



FORTALECEMOS
LAS DEMOCRACIAS
DE AMÉRICA LATINA

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IN LATIN AMERICA

February 2025

Executive and Legislative Elections in Ecuador Post-Election Report



Key takeaways



On Sunday, February 9, Ecuador held elections to elect the president, vice president, and 151 members of the National Assembly, who will serve for the 2025-2029 term.



With 98.31% of the votes counted, the National Electoral Council (CNE in Spanish) confirmed a presidential runoff on April 13. The contest will be between incumbent President Daniel Noboa (44.29%) and the Revolución Ciudadana candidate, Luisa González (43.85%).



Facing the second round, in a context of high polarization, the "blank" and undecided vote will be key to determine who will be the next president. Voters could make a decision based more by their rejection of a candidate than by programmatic affinity. The 5.26% obtained by Leonidas Iza, candidate of Pachakutik, also acquires strategic relevance, since his positioning could influence the reconfiguration of electoral support for the runoff.

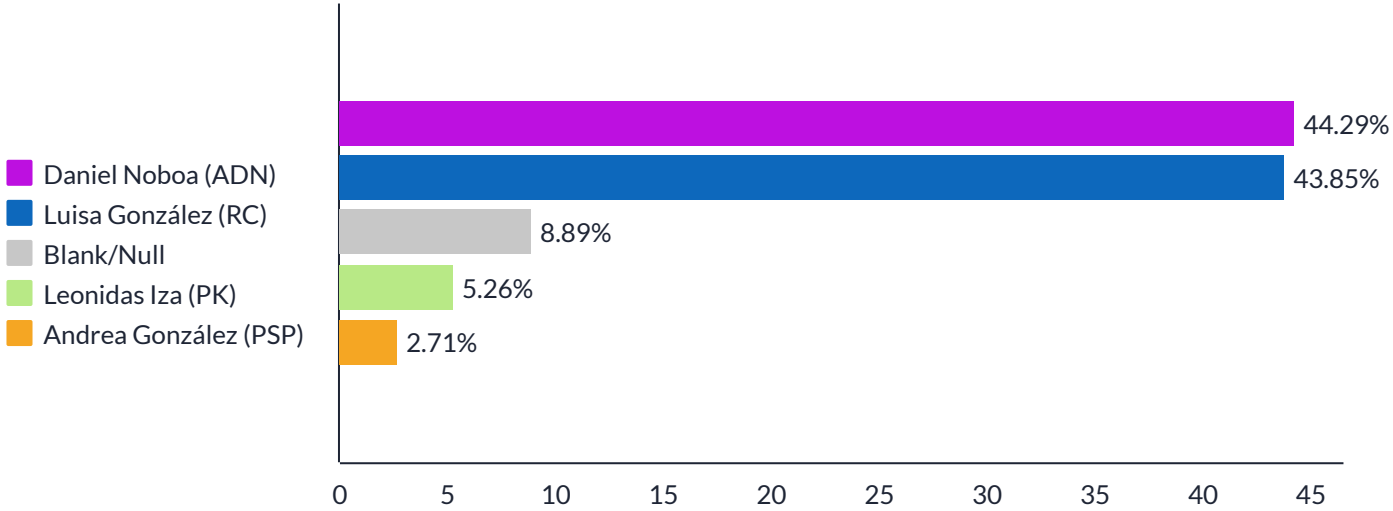


Although the final numbers for the new National Assembly have yet to be determined, the Legislative branch is expected to reflect the deep polarization between the two main political forces. Acción Democrática Nacional (ADN in Spanish) will consolidate itself as the largest minority, followed by Revolución Ciudadana, while other parties such as the Partido Social Cristiano and Sociedad Patriótica will have more limited representation.



This scenario sets the stage for a polarized legislature, where both the ruling party and the opposition will need to maintain cohesion within their blocs and form strategic alliances with smaller forces to advance their agendas and ensure governance.

Results



*Source: Own elaboration based on the results presented by the National Electoral Council (CNE in Spanish).

The narrow margin between Noboa and González reflects the polarization of the Ecuadorian electorate, highlighting the clash between two opposing political models. Noboa has positioned himself as a renewal alternative, attracting support from sectors seeking economic stability and a shift away from previous administrations. Meanwhile, González maintains the backing of correísmo, whose organizational structure remains a key player in the national political landscape.

The fact that both political projects have already governed the country directly influences voter decisions, as comparisons between their past administrations become a crucial factor ahead of the second round. In this scenario, the main challenge will be to win over skeptical voters, as reflected in the 8% of null and blank votes.

Additionally, the candidates will need to compete for the support of Pachakutik voters, a key sector that, while historically critical of correísmo, has also resisted traditional political elites. The ability of Noboa and González to craft a message that appeals to these voters, expand their support base through strategic alliances, and adjust their narratives will be decisive in the final outcome.

Who will compete in the runoff?

Daniel Noboa
(Acción Democrática Nacional)

**What does he
propose?**



He is a businessman with ties to the banana industry. He assumed the presidency of Ecuador in 2023 after winning the early elections triggered by former President Guillermo Lasso's "muerte cruzada" (cross-death) decree. This move led to the dissolution of the National Assembly and the call for new elections.

His government plan includes:

- Promoting economic diversification by boosting tourism, agribusiness, the digital, creative and knowledge economy.
- Ensuring a macroeconomic and regulatory environment that fosters investment and sustainable growth.
- Expanding financial inclusion by strengthening electronic channels and access to digital banking services.
- Optimizing logistical infrastructure to improve trade efficiency and national competitiveness.
- Combating tax evasion and avoidance through effective monitoring and enforcement mechanisms.
- Developing a National Circular Economy Strategy to promote sustainability and the efficient use of resources.
- Implementing labor formalization policies to facilitate workers' integration into the formal job market.

Who will compete in the runoff?



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**Luisa González
(Revolución Ciudadana)**

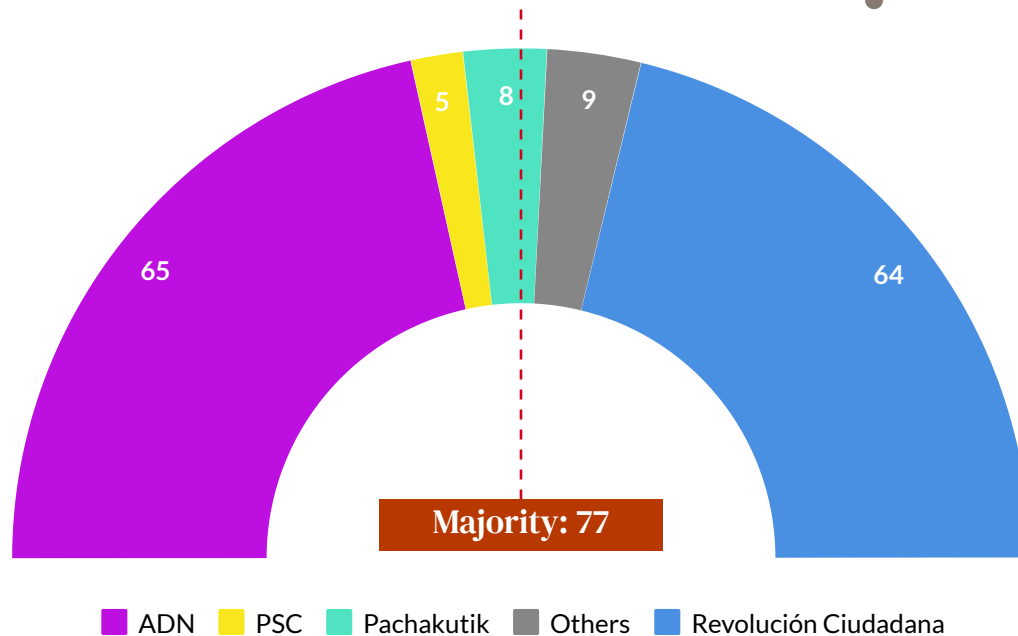
**What does she
propose?**



Lawyer and former Assemblywoman, she is a leading figure of the progressive left-wing political movement linked to former President Rafael Correa. During his administration (2007-2017), she held various ministerial portfolios, performing high-level roles in public management.

Her government plan includes:

- Promoting the formalization of micro and small businesses through simplified regimes and tax benefits that facilitate their integration into the formal market.
- Conducting a comprehensive audit of public debt since 2017, assessing its sustainability, transparency, and payment conditions.
- Strengthening the role of the State in agricultural development by promoting a diverse productive structure that integrates various forms of organization.
- Reviewing and redirecting subsidy policies based on equity and efficiency criteria, prioritizing strategic sectors such as agriculture and transportation.
- Guaranteeing the right to food through measures such as exempting all basic food basket products from VAT for early childhood.
- Placing labor rights at the center of the economic model, ensuring their protection at both individual and collective levels.



Although there are no official data yet on the final composition of the Assembly, preliminary CNE results suggest a polarized legislature divided between two ideologically opposing blocs: the ruling movement ADN and RC, the correísmo force. While ADN may emerge as the largest minority, it is unlikely they'll achieve an absolute majority (77 seats). Meanwhile, RC, which has been the main opposition force in the last three legislative terms, would be relegated to second place in the new parliamentary composition set to take office on May 14.

Even though neither of both parties will have a legislative majority they will have a solid base of legislative support. This contrasts with the current Assembly, where the ruling party holds only 27 of the 137 seats (20%). However, the key to governance will continue to lie in alliances with minority parties. Traditional parties such as Partido Social Cristiano, and Pachakutik have achieved marginal results, with support not exceeding 3% of the national vote. Nevertheless, their votes will be crucial for enabling the two strongest blocs to secure the necessary majorities to pass laws.

Key Legislative Stakeholders

The relationship between the Executive and the Legislative in recent times has been marked by tensions and a constant power struggle. Given the results of both coalitions in the legislative elections, this scenario could become more moderate. The support base of around 40% that both parties will have will allow the winner to have a solid foundation to negotiate with smaller factions for the necessary majorities to govern.

In any case, the next president will face the challenge of consolidating strategic alliances, preventing defections, and securing the necessary support to advance their government agenda. In this context, some legislators are emerging as key actors in brokering agreements between factions, which could define governance and political stability in the new legislative term.

The main political negotiators seeking re-election (with real chances) are:



Valentina Centeno: Lawyer from Universidad San Francisco de Quito, with a specialization in Political Science from Butler University. She began her career in the public sector as a local coordinator at the Ministry of Sports, where she later assumed the position of Undersecretary for Physical Activity Development in 2021. In the 2023 general elections, she was elected as an assembly member for ADN, a party in which she currently holds a leadership role within the National Assembly. Additionally, she chairs the Permanent Committee on Economic Development, a key body for handling the main economic reforms promoted by the government.



Viviana Veloz: Holds a diploma in Human Rights from the University of Guanajuato, Mexico. She was a member of the National Assembly dissolved in 2023, where she played a key role in the impeachment trial against former President Guillermo Lasso, a process that led to the dissolution of the Legislature. In the early elections of August 20, 2023, she was re-elected as an assembly member and assumed the presidency of the Committee for Truth, Justice, and the Fight Against Corruption. Since October 2024, she has served as President of the National Assembly.

- The election results present a strategic challenge for current president and candidate Daniel Noboa, who did not anticipate such a tight race against his main opponent. Despite showing strong leadership, this was not enough to secure a majority that would allow him to renew his mandate, forcing him to redouble efforts in the second round. To secure victory, he must attract undecided voters and compete for the support of those who opted for other alternatives in the first round.
- Meanwhile, the correísta candidate capitalized on the backing of a strong organizational structure and a loyal electoral base. In this context, it will be crucial for her to build alliances with other sectors and project herself as a new figure within correísmo, capable of representing a renewal of the left beyond the legacy of the past decade.
- The narrow voting margin suggests that voters' decisions in the second round will hinge on perceptions of stability, each candidate's ability to forge strategic alliances, and the construction of a compelling narrative around governance and the country's future.
- This election brought a new reality: Ecuador's political landscape has become polarized, suggesting a reconfiguration of the balance between traditional and emerging forces. The second round will not only measure the level of polarization but will also highlight the need to build agreements both to secure electoral victory and to ensure future governability.
- The new composition of the National Assembly reflects a sharp division between the two main political forces. Both ADN and the Revolución Ciudadana will need to build consensus with minority factions to advance their agendas and avoid legislative deadlock in a scenario where negotiation and coalition-building will be critical to institutional stability.

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