

Beat: Politics

## Spain does not need more rights

**Pedro Sanchez, leader of the opposition**

Madrid, 03.11.2015, 11:30 Time

**USPA NEWS** - The secretary general of the Socialist Party (PSOE its acronym in Spanish), Pedro Sanchez, commitment to political change in Spain, defends bipartisanship and supports the conservative Government of Mariano Rajoy in his defense of Spanish territorial integrity.

Rajoy, however, the main opponent of the socialist leader in the elections on December 20. "No my personal adversary, but my political opponent," said Pedro Sanchez in an interview with Spanish public television (TVE) issued in prime time on Monday. Sanchez opted for political change: "Spain will not need more rights," he said and argued that "in all polls are three common elements: the Spaniards want to change their government, there is a left turn and that President Rajoy is the worst score of democracy."

Surveys to which he referred, published in the press last weekend, agree that, if elections were held now, the PSOE would lose a significant number of votes from the left, they would go to populist party Podemos, and the center-left, which would end by supporting Citizens (C's in its acronym in Spanish). This would force the PSOE to agree to reach the Government, but the secretary general of the Socialists warned that just will negotiate "with that raised by center-left policies," after defining the Socialist Party as "the social democratic choice" in the elections December 20.

"There is one thing that if I joined the Popular Party," said Pedro Sanchez. "It is the defense of the territorial integrity of Spain." Support the conservative Government against the Catalan separatist threat "comes to the defense of the Constitution," he said at another time of the interview. "We will not negotiate with parties that are for secession. We must defend the Constitution and the territorial integrity of Spain, but also have to provide a political solution" to the conflict. To find it, he insisted, "dialogue had been important and I hope that is not too late." He defended the need to reform the Constitution "because Spain is not like 1978 to 2015."

But Sanchez warned that any change in the status of Catalonia in Spain "we will have to decide all Spaniards." In electoral code, the secretary general of the PSOE announced that, if elected, "will repeal any labor reform" by a decree-law and the resumption of dialogue with the social partners. The Socialists are seeking to approve a new Statute of Workers to reduce labor contracts to three: one permanent, one part-time and the third training. It also announced a reform of Income Tax (IRPF its acronym in Spanish) "that will benefit the majority of Spaniards" because they plan "to attack the corporate figures" that enable taxing large fortunes through their companies.

With these reforms and policies put in place if they win the elections, the Socialists pose "a time horizon where we have 25,000 million Euros" collected, said Pedro Sanchez, who ended the interview by stressing that "Spanish politicians deserve to put forward proposals for the future." He said: "Although there are new voices, basically the only option for change there is the Socialist Party."

### Article online:

<https://www.uspa24.com/bericht-6073/spain-does-not-need-more-rights.html>

### Editorial office and responsibility:

V.i.S.d.P. & Sect. 6 MDS<sub>t</sub>V (German Interstate Media Services Agreement): Jose A. Martin

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Martin

**Editorial program service of General News Agency:**

United Press Association, Inc.

3651 Lindell Road, Suite D168

Las Vegas, NV 89103, USA

(702) 943.0321 Local

(702) 943.0233 Facsimile

[info@unitedpressassociation.org](mailto:info@unitedpressassociation.org)

[info@gna24.com](mailto:info@gna24.com)

[www.gna24.com](http://www.gna24.com)