

Uruguay Readies for Sunday's Runoff Election



Montevideo, Nov. 29 (RHC) - Ruling party candidate and former president Tabare Vazquez is favored to win Uruguay's runoff election Sunday.

Five polls show the Broad Front Coalition candidate ahead of his main challenger Luis Alberto Lacalle Pou of the National Party by a 10% point margin.

Vazquez, who took office in 2005, was the first president to break 170 years of domination by Uruguay's Colorado and National parties.

During his presidential term, he pursued economic policies that helped Uruguay outpace neighbors while improving life for the poor. He left office in 2010 with an approval rating of more than 60 percent.

President Mujica, who concludes his term on March 1st, 2015, led Uruguay through a period of stable economic growth and better wages. A former leftist guerrilla, his social agenda won praise worldwide.

Mujica enjoys a 70% approval rating, but he is barred by law from running for another consecutive term.

In the first round of elections October 26, the Broad Front won the majority of parliament seats for the third consecutive time.

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