

# *Pedro Sánchez named Spanish prime minister as Mariano Rajoy ousted*

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Madrid, June 1 (RHC)-- In Spain, Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy lost a no-confidence vote in Parliament Friday, as a major corruption scandal toppled his administration. Rajoy insists he was unaware of an alleged bribery ring that saw members of his conservative People's Party receive cash payments in return for political favors.

Pedro Sánchez, head of the opposition Socialist Party, will replace Rajoy as Spain's prime minister. Sánchez has the support of the anti-austerity Podemos party, as well as regional parties from Basque Country and Catalonia, although Sánchez has said he won't support Catalonia's bid for independence.

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