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Unpredictable: Milei is the latest in a series of reality TV stars turned politicians.

Is global democracy at risk? Far-right candidate Javier Milei has won the presidential election in Argentina. Some think it is a worrying time for the world.

What's happening?

Argentina has a new **president**. His name is Javier Milei and he is 53 years old.

His win has been called a "political earthquake".

Find out more

Milei won 56% of the vote. His rival, Sergio Massa, got just 44%.

Milei is known for his **far right** views. He has extreme plans, including shutting **government** departments that deal with the environment and women's rights. He even wants to make it **legal** to sell human organs.

He is an unusual man too. He says that the ghost of his dog told him to run for president, and he is known as "the madman".

His win has been welcomed by **Donald Trump**.

So why have Argentinians voted for him? The country's economy has been struggling recently. Prices are rising fast, and many people live in **poverty**.

Many want a change. And Milei has promised a lot of change — but it has left people around the world worried that life might become worse in Argentina, not better.

Is global democracy at risk?

Some say

Yes! The rise of leaders like Javier Milei and Donald Trump shows that democracy is in danger. They are praised for their anti-democratic ideas.

Others think

No! The people of Argentina voted — and the man they voted for won. Democracy is not in danger. Most people around the world still say they want to live in one.

Some people say

“Democracy is a device that ensures we shall be governed no better than we deserve.”

**George Bernard Shaw (1856 – 1950),
Irish playwright, critic and political
activist**

What do you think?

Six steps to discovery

1. Connect

How do you feel about this story? - What do you think of the leader of your country?

2. Wonder

What questions do you have? - For example: How does the electoral system in Argentina work?

3. Investigate

What are the facts? - Pick out one thing we know for certain and one thing we cannot say for sure about this story.

4. Construct

What is your point of view? - You are a journalist who is given the opportunity to ask Milei three questions. What will you ask?

5. Express

What do others believe? - In a small group, imagine that one of you is campaigning to be elected the leader of your country. Come up with a list of policies to win over voters.

6. Reflect

What might happen next? - Do you think Milei sounds like a good leader? Write down your answer with an explanation.

Glossary

Argentina - The second-largest country in South America. It has a population of nearly 46 million.

President - In some countries, the leader is called the president.

Far right - A range of ideologies that emphasise social order, racial purity, and the elimination of opponents.

Government - The group of people who govern - or lead - the country.

Legal - Something that is legal is allowed by the law.

Donald Trump - An American television personality who became US president from 2016 to 2020.

Poverty - The state of being very poor.