# Mexico's Presidential Election Campaign Concludes Amid Violence and Female Front-Runner



Mexico's presidential election campaign concluded amid notable violence, resulting in over 30 killed candidates. Polls indicate that Claudia Sheinbaum, representing the ruling Morena party, leads with a double-digit margin over Xóchitl Gálvez, an opposition candidate from the PAN party. The election, scheduled for Sunday, will also see voters choosing regional governors, a new congress, and local officials. This election marks the potential for Mexico to elect its first female president.

Sheinbaum, a former climate scientist and ex-mayor of Mexico City, advocates for the continuation of policies set by current President Andrés Manuel López Obrador. Her campaign included a final rally in Mexico City's main square, where she emphasized reduced poverty and increased foreign investment under López Obrador's administration.

Gálvez's campaign ended in Monterrey, where she presented her coalition as a defense against perceived authoritarianism by the ruling party. She criticized the current government's handling of health, security, and crime, pledging to be a president that confronts crime directly.

The third candidate, Jorge Álvarez Máynez, appealing mainly to younger voters, holds approximately 10% in the polls.

Security and violence remain dominant voter concerns, with recent campaigns marred by killings and attacks on candidates. Both Sheinbaum and Gálvez proposed varying approaches to tackle the nation's security issues but have not strongly deviated from the nearly two-decades-long strategy of relying on the armed forces.

The election also serves as a referendum on López Obrador's policies, which have included increased social handouts and significant infrastructure projects. With Sheinbaum leading, the outcome may depend on her coalition's strength in Congress, potentially influencing her policy approach post-election.