

# *FMLN Wins First Round of Elections in El Salvador*

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San Salvador, February 7 (RHC)-- The final count of the elections last Sunday in El Salvador confirmed the victory in the first round of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN).

The final data, published on the web page of the Supreme Electoral Court (TSE), gave the FMLN 1,315,768 votes to reach 48.93 percent of valid votes.

The opposition Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA) ended in second place with 1,047,592 votes, for a total of 38.96 percent, making ARENA the FMLN rival in the final round to be held on March 9th. The third position was occupied by the Unity coalition formed by the parties Great National Alliance, National Coordination and Christian Democratic, with 11.4 percent of the vote.

Another two parties that competed, Salvadoran Progressive Party and Salvadoran Patriotic Fraternity, got 11314 votes to the 0.42 per cent, and 6699 votes to the 0.25 per cent, respectively.

The Supreme Electoral Court (TSE) highlighted that there were 34310 invalid votes, 14294 abstentions, and 3537 rejected.

Only the 64.67 per cent of the people attended the elections since over 500 thousand people had their Sole Identity Document (DUI) expired and 132 thousand were out of the country.

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