

Corinne Deloy



Outgoing head of State Borut Pahor is the main favourite in the presidential election in Slovenia

On 11th August last Slovenians were informed by the leader of Parliament, Milan Brglez (Modern Party of the Centre, SMC) that they would be electing the president of the Republic on 22nd October and, if necessary, also on 12th November next. Outgoing head of State, Borut Pahor announced that he wanted to stand again.

On 28th September the Central Electoral Committee registered nine candidates for the election:

- Borut Pahor, outgoing president of the Republic, former Prime Minister (2008-2012) member of the Social Democrats (SD);
- Marjan Sarec, mayor of Kamnik, former actor (also impersonator of former President of the Republic (2002-2007) Janez Drnovsek). He is standing as an independent but has the support of his party the Marjana Sarca-Naprej Kamnik List;
- Ljudmila Novak (New Slovenia, NSi), former MEP, wants to make Slovenia one of the most developed countries in the world;
- Angelca Likovic (The Voice of Children and Families);
- Maja Makovec Brencic (The Modern Party of the Centre, SMC), at present Education, Science and Sports Minister;
- Suzana Lara Krause (People's Party, SLS);
- Romana Tomc (Democratic Party, SDS), MEP;
- Boris Popovic (Slovenia is ours), mayor of Koper;
- Andrej Sisko (United Slovenia).

According to a poll published by the institute 24ur, Borut Pahor is due to come out ahead in the first round on 22nd October with 44.7% of

the vote. He is forecast to pull ahead of Marjan Sarec who is due to win 17.2% of the vote and Ljudmila Novak, 6.8% of the vote. Romana Tomc, is forecast to come fourth with 5.2% of the vote followed by Boris Popovic with 2.4% of the vote. The four other candidates are due to less than 2% of the vote.

Borut Pahor's term in office comes to an end on 22nd December next.

The Presidential Office

In Slovenia the Head of State is elected by direct universal suffrage in a majority two-round vote for a five year mandate that can be renewed once. The presidential office is mainly an honorary one. The President of the Republic is the commander in chief of the armed forces, he can intervene if the Drzavni Zbor (National Assembly), the lower house of Parliament, is prevented from meeting and declare a state of emergency and also call out the army. His decisions must however be ratified by parliament as soon as the latter can sit together in session again. The head of State appoints some high level civil servants and the ambassadors - he can also grant pardons.

All candidates standing in the presidential election must be aged 18 and have the support of at least 10 MPs or 5000 voters or a political party, which itself has to have the support of 3 MPs and 3000 voters. Since the country's independence on 25th June 1991 the Slovenia Presidents of the Republic have all come from the left of the political scale.

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Reminder of the presidential election results on 11th November and 2nd December 2012 in Slovenia.

Turnout: 48.41% (1st round) and 42.41% (2nd round)

Candidates	No of votes won (1st round)	% of votes won (1st round)	No of votes won (2nd round)	% of votes won (2nd round)
Borut Pahor	326 006	39,87	478 859	67,37
Danilo Türk	293 429	35,88	231 971	32,63

Source : Central Electoral Committee - <http://www.dvk-rs.si/arhivi/vp2012>

The outgoing head of State, Borut Pahor, leads in the first round of the Slovenia presidential election.

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RESULTS
1ST ROUND

The outgoing President of the Slovenian Republic, Borut Pahor easily drew ahead in the first round of the presidential election on 22nd October with 47.07% of the vote. He will face Marjan Sarec, Mayor of Kamnik, in the next round of voting on 12th November. M. Sarec is a former actor and is standing as an independent, but has the support of his party "the Marjana Sarca-Naprej Kamnik List". He won 24.96% of the vote.

"I shall do everything I can to convince voters that I will be the best president of the Republic over the next five years," declared Borut Pahor when the results were announced. He said he was confident of his re-election. "I dare to say that I shall win the election in the second round in three weeks' time. In the end I think my political experience and my work in Slovenia and abroad will prevail."

The outgoing Head of State will, amongst other things, have to mobilise the abstainers, who were legion in the first round, since turnout was the weakest ever recorded in the first round of a presidential election in Slovenia: 43.58%

MEP Romana Tomc (Democratic Party SDS) came third with 13.74% of the vote, followed by Ljudmila Novak (New Slovenia, NSi), who won 7.16% of the vote. The five other candidates each won less than 3% of the vote including the representative of the Prime Minister Miro Cerar's party, the Modern Party of the Centre (SMC), Maja Makovec Brencic (1.72% of the vote).

"In the second round everything is still possible, even though Borut Pahor is the main favourite," indicated Peter Jancic, director of the website Spletni Casopis. "Borut Pahor won twice the number of votes as Marjan Sarec and it will be difficult to beat him. To do this Marjan Sarec has to recover all of the votes from the seven other

Presidential election in Slovenia

22nd October and 12th November 2017

Results of the first round of the presidential election of 22nd October 2017 in Slovenia

Turnout: 43.58%

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Candidates	No of votes won	% of votes won
Borut Pahor	348 964	47.07
Marjan Sarec (Marjana Sarca-Naprej Kamnik List)	185 046	24.96
Romana Tomc (Democratic Party, SDS)	101 848	13.74
Ljudmila Novak (New Slovenia, NSi)	53 053	7.16
Andrej Sisko (United Slovenia)	16 464	2.22
Boris Popovic (Slovenia is ours)	13 277	1.79
Maja Makovec Brencic (Modern Party of the Centre, SMC)	12 734	1.72
Suzana Lara Krause (People's Party, SLS)	5 718	0.77
Angelca Likovic (The Voice of Children and Families)	4 274	0.58

Source : Central Electoral Commission <http://volitve.gov.si/vp2017/#/rezultati>

The outgoing President of the Republic, Borut Pahor is re-elected

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RESULTS
2ND ROUND

Unsurprisingly, but with a narrower margin than previously expected, the outgoing head of the Slovenian State was re-elected for a second 5 year mandate as President of the Republic in the second round of voting on 12th November. He won 52.93% of the vote against 47.07% for his rival Marjan Sarec, the Mayor of Kamnik.

In the first round on 22nd October last the latter won 24.76% of the vote and the outgoing head of State easily drew ahead of him with 47.21% of the vote. On 12th November Sarec came

out ahead in several of the constituencies in the north of the country.

Turnout was lower than that registered in the first round of voting (- 2.51 points), the lowest ever registered in a presidential election in the country's history. Only four Slovenians in ten turned out to ballot (41.73%, - 0.68 points in comparison with the second round of the previous presidential election on 2nd December 2012).

**PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION RESULTS OF
22ND OCTOBER AND 12TH NOVEMBER 2017 IN SLOVENIA**

Turnout: 44.24% (1st round) and 41.73% (2nd round)

Candidates	Number of votes won (1st round)	% of votes won (1st round)	Number of votes won (2nd round)	% of votes won (2e round)
Borut Pahor	355 117	47.21	373 767	52.93
Marjan Sarec (Marjana Sarca-Naprej Kamnik List)	186 235	24.76	332 335	47.07
Romana Tomc (Democratic Party, SDS)	102925	13.68		
Ljudmila Novak (New Slovenia, NSi)	54437	7.24		
Andrej Sisko (United Slovenia)	16636	2.21		
Boris Popovic (Slovenia is ours)	13 559	1.80		
Maja Makovec Brencic (Modern Centre Party, SMC)	13 052	1.74		
Suzana Lara Krause (People's Party, SLS)	5 885	0.78		
Angelca Likovic (The voice of children and families)	4 418	0.59		

Source : Central electoral commission <http://volitve.gov.si/vp2017/#/rezultati>

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