



POLITICS

Dolsa seeks political consensus for the municipal elections

Ordino's junior consul, Eva Choy, wants to headline her party's list again

David Astrié and Miquel Canturri are elected to head the DA list in Andorra la Vella



ANA/M.R.



Enric Dolsa

COUNCILOR OF X'ORDINO

«The pact we made with the PS was not only for the general elections, but also for the municipal elections in December»

formation was not very happy with the treatment received by DA after the results of the general elections of April 2nd, although, as Choy pointed out, «until the day that the candidacies are presented we will not know what will happen because in politics you can never say no».

The press conference following the session of the Municipal Council, where different points related to the approval of credit supplements were discussed and where the one awarded to the Tourism, Spots and Revitalization Commission stands out, with an amount of 62,200 euros, ended with the intervention of Movem Ordino's advisor, Bàrbara Pàmies, who focused on the reasons why the political formation took a position against the geriatric residence project: «We believe that it is rather a project of national and not parish management, and the overcrowding of unit 21 and 22 is excessive». Despite this, Pàmies did not declare anything remarkable about possible pacts for the municipal elections, since she does not participate in the negotiations. DA again bets on Astrié and Canturri in the capital/ The candidacy of David Astrié and Miquel Canturri to re-establish themselves as representatives of Andorra la Vella is already a reality. This was dictated by the parish Committee of Democrats during the meeting held on Wednesday, marking that both will occupy number 1 and 2 respectively on the electoral list. A decision that certainly does not surprise anyone and through which the party hopes that the current major and minor consuls of the capital will revalidate the position and maintain the orange leadership in the municipality.

The Committee, chaired by Eduard Tomás, also took advantage of the meeting to agree on the creation of a specific commission to work on the preparation of the list that will compete in the elections of December 17th. In addition, in the aforementioned conclave, the commissions (grouped by subject) were defined that will carry out the preparation of the content of the electoral program for Andorra la Vella. ≡

►► The councilor of X'Ordino, Enric Dolsa, during the press conference following the Municipal Council.

ALEX MONTERO
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The councilor of X'Ordino, Enric Dolsa, is already looking for political consensus for the next municipal elections on December 17th. This is what he stated last Thursday, where he also revealed the possible pact situation with the Social Democratic Party: «The pact we made with the PS was not only for the general elections in April, but also for the December municipal elections», adding that some conversations have already been held with members of the party.

However, and questioned about

the possibility of once again heading the list of his formation in the parishes, Dolsa was again very concise in his words: «I am always ready to do politics, but I am not the one who has to decide if I am the appropriate person to lead a candidacy». In addition, the councilor took advantage of his intervention to give his opinion on the date chosen for the December elections: «The normal thing is that they were the 3rd and not the 17th, because the pre-electoral campaign will coincide with the Puríssima long-weekend, from the Constitution in Spain and the opening of the ski slopes».

Dolsa was not the only one to speak out on the question of the mu-

nicipal elections, as Ordino's junior consul, Eva Choy, indicated that she also wants to headline her party's list: «There is the will to do it, but we need to see how it would be configured», adding that at the moment they are «in a period of talks between parties and of evaluating other candidacies».

Following a possible pact with the Democratic party, the current leader and member of Liberals of Andorra declared that «I have always been a defender of the pact and it has been very positive, but what happened in the previous general elections propitious that there must be another one». It should be remembered that the political

The counselor believes that he should not be the one to decide if he is the appropriate person to lead a candidacy

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STATISTIC

GDP grew by 1.9% during the second quarter of the year

The service sector is the one that accelerates the Principality's economy the most.

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The country's GDP grew by 1.9% in the second quarter of the year. The figure is marked by the stabilization of growth in all productive sectors, as reported by the Department of Statistics. Regarding the inter-quarterly variation, it was 2.6% compared to the first quarter of the year.

In the second quarter, all sectors had growth rates. Compared to the surrounding countries, Andorra is above the variation of the Spanish economy (1.8%), the French economy (1%) and the European Union (0.4%).

The evolution of GDP is marked by the dynamics of services, given that the sector has accounted for more than 80% of GDP in recent years. In the second quarter of 2023, the area of economic activity has experienced a growth of 2.1%. It should be noted that all sectors show positive values in the second quarter of the year. The constructi-



► Image of Government.

on sector is another that shows a positive variation, in this case of 5.7%. As for agriculture and industry,

they also experience growth again with a rate of change of 1.6% and 0.8% respectively.

With regard to services, it is convenient to make a sectoral disaggregation to better understand

growth.

The activities of the first subsector trade, hospitality, transport, information and communication have shown a very positive dynamic in recent years and have been built into the main accelerator of the economy. Even so, following the Covid pandemic and the high linkage with the sector, during 2020 and 2021 it suffered a considerable slowdown, but it began to recover during last year and this year, experiencing a growth of 2.1% currently.

Its evolution, however, contrasts with the results of the second subsector. The health crisis has affected it but less intensely. As for the second quarter of the year, it registered 2.3%.

Finally, the evolution of the subsector of public administrations, education, health, social and personal services has been much more constant in the aforementioned periods. For this second quarter of the year, it experienced a growth of 1.7%. =

The number of visitors increased by 7% in August.

The Principality received a total of 1,217,632 during the month.

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During the month of August, a total of 1,217,632 visitors entered, of which 716,053 were hikers (58.8%) and 501,579 were tourists (41.2%). According to the Statistics department, compared to August last year, the number of visitors has increased by 6.8%. It should be noted that tourists have increased by 8.3% and hikers by 5.8%.

Regarding the country of residence, visitors from other origins have shown a growth of 21.2%, followed by French and Spanish visitors, who have registered positive variations of 7.6% and 2% respectively with respect to August 2022.

In cumulative terms of the last twelve months, it should be noted that visitors show an increase of 14.4% in relation to the same previous period. In this sense, both tourists and hikers show increases of 18.6% and 11.4% respectively. By nationality, visitors from other origins continue to lead the ranking with an increase of 30.8%, followed by Spanish and French visitors, who increase by 15.3% and 9% respectively. The accumulated number of visitors per day since the beginning of the year is 14.7% higher than in the same period of the previous year.

ENTRY OF VEHICLES // On the other hand, the number of vehicles that entered the country during August was 446,184, which represents a positive percentage change compared to August of the previ-

ous year of 0.6%. The total of passenger cars shows an increase of 0.7% and that of heavy vehicles a decrease of 8.3%.

Passenger cars from Spain have had a negative percentage change of 1.8%, while those from France have decreased by 4.8%. Regarding heavy vehicles, there was a negative percentage variation of 10% along the Hispano-Andorra border. As for Pas de la Casa, the variation has also been positive, with 4.7%.

From January to August this year, and with respect to the same period in 2022, there has been a 7% increase in the number of vehicles, with an 8.2% increase in those coming from Spain and a 4.6% from France.

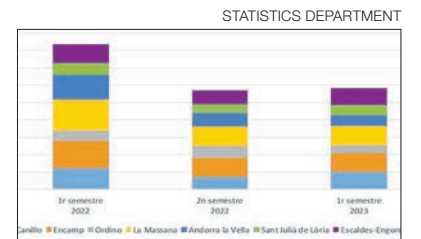
Finally, it should be noted that the number of vehicles that entered the country during the last twelve months was 4,190,812, which represents a positive variation of 6.2% compared to the same previous period, when 3,947,753 vehicles entered. =

Mortgages decrease by 30.2%

During the first semester, 291 mortgages were granted

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During the first half of 2023, 291 new mortgages were granted, which represents a decrease of 30.2% compared to the same period of the previous year, when 417 mortgages were granted. As stated by the Department of Statistics, those intended for residential use have decreased by 28.5% compared to 2022 and have also fallen by 4.7% when compared to the previous semester. By parish, the number of mortgages granted in the first half of the year decreased in all of them compared to last year, but compared to the previous half year it increased by 29.7% in Cani-



► Number of mortgages.

llo, 26.3% in Escaldes-Engordany and 8% in Sant Julià de Lòria.

The value of mortgages intended for residential use has decreased by 20.6%, standing at 85.6 million euros. By parishes, Escaldes-Engordany stands out with more than 25 million euros for this first semester, where it has increased by 40.5% compared to the first semester of 2022. The list is followed by La Massana with 18,536,137 million and Canillo with 10,456,050 million. =

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