



May 21, 2019 *The First Election*

Mutharika declared the winner with just 38.6% of the vote. Leading opposition candidate, Lazarus Chakwera of MCP, garnered 35.4%, and Vice President and UTM head Saulos Chilima came in third, with 20.2%.

February 3, 2020 *An Opposition Win*

The Constitutional Court nullifies the results of the May 2019 election, orders Parliament to assess the capability of MEC commissioners to oversee the upcoming elections, and mandates fresh elections within 150 days.

March 9, 2020 *Mutharika Appeals*

Mutharika and the MEC file an appeal to the Supreme Court against the Constitutional Court's overturning of election results.

March 17, 2020 *Resisting Checks and Balances*

Mutharika refuses to ratify bills approved by Parliament. He also replaces the army chief, General Vincent Nundwe, whose soldiers had been protecting demonstrators protesting against the fraudulent elections.

May 8, 2020 *Supreme Court Ruling*

Malawi's Supreme Court unanimously rejects Mutharika and the MEC's appeal and upholds the Constitutional Court ruling, affirming the shift to the 50+1 majority system.

May 31, 2019 *A Court Challenge*

Chakwera and Chilima challenge the declaration of Mutharika as the winner at Malawi's High Court, citing widespread irregularities.

February 25, 2020 *A Reform Attempt*

Parliament passes electoral reform bills, including the two-round 50+1 system, and recommends removal of MEC commissioners.

March 12, 2020 *International Reaction*

The European Union, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Nigeria, Norway, the United Kingdom, and the United States call on Malawians to seek peaceful settlement of the crisis under the Constitution.

March 19–20, 2020 *Gearing up for the Next Round*

Mutharika dissolves old cabinet and appoints a new one, comprising roughly 30 members who reflect Mutharika's new coalition with UDF, led by Atupele Muluzi, who came in fourth in the 2019 election. Mutharika declares COVID-19 a State of Disaster, giving him authority to ban gatherings of more than 100 people without reconvening Parliament.

June 23, 2020 *Election Re-run*

Date set by Parliament for re-run of presidential election.