
- After 2002 more winning candidates (MPS) are joining political parties
- Political Parties have not yet fully developed, however OLLIPAC and in particular section 63 of the OLLIPAC have positively affected the visibility of political party in election after the 2000 reform