

Programme

European Office, Brussels

The Morning After – Portugal has voted

Tuesday, 12 March 2024

09:30-10:15 CET

Online Event (via Zoom)

The European Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung is very pleased to invite you to the next session of our event format "**The Morning After**". In this online format, we are monitoring the Parliamentary and/or Presidential Elections in European states and discuss the results with our KAS colleagues in the respective country. Furthermore, we try to assess the implications the result could have for the country's relationship with the European Union. This session will focus on **Portugal**, where early **Parliamentary Elections** are scheduled for **10 March 2024**.

On 10 March, the citizens of Portugal will be called upon to elect a new parliament in an early election. This became necessary after the Socialists around Prime Minister António Costa, who have ruled with an absolute majority since the last early Parliamentary Elections (2022), came under suspicion of corruption. In connection with the awarding of lithium mining licences and the production of green hydrogen, the Prime Minister himself was initially targeted by the investigating authorities, but subsequently mainly the Minister of Economy who bears a similar name. Following the resignation of the Prime Minister in November, President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa dissolved parliament and called new elections for March 2024. According to current opinion polls, these could be decided in a neck-and-neck race between the ruling Socialists (PS) and the opposition Conservatives (PSD), who are running in an electoral alliance with two smaller parties. Both parties currently have around 30 per cent of the vote and are hoping to become the strongest political force in the country. Behind the two major parties, the far-right Chega party could achieve by far the strongest result in its history. After 7.2 per cent of the vote in the last general election, the party could more than double its result this year. The other parties (Liberals, Left Bloc and Greens), on the other hand, are clearly in the single-digit range and will at best play a role as majority procurers. Which constellation will ultimately win a majority in the 230-seat Assembly of the Republic will become clear in the days and weeks following election Sunday.

Who are the winners and who are the losers of the Parliamentary Elections 2024? What majorities are possible and likely as things stand? Has the opposition succeeded in creating a mood for change in the country? What could the domestic and European policy priorities of a new government look like?

The event „**The Morning After – Portugal has voted**” will take place on **Tuesday, 12 March 2024** from **09:30-10:15 CET** via Zoom. We look forward to discussing the election result with our colleague **Dr. Ludger Gruber**, Director of the KAS Office for Spain and Portugal. After the conversation between Dr. Gruber and **Dr. Beatrice Gorawantschy**, Director of the European Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, the audience will have the opportunity to contribute their questions to the discussion. The event will be held in **German** with simultaneous interpretation into **English**.

We look forward to your participation!

Programme

European Office, Brussels

Tuesday, 12 March 2024

- 09:30 **Welcoming**
- Dr. Beatrice Gorawantschy**
Director of the European Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
- 09:35 **Discussion about the Parliamentary Elections 2024 as well as their national and European implications**
- Dr. Beatrice Gorawantschy**
Director of the European Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
- Dr. Ludger Gruber**
Director of the KAS Office for Spain and Portugal
- 10:05 **Questions from the audience**
- 10:15 **End of event**

Information on registration and participation:

Please register by providing your name, email address, organisation and position. You will then receive a confirmation of your registration and further information on how to participate in the online event.

During the online event:

During the event, you will not be connected via video and will be muted by the host. After the speakers' short statements, you are welcome to join the conversation by asking the speakers a written question (click on the Q&A icon in the toolbar).