

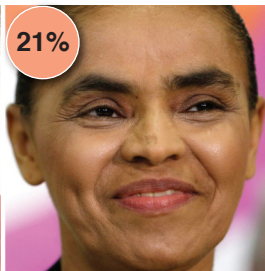
Marina Silva enters Brazil's presidential race

Environmentalist Marina Silva has joined the race for president as Brazil's Socialist Party candidate, setting the stage for a potential challenge to incumbent Dilma Rousseff ahead of the October 5 vote

36%

21%

20%



Dilma Rousseff, 66
Workers' Party
Brazil's first female president, seeking second four-year term



Marina Silva, 56
Brazilian Socialist Party
Former environment minister (2003-08)



Aécio Neves, 54
Brazilian Social Democracy Party
Federal Senate member



■ Hand-picked successor to former President **Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva**. Has seen her popularity flag in recent months amid slowing economic growth, high taxes and poor public services

■ Still ahead in polls, but candidacy of Marina Silva makes Oct 26 runoff vote more likely

■ Has admitted to "many problems" in healthcare system – recent polls suggest almost 90 percent of public dissatisfied with government-run programme

■ Replaces PSB candidate **Eduardo Campos**, who died in plane crash on Aug 13. Campos had been running third in polls with about 10 percent

■ Gained strong base of support after mass protests that swept Brazil last year, and won international praise for her efforts to preserve Amazon rainforest under Lula government

■ Longtime evangelical Christian, Silva ran for president as Green Party candidate in 2010, coming third with about 20 percent of vote

■ Centrist candidate promises pro-market measures to cut inflation and boost economic growth. Has criticised Workers' Party over corruption and says he plans to cut public spending

■ PSDB has pledged formal support to Marina Silva in runoff vote if Neves fails to qualify, in bid to end over 10 years of Workers' Party rule

■ Polls indicate that most Neves supporters would support Silva, jeopardising Rousseff's chances of winning second term

● Percentage figures from Datafolha survey of 2,843 people conducted Aug 14-15

Source: Wire agencies

Pictures: Associated Press

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