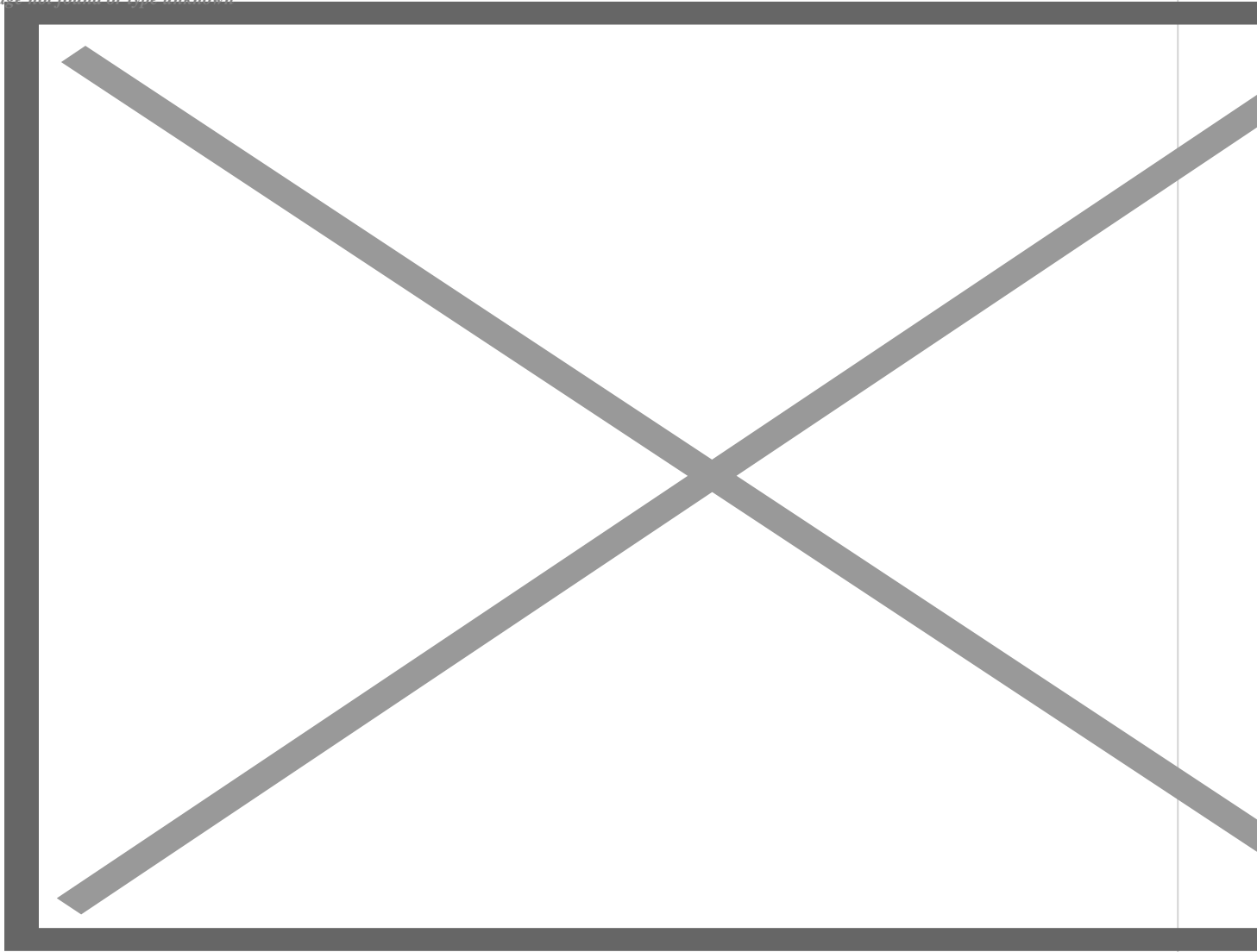


Brazil's PDT party backs Lula for second round

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**Former president Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva (Workers' Party) receives the support of center-left
Ciro Gomes (Democratic Labor Party) ahead of the runoff election in Brazil. | Photo:
Twitter/@interpravdaES?**

Brasilia, October 5 (RHC)-- Brazilian politician Ciro Gomes of the Democratic Labor Party has expressed his support for former President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva. The second round of elections in the South American country is scheduled for October 30th, when leftist Lula will face right-wing Jair Bolsonaro. Neither of the two reached 50 percent of the valid votes plus one in last Sunday's first round.

With 3.5 million votes (3 percent of votes counted), center-left Ciro Gomes came in fourth place, behind center-right Senator Simone Tebet, who obtained 4.9 million votes (4 percent) in the first round of the Brazilian elections.

In a video released on Gomes' social networks, he said, "I follow the decision of my party, the Democratic Labor Party; given the circumstances, it is the only way out." The politician also said that he does not want and will not accept any position in a possible future government, noting he was never and never will be absent from the fight for Brazil.

A part of Gomez's party and his electorate was not pleased as the politician's campaign focused on criticism of both Workers' Party (PT) leader Lula and Liberal Party (PL) leader Bolsonaro: rivals in the October 30th runoff.

Senator Simone Tebet of the Brazilian Democratic Movement said she had already made a decision, noting that a decision by the alliance parties was pending. "I will make a pronouncement at the time. It must be understood that this is not just any moment in Brazil," Tebet said.

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