



LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS 2025 - ANALYSIS OF THE RESULTS

THE AD - PSD/CDS COALITION - WINS THE ELECTIONS IN PORTUGAL

Following the victory of the AD – PSD/CDS coalition – in the legislative elections of May 18, Luís Montenegro should be reappointed Prime Minister of Portugal. The coalition won without securing an absolute majority, on an evening marked by Chega's near tie with the Socialist Party (PS), which ultimately led to the resignation of the Socialist Party leader, Pedro Nuno Santos.

Chega's results confirm the end of the bipartisan system that has dominated Portuguese politics in recent decades. With the results from the overseas constituencies still pending, the far-right party may surpass the PS in the number of parliamentary seats. It is worth noting that in these constituencies, in 2024, Chega elected two MPs, while both the PS and the AD secured one seat each.

The Liberal Initiative (IL) strengthened its parliamentary representation but fell short of the numbers required to form a joint majority with the AD. In the absence of an absolute majority, the new government will need to forge parliamentary agreements to secure approval of key legislative initiatives, such as the 2026 State Budget, due for vote in October. The pivotal question remains whether the new government will uphold its "no means no" stance regarding agreements with Chega.

The 2025 elections confirm a reconfiguration of the national party system, with the left suffering significant losses and the right achieving historic gains in Parliament.



MAY 18: AN ELECTION NIGHT MARKED BY A TIE BETWEEN THE PS AND CHEGA

01

AD WINS, MONTENEGRO TO REMAIN PM

The AD was the most voted political force in the legislative elections with 32.72% of the votes, securing at least 89 seats in the Parliament. Luís Montenegro will be reappointed Prime Minister by the President of the Republic. However, he will still lack a parliamentary majority to support his government.

02

CHEGA GROWS. OVERSEAS VOTES WILL DETERMINE SECOND PLACE

The PS and CH are currently tied with 58 seats each, and less than 1% of the vote separates them. The final outcome for second place will be determined by the four remaining seats from the overseas constituencies.

03

HISTORIC DEFEAT FOR THE PS. PEDRO NUNO SANTOS RESIGNS

For the first time, the PS may become the third-largest party in the Assembly of the Republic. With over 400.000 fewer votes, the PS elected 58 MPs – 20 fewer than in the previous elections – and, if 2024's pattern repeats, it may even end up with a smaller parliamentary group than Chega. In light of this historic defeat, the PS leader, Pedro Nuno Santos, will ask the party to convene early internal elections, to which he has announced he will not be a candidate.

04

GOVERNABILITY OF THE COUNTRY (STILL) AT STAKE: AD AND IL FAIL TO SECURE AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

Despite the victory of the AD – PSD/CDS coalition – and the growth of the Liberal Initiative (IL), which now holds 9 seats, together they reach only 98 seats, falling 18 short of an absolute majority. The new government will therefore still need to negotiate with other parties, particularly to pass the 2026 State Budget in October.

05

SETBACK OF THE LEFT IN PARLIAMENT

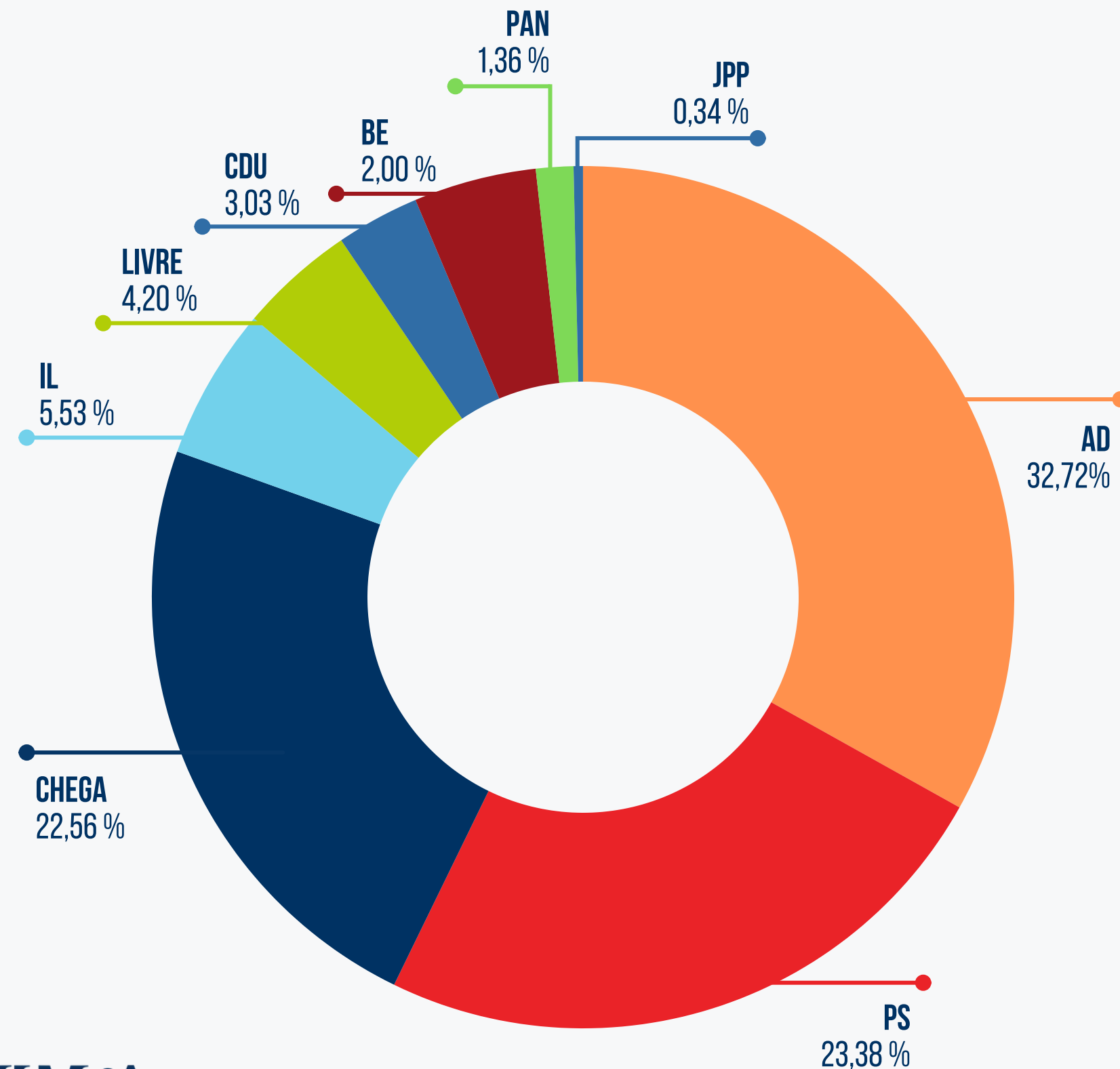
With the exception of Livre, which elected 6 MPs – 2 more than in 2024 – and the arrival of the Madeira-based Juntos Pelo Povo, left-wing parties suffered a heavy defeat in Parliament: in addition to the historic loss for the Socialist Party (PS), the CDU secured only 3 seats, the Left Bloc (BE) only 1 and PAN maintained its sole MP.

06

ABSTENTION DROPS TO ITS LOWEST LEVEL IN 30 YEARS

Excluding the votes from the overseas constituencies, voter abstention within national territory stood at 35.62%, continuing the downward trend already observed in the 2024 elections, when it reached 40.16%.

THE NEW PARLIAMENT



COMPARISON WITH THE 2024 RESULTS

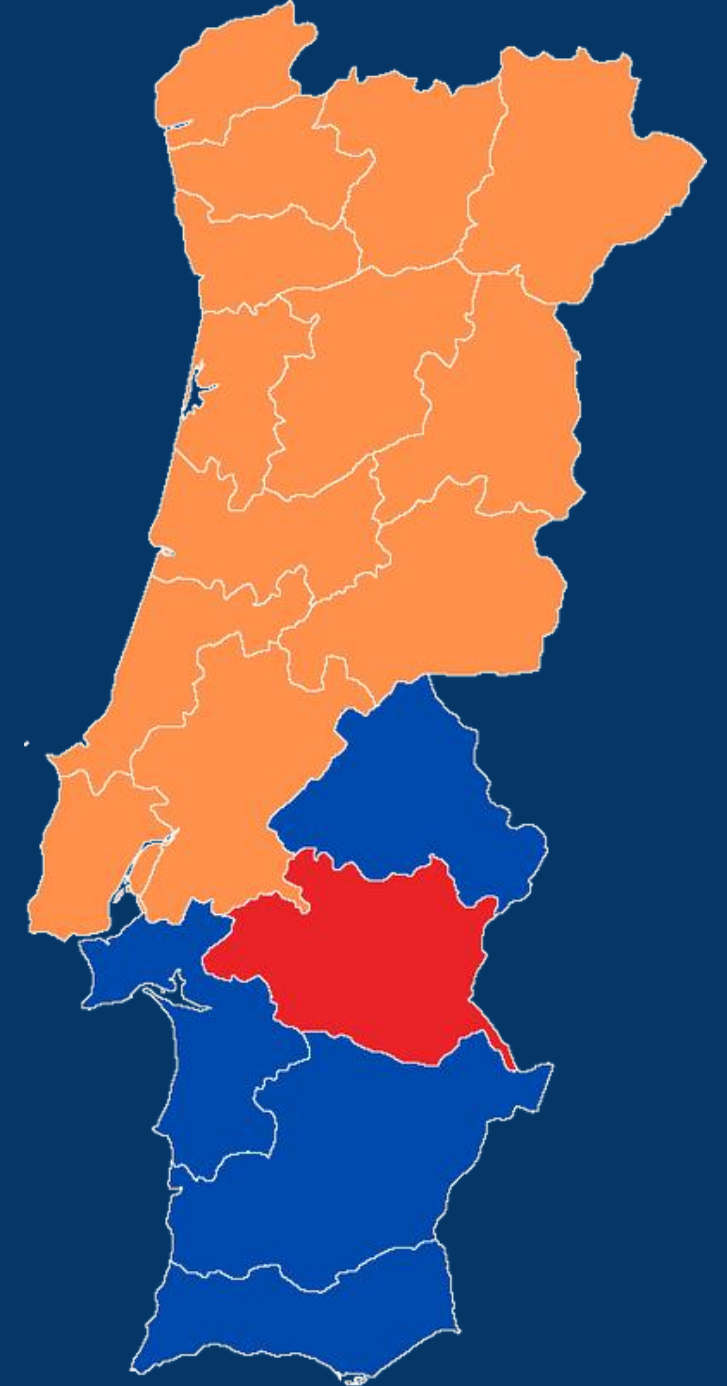
AD 89 ↑ +9	CDU 3 ↓ -1
PS 58 ↓ -20	BE 1 ↓ -4
CHEGA 58 ↑ +8	PAN 1 =
IL 9 ↑ +1	JPP 1 ↑ +1
LIVRE 6 ↑ +2	

*THE FOUR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT ELECTED BY PORTUGUESE COMMUNITIES ABROAD HAVE YET TO BE COUNTED

ANALYSIS OF THE PARTIES & MAP OF RESULTS

AD	The AD won the elections with 32.72% of votes, electing 89 MPs.
PS	The Socialist Party (PS) suffered a historic setback, losing over 400 thousand votes and seeing its parliamentary representation fall from 78 to 58 seats. Its position as the second-largest parliamentary group now hinges on the emigrant vote count to stay ahead of Chega.
CHEGA	Chega emerged as the third-largest political force by votes, finishing just 48.916 votes behind the PS and, for now, matching the Socialists in number of MPs. With 22.56% of the votes, it secured 58 seats, cementing its weight and influence in Parliament.
IL	The Liberal Initiative increased its parliamentary representation by one seat, remaining the fourth-largest political force but lacking the strength to form a joint majority with AD.
LIVRE	Livre stands out as the only left-wing party to grow, expanding its parliamentary representation from 4 to 6 seats.
CDU	The CDU lost one MP, falling short of its electoral objectives. However, on a night marked by a historic defeat for the left, it endured the least significant loss.
BE	The Left Bloc emerged is one of the main losers on the left. The party lost four MPs, remaining in Parliament with only a single MP.
PAN	PAN lost more than 45.000 votes but matched its result from last year's legislative elections, electing its single MP and thus retaining its place in Parliament.
JPP	Madeira party JPP is one of the night's winners. With around 20 thousand votes, it enters the national Parliament for the first time.

Note: the four members of Parliament elected by Portuguese communities abroad have yet to be counted.



QUOTES OF THE NIGHT

AD

"The electorate has unequivocally approved a vote of confidence in the Government, the AD, and the Prime Minister."

"We will be a government, as we have always been, for everyone, everyone, everyone."



PS

"It is neither my role nor that of the Socialist Party to be the support of this government."

"I take full responsibility as party leader (...), and I will therefore call for internal elections in which I will not be a candidate."



CHEGA

"Chega has emerged from this election as the second-largest political party."

"The era of bipartisanship in Portugal is over."

"Nothing will remain the same from tonight onward."

"From today on, no one will believe in any poll anymore."



QUOTES OF THE NIGHT

IL **iniciativa**

"Looking at the results, what we see is that the possible majorities are already formed and, therefore, our role in Parliament will be to continue defending our ideas."



LIVRE

"We do not believe it is normal to have a country where the right wing has radicalized, where the far-right has so many deputies, and where the left is in decline."

"What happened tonight did not come without warning. Livre was the only party to mention the possibility of a parliamentary right-wing majority. It is a bittersweet night."



CDU

"We have affirmed CDU as a major force of courage, integrity, and trust. The result, while demonstrating resilience in a particularly challenging context, does not reflect either the level of support shown during the campaign or what the country's situation truly demands."

"In light of these results, this is not a time for resignation or compromise with the right — this is a time for struggle."



QUOTES OF THE NIGHT

BE

"The left has suffered a significant defeat. For the Left Bloc (BE), tonight is a major defeat."

"We have a great deal of work ahead — to rebuild the left, to broaden it, and to oppose the far right."



PAN

"At a time of so many threats to our country, (...) the fact that PAN has held its ground — despite all those who predicted our exit — is undoubtedly very important for the causes we represent."

"This is not the result we would have hoped for, (...) but we have a vital mission in the face of the threat we are witnessing."



JPP

"We are the great winners of this election, because we surpassed last year's result by over 3.000 votes."

"Amid all this growth of populism, we managed to prevail. We did so without standing in the shadow of national leaders."

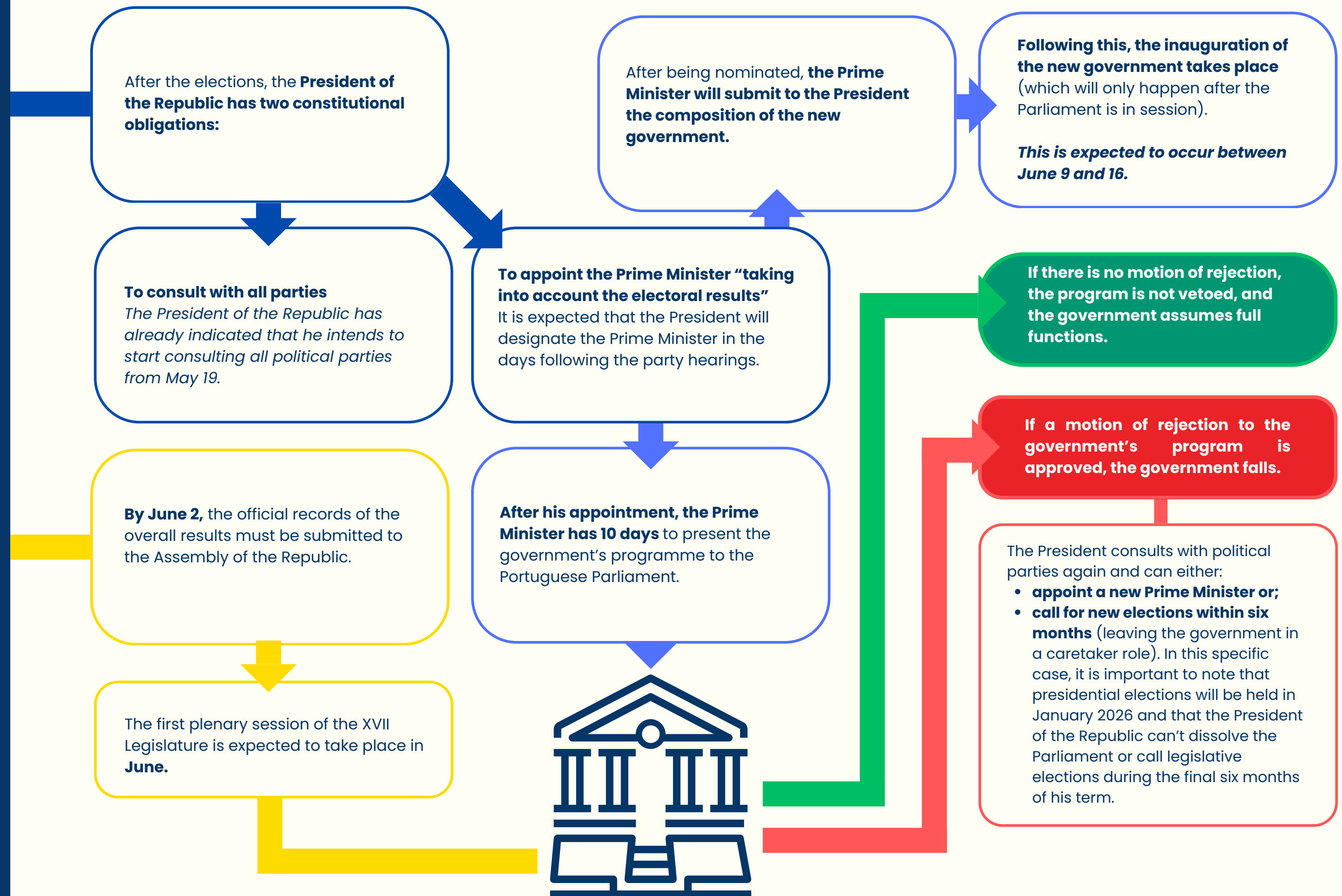


EXPECTED CALENDAR

 **MAY 18**

The Portuguese Constitution does not impose a legal deadline for the new government to take office.

On average, in the last two decades, the executive took full functions just over a month after the elections.





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