

Latam Daily: Chile Centre-Left Coalition Elects Presidential Candidate Yasna Provoste

- **Chile:** Yasna Provoste was elected as the presidential candidate of the centre-left coalition Unidad Constituyente amidst low voter turnout

CHILE: YASNA PROVOSTE WAS ELECTED AS THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE OF THE CENTRE-LEFT COALITION UNIDAD CONSTITUYENTE AMIDST LOW VOTER TURNOUT

On August 21, the centre-left coalition Unidad Constituyente, held an unofficial primary election that saw Ms Yasna Provoste (51) surge as the coalition's chosen representative, as was widely expected. The coalition brings together former members of the Christian Democratic Party, the Socialist Party, the former Radical Party and others. The result confirmed the few polls available. Ms Provoste, currently presiding the Senate and who served as cabinet member under former President Michelle Bachelet, was chosen as the centre-left's candidate with 61% of the votes. She was followed by Paula Narvaez (with 27%) and Carlos Maldonado (12%). Provoste will thus seek Chile's presidency alongside candidates Gabriel Boric (left), Sebastian Sichel (centre right), José Antonio Kast (right), and others who will be announced by today's deadline (August 23) when the presidential registrations officially close.

The most relevant result of this weekend's unofficial primary was electoral participation. Barely 151 thousand votes were registered—a very low turnout. Considering that the coalition parties account to close to 200,000 party members, the primary shows that the coalition was unable to convene independent voters, thus showing some weakness ahead of the first-round presidential election on November 21. By contrast, the centre-right coalition's primary which included Sebastian Sichel (a former Christian Democrat) garnered 1.3 million votes.

—Anibal Alarcón

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