

# Majorca Daily Bulletin

Sunday–Monday, December 20–21 2015

1€ · Founded 1962 · N.15848 · Passeig de Mallorca 9 A,  
Palma 07011



Real Mallorca  
legend talks  
football;  
Sunday  
Interview;  
See Pages 4  
and 5



Mariano Rajoy of the Partido Popular, Pablo Iglesias of Podemos, Albert Rivera of Ciudadanos and Pedro Sanchez of the Spanish Socialist Party.

## SPAIN DECIDES

**S**PAIN faces its most uncertain national election in 40 years today with newcomer parties poised for big gains against the traditionally dominant conservatives and socialists, complicating efforts to form a stable government.

The ballot will mark the end of the established two-party system that has held sway since the dictatorship of Francisco Franco ended in 1975, ushering in an untested and potentially volatile era of consensus politics.

It will also offer the latest snapshot of the willingness of European electorates to abandon the mainstream centre-right and centre-left, following significant gains by populist parties since October in elections in France and Portugal.

Opinion polls show the governing conservative People's Party (PP) of Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy will win today's (Sunday's) vote but fall well short of an absolute majority.

Rajoy said this week he would consider a cross-party pact to ensure a stable administration over the scheduled



Following the Spanish elections on our  
website: [www.majorcadailybulletin.es](http://www.majorcadailybulletin.es)

four-year term, but all the main opposition parties have come out against joining the PP in a coalition.

That points to a stalemate that analysts agree would probably disrupt an economic reform programme that has helped pull Spain out of recession and made inroads into a still stubbornly high unemployment rate.

But many Spaniards view the election as an opportunity to shake up a political establishment they consider inefficient and corrupt.

"The People's Party and the Socialists have run out of steam. They've promised things that they've never done and I hope that Podemos will be a change," says Cristian Ciudad, who works on a fish stall at Valencia's fresh food market. The 22-year-old says most of his friends will also vote for the upstart leftist anti-austerity party because they think it can bring much-needed youth employment.

"If there are no jobs there is no money, and if there's no money you can't have a home or any other basic thing," he said.