



Pérez retains Real Madrid presidency after first election in 20 years

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Real Madrid Pérez

Florentino Pérez has retained his position as [president of](#) Real Madrid after winning the club's first competitive election in two decades, securing a new five-year term at the helm of the club.

According to [the Guardian](#) Pérez secured around 65 per cent of the club members' votes, beating his rival, businessman Enrique Riquelme, who received 35 per cent of the vote, in an election that reflected a stronger opposition movement than in recent years.

In his first comments following the announcement of the results, Pérez described the victory as a "historic result", emphasising that his achievement represented the second-best election result in Real Madrid's history. The club president said the support he received spanned all age groups of members, viewing the vote as a clear mandate to continue his project over the next five years, according to [a report by Reuters](#)

Criticism and calls for change

The British newspaper noted that the victory, despite its clarity, revealed a relative decline in the level of electoral dominance to which Pérez had become accustomed during his previous terms in office, particularly following a season in which the team failed to win any major trophies – a factor that prompted him to call for early elections before the end of his current term.

The election campaign saw a fierce debate over the club's future, with Riquelme focusing on criticising Pérez's management and calling for a change in sporting and administrative approach, whilst the current president defended his project based on modernising Real Madrid's economic structure.

Controversial financial reforms at Real Madrid

The *Guardian* noted that PÃ©rez intends to press ahead with a number of controversial financial reforms, including a plan to sell a limited stake in the club with the aim of bolstering its investment resources and continuing to develop its facilities.

These plans come at a time when Real Madrid continues to cement its position as one of the world's financially strongest clubs, benefiting from growing commercial and investment revenues in recent years.

The transfer market has dominated both election campaigns, with PÃ©rez dangling the prospect of a massive deal potentially worth up to ~150 million, whilst his rival has responded with promises to attract high-profile names to the club, both in terms of players and the coaching staff.

The newspaper argued that the election battle had turned into an open contest over the identity of Real Madrid's future sporting project, rather than merely a race for the presidency.

Mourinho returns to the spotlight

On the coaching front, [Al Jazeera, citing Reuters](#) reported that Florentino PÃ©rez had confirmed during his election campaign that the Portuguese JosÃ© Mourinho would return to manage Real Madrid should he win the election, a promise that has returned to the forefront following the announcement of the voting results.

According to the same source, Mourinho's return is one of the key talking points associated with the club's new era, at a time when Real Madrid is seeking to regain its lustre after a period away from the major trophy podiums.

A new term and growing challenges at Real Madrid

Despite successfully retaining his position, the election results showed that PÃ©rez is entering his new term amidst greater challenges and mounting pressure from a section of the club's members who are calling for more change and competition within the Madrid institution.

Between his ambitions to return the team to the pinnacle of European football and the economic and administrative development projects he champions, PÃ©rez begins a new chapter in his long career with Real Madrid, setting his sights on restoring the sporting successes that have shaped his legacy over the past two decades.

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By [Alaa Shamali](#)

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