

Romanian PM to face mayor in runoff

Centre-left prime minister Victor Ponta will face Sibiu city mayor Klaus Iohannis in the second round of Romania's presidential election after no candidate secured a majority of the vote



Victor Ponta, 42
Social Democratic
Party (PSD)

40.3%



Ponta

*First round result with
98.3 percent of ballots counted*

Turnout 52.3%

30.4%



Iohannis



Klaus Iohannis, 55
Christian Liberal
Alliance (ACL)

■ Former prosecutor was Europe's youngest prime minister when his party came to power on anti-austerity ticket in 2012

■ Has promised stability and end to bitter feuding between prime minister and president if he wins

■ His popularity appears not to have been badly damaged by corruption probes of senior PSD members. Romania is viewed as being among most corrupt nations in EU

■ His pledges include lower taxes, higher pensions, good relations with EU and China, and referendum on restoring monarchy

■ Ethnic German has been mayor of Sibiu since 2000, winning praise for managing restoration works in medieval Transylvanian city, named European Capital of Culture in 2007

■ Backed by centre-right coalition of National Liberal Party (PNL) and Democratic Liberal Party (PDL)

■ Stands out in rough-and-tumble world of Romanian politics for being mild-mannered and serious, saying he wants to be a "mediator president"

■ Advocates reforms to boost recession-hit economy and says he will guarantee rule of law and independent justice system