



Policy ▶ Xavier Espot and Cerni Escalé present their candidacies in the Investiture Debate

Espot presents state pacts EU and the CASS in its inve

The Democratic candidate proposed that the Government provide a public housing stock intended for affordable rent

Espot proposes a reform of the pension system and making social security more sustainable

ANNA MENCOS VIÑALS
ANDORRA LA VELLA

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The Democrat candidate for head of government, Xavier Espot, intervened last Tuesday morning at the General Council in the Investiture debate, where he proposed his government program.

The candidate began his speech by emphasizing that the Democrats' project with the support of Acció and Ciutadans Compromesos will be open and will adapt to changing and unforeseen circumstances.

Espot presented two State pacts to «define Andorra's relations with the European Union and one on Social Security». As for the first, he wants to raise it openly, since he wants it to be integrated not only by the forces of the General Council but also Liberals and Terceiravia in such a way that there can be «a frank dialogue». The candidate for head of government explained that if he obtains the confidence of the councilors, he intends to continue with an agreement that allows Andorra's participation in the internal market of the European Union in a gradual and balanced way. The Democrats' proposal also wants to continue «a broad political, economic and social agreement» and in which there is «a flow» in all directions. Espot also recalled that according to the survey published by Andorra Research and Innovation, 59% of respondents want some kind of relationship with the European Union, but that the final survey will be when there is a closed agreement and it is submitted to a referendum.

Another point of the party's electoral program is to regulate and align foreign companies with international standards. Espot states that the question Andorra must ask is how we will differentiate ourselves



Xavier Espot

ACTING HEAD OF GOVERNMENT

«We want an agreement that allows Andorra's participation in the international market in a gradual and balanced way»

«We are in favor of reforming the pension system and making it more sustainable, with a progressive increase in contributions»

«One or two star measures will not be enough to alleviate the housing problem. We need to act on several fronts»

and remembers that they have been seeing this risk for years. He also pointed out that the Principality's weaknesses come from an economy that needs to invest in research and new more sustainable models.

The other pact proposed by Espot is to focus efforts on the CASS, which it describes as one of the main pillars of our country. Espot



▶ The Democrat candidate for Head of Government, Xavier Espot, in the investiture debate last Tuesday morning.

proposes a reform of the pension system, increasing contributions and making social security more sustainable.

Regarding the public health system, a whole series of actions will be carried out such as the digitization of the health system, the reduction of hospital stays, the comprehensive oncology system, the expansion of the hospital and the improvement of the emergencies.

Housing was considered one of the important challenges facing

The candidate also proposes to establish a maximum of housing for tourist use and second residences

the country and Espot emphasized the need to combine short- and long-term actions. The candidate also proposed that the Government provide a public housing stock intended for affordable rent and the opening to public-private collaboration and fiscal and urban planning economic incentives so that the private sector also promotes affordable housing. He also mentioned the need to establish a maximum tourist use and second residences or create a new finalist rate

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the pension system, an increase in
social security more sustainable



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►► Concordia's candidate for Head of Government, Cerni Escalé in the investiture debate.

Cerni Escalé faints during his inauguration speech

The candidate will continue with his speech Wednesday at 9.30 am

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The investiture debate session was suspended following the fainting of Concordia's candidate for head of government, Cerni Escalé, who collapsed while defending his project. The emergency services were immediately notified, and the session was suspended, although it was originally supposed to resume hours later, it will do so this morning.

Before Escalé suffered from indisposition, the candidate began to present his proposal, referring to the fact that Xavier Espot would be the next head of government and that «to pretend otherwise would be an

absurd exercise in parliamentary theatrics. Escalé thanked all the citizens who supported him during the elections last April 2nd and the Social Democratic Party for their support.

The Concordia candidate explained that his task over the next four years will be to make important progress in matters of gender and equality as well as to be more transparent, making public the asset declarations of his councilors, publishing on the website all the information not considered a State secret, and the agenda of the parliamentary group.

One of the topics he discussed during his speech was real estate, stating that the construction of real estate has a direct impact on the environment they occupy, on mobility, on the resources that are consumed and on public services. «It is neces-

sary to establish better where and how it is built, and to limit new developments to the country's carrying capacity», declared Escalé.

The candidate also recalled that the General Council can assume the responsibility of modifying the Land Law, establishing stricter criteria such as typifying the uses of plots, thus ordering activities, creating economic opportunities and at the same time contributing to the protection of the natural environment. «It should be mandatory to include landscape criteria in municipal town planning plans, to review the areas affected by natural hazards and to make it mandatory to reduce the building capacity in parishes». The candidate was explaining the proposed flora and fauna protection law when he collapsed. Escalé's speech continued yesterday, Wednesday. ≡

in the case of foreign investment.

The democratic candidate for head of government emphasized the desire to modify the land law «in terms of sustainability» with the aim of carrying out «policies that anticipate sustainable urban growth». In this sense, he emphasized that it will be necessary to im-

plement load studies and that 30% of the territory is to be protected so that it becomes a natural park.

In terms of infrastructure, Espot will give priority to the diversion of La Massana and Ordino, will study the arrival of the railway in Andorra and the splitting of the road connection with France. ≡

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(+376) 353 424 / (+376) 379 769

(+376) 747 747

laportella@andorra.ad

Casa Nova Olivet 10 · Ordino

www.laportella.ad