

Beat: Politics

## Rajoy asks whether what is happening in Greece is the proposal of the left

### PP open the campaign of legislative

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**USPA NEWS** - The president of the Spanish Government and the Popular Party (PP), Mariano Rajoy, on Saturday lamented the situation in Greece, which began as "proof of how easy it is to ruin a country and throw away all the efforts."

Speaking at the closing of the Conservative Political Conference, on Friday and Saturday was held in Madrid, Rajoy wondered if what happens in Greece "is the change offered by new extreme leftist parties in Spain." In his view, to alert the public about the dangers of populism does not appeal to "vote of fear" as he accused political parties of the opposition but warn of setbacks that could result in economic recovery if the Spaniards denied their vote the PP.

For that reason, the president of the Spanish Government and the Popular Party urged the leaders of his party an "effort" extra regain the confidence of citizens, because if they do not the Socialist Party and the new formations of extreme left "they will sit together" to oust from power the PP and "cancel" all laws during the current legislature have overcome the crisis. Already on Friday during the inauguration of the Political Conference, Rajoy accused the Socialist Party (PSOE its acronym in Spanish) and the populists of "appropriating many municipalities in Spain where he won the PP."

The Conservatives held this Policy Conference to define the bases of its manifesto for the legislative elections of November, opening with it the election campaign. The PP presented this week its new logo, which keeps the silhouette of a seagull, as in previous logos-but circled and with the initials of the party. The new image has been criticized from some quarters for its resemblance to the emblem of Podemos, the populist formation that surprised in the last local and regional elections to gain unexpected support of Spanish society.

Indeed, we Rajoy accused the Socialist Party and "own" many Spanish municipalities which should govern the PP for being the largest party. The government's defense of the most voted lists was a constant in the conservative Policy Conference, which began with a video starring Lillian Tintori, wife of dissident Venezuelan Leopoldo Lopez. "I hope you have heard those in which you are thinking," Rajoy said when he appeared on stage at the end of the video, unexpectedly because his presence was not foreseen in the act.

PP Policy Conference discussed electoral reform and proposed creating a "governance premium" to grant seats to the political party with the most votes. The proposal provides grant a 35% more seats to the formation having the greatest number of votes and get five points more than the second largest party. If these conditions do not give a second round would be held and then extra seats the party to win seven points more than second would be granted. In addition, the PP proposes direct election of public office. Both measures are already being applied in other European countries.

Rajoy confirmed that the legislation will take place before year end. The legislature ends in November and speculated that the Prime Minister will delay the elections until January, as permitted by law. However, Rajoy announced on Saturday that "before the end of the year," the Spaniards must go to the polls. That election day, said Spanish Prime Minister, "it is more important than four years ago" because then, he said, "the choice was clear: they had to choose between continuing with a policy that had gotten us into the worst economic crisis Spain's history or change." But now the situation has improved and the range of programs has been opened. What "is at stake," Rajoy said, it is the work of the last four years and everything achieved.

PP Policy Conference was held in the American style. Without ties, with speakers standing without written speeches and a maximum of five minutes to express their ideas. Time, however, was enough for the conservative leaders alerted to the danger of populism "that threaten freedom," said the general secretary of the PP, Maria Dolores de Cospedal. Freedoms, said the conservative leader, are "not irreversible".

#### Article online:

<https://www.uspa24.com/bericht-4483/rajoy-asks-whether-what-is-happening-in-greece-is-the-proposal-of-the-left.html>

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United Press Association, Inc.  
3651 Lindell Road, Suite D168  
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(702) 943.0321 Local  
(702) 943.0233 Facsimile  
[info@unitedpressassociation.org](mailto:info@unitedpressassociation.org)  
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