

## Media Advisory

**Unisa's Political Science department to host town hall debate on the 2024 National elections.**

**Approved for public release.**

**Date: Tuesday, 14 May 2024**

The President of the Republic of South Africa, His Excellency Cyril Ramaphosa has, in accordance with Section 49(2) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, read with section 17 of the Electoral Act of 1998, announced 29 May 2024, as the date for the 2024 National and Provincial elections.

The 2024 elections will take place during a historic period in the history of South Africa as they coincide with the country's celebration of 30 years of freedom.

These elections, which for the first time will also be contested by independent candidates and several new political parties, have also generated significant interest from political commentators, the mainstream media and the public alike, with public debates happening on many platforms across the country. There is also increased international interest in the current round of elections.

The Department of Political Sciences in the College of Human Sciences at Unisa will also host a round table at the Unisa Muckleneuk Campus on Thursday, 16 May 2024, where several political parties and independent candidates have been invited to make presentations under the theme: **South Africa – 30 Years into Democracy**. There will also be a panel discussion comprised of independent researchers and political analysts.

The political parties and independent candidates invited to the debate are the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF), Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP), Anele Mda (Independent Candidate), Democratic Alliance (DA), African National Congress (ANC), Umkhonto we Sizwe Party (MKP) and Freedom Front Plus (FFP).

The panel of discussants will be comprised of Mr Jackie Shandu (Independent Researcher), Dr Hlengiwe Ndlovu (Wits University), Ms Naledi Modise (North-West University), Mr. Daniel Mamphogoro (UNISA) and Dr TK Pooe (Wits University).

Mr Tali Mundzhedzi (Department of International Relations and Co-operation) and Adv. Siphon Mantula (TM School, Unisa) will facilitate the proceedings.

Members of the media are invited to attend and cover the town debate. The details are as follows:

**Date : Thursday, 16 May 2024**

**Time : 10:00 – 16:00**

**Venue : ZK Matthews Great Hall, Preller Street, Unisa Muckleneuk Campus, Pretoria**



**/Ends.**

**ISSUED BY UNISA MEDIA AFFAIRS**

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