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Sunday, December 19, 2021

Speech President Gabriel Boric Font

GOOD EVENING CHILE !

PO NUI, SUMA ARUMA, PUN MAY CHILE !

*THANKS TO ALL OF YOU, TO ALL THE PEOPLE, TO ALL THE
PEOPLE OF CHILE*

First of all, I would like to thank all the Chilean men and women who went to vote on this day, honoring their commitment to democracy. In the hard and noble north. In the rainy and windy south. In the hot and fertile center. In Rapa Nui, Juan Fernandez and Chilean Antarctica. Abroad.

It does not matter if they did it for me or for my opponent: the important thing is that they did it, that they were present, that they showed their commitment to this country that belongs to all of us. Also, of course, to the thousands of people who wanted to vote and were unable to do so due to the lack of public transportation. It cannot happen again that on such an important day people are deprived of exercising their right to vote.

Also to those who made this beautiful campaign possible.

Independents, social organizations and political parties, to all of the people who in the last few weeks have organized themselves throughout Chile and abroad, from Magallanes to Arica, from Visviri to Puerto Toro, to raise a citizen campaign that has allowed this triumph. The same commitment and enthusiasm will be necessary during the years of our government so that, among all of us, we can sustain the process of changes that we have already begun to make, step by step.

Thanks to my campaign manager, Dr. Izkia Siches, for having put everything and more into this candidacy, with so much love, so much energy and so much desire. To all the technical teams that joined this proposal, to each of the independents and parties that made this campaign possible.

Thanks to the children who throughout this trip filled us with love and hope, with beautiful drawings that expressed with innocence and hope the Chile they dream of. A green and loving Chile, that takes care of nature and animals, that recovers the neighborhood squares to play, a Chile where fathers and mothers have more time to spend with their children and grandparents are not alone at this stage of their lives. We have looked into the eyes of the children of Chile and I know that we cannot fail them.

Thanks to the women of our country. Who organized throughout Chile to defend the rights they have worked so hard to achieve. From

the right to vote to the right to decide about their own bodies.

From the right to non-discrimination based on the type of family they have decided to form to recognition for the care tasks they perform today. Count on us. You will be the protagonists of our government. Also to the dissidences and diversities that have been discriminated for a long time and in this campaign have seen threatened the few advances they have achieved. In our government, non-discrimination and stopping violence against diversities and women together with feminist organizations will be fundamental.

I also thank the Servel for its impeccable work. It symbolizes the State we need: efficient, impartial, fair. To the national and regional media, for taking information to the most remote places. The free press is the essential foundation of democracy and you are its vehicle.

I want to thank all the candidates who participated in this election, because in the end, democracy is made by all of us, and we need each one of them. To Yasna Provoste, Sebastián Sichel, Marco Enriquez Ominami, Franco Parisi, Eduardo Artes and José Antonio Kast. The future of Chile needs all of us on the same side, on the side of the people and I hope to count on your support, your ideas and proposals to start my government. I know that beyond the differences we have, particularly with José Antonio Kast, we will know how to build bridges between us so that our compatriots can live better. Because what unites us is our love for Chile and its people.

And by the way, thanks to my family, my father and mother, my two brothers, my grandparents who are no longer here. To my traveling companion Irina. You are my pillars in the dark days and the ones responsible for my being here today.

You already know. I come from Magallanes, in the extreme south of Chile, almost touching Antarctica. I am 35 years old.

And I know that history does not start with us. I feel that I am heir to a long historical trajectory, that of those who, from different positions, have tirelessly sought social justice, the expansion of democracy, the defense of human rights, the protection of freedoms. This is my large family, which I would like to see reunited again in this stage that we now begin.

Compatriots, I will be the president of all Chilean men and women. Of those who voted for this project today, of those who chose another alternative and also of those who did not vote.

The times ahead will not be easy. We will have to face the social, economic and health consequences of the worst pandemic our country has experienced in more than a century. It will be difficult, no doubt, but we will move forward with small but firm steps, learning from our history.

Because Chile has a short history as a national state: barely two centuries of independent life, but rich in experiences of achievements,

Of mistakes, successes and frustrations. Of beautiful and also difficult moments. And we have learned from that experience. Today we can be more certain about some things than before:

That an economic growth based on inequality has feet of clay: that only with social cohesion, meeting again and sharing a common ground, we will be able to advance towards a true and sustained development that reaches every Chilean family and that also includes the SMEs that with so much effort are raised by honest men and women throughout the national territory.

That destabilizing democratic institutions leads directly to the reign of abuse, the law of the jungle, and the suffering and helplessness of the weakest. Let's take care of democracy, every day, every day.

That progress, in order to be solid, must be the result of broad agreements. And that in order to last, they must always be gradual, step by step, so as not to derail or risk what each family has achieved with their efforts.

That respect for human rights must always and everywhere be an unwavering commitment and that never, for any reason, should a president declare war on his own people. Truth, justice, reparation and non-repetition.

And there are many challenges that we will have to face. Timely health care that does not discriminate between rich and poor, equalizing upwards access, quality and response times. Decent pensions for those who have worked all their lives making our Chile great and can no longer wait, growth and fair distribution of wealth, which must go hand in hand. The drama of homelessness and access to basic services that we must address. Strengthen public education, guarantee the rights of workers to build a country with Decent Work and better wages, create a national care system that recognizes and values women who care today, also advancing in co-responsibility and leaving behind the patriarchal heritage of our society.

The security emergency we are experiencing, making neighborhoods safer and free of drug trafficking, putting culture in the place it deserves and not as a caboose, dignifying its workers, expanding sports, promoting science, moving towards a new relationship with indigenous peoples, recognizing their right to look at the world from other linguistic and cultural perspectives, and paying special attention to environmental care will be part of our tasks.

Because climate change, dear compatriots, is not an invention. It is here, and it has direct effects on our lives and those of future generations. It is no coincidence that it is the young people of the

We cannot look the other way when our farmers and peasants, when entire localities have no water, or when unique ecosystems are destroyed when they can be avoided. We cannot look the other way when our farmers and peasants, when entire localities have no water or when unique ecosystems are destroyed when we can avoid it.

Of course, not everything can be done at the same time and we will have to prioritize in order to achieve progress that will allow us to improve, step by step, the lives of our people. It will not be easy, it will not be fast, but our commitment is to advance along this path with hope and responsibility.

Chilean men and women

We have arrived here with a government project that can be synthesized in a few simple words: to advance with responsibility in the changes that Chile has been demanding, leaving no one behind. This means growing economically; converting what some understand as consumer goods into social rights, guaranteeing a more peaceful and secure life, deepening the freedoms of all, and especially of all: in our government women will not retreat in the rights and freedoms they have achieved throughout history.

Our project also means advancing in more democracy and, of course, and as we have already said here, taking care of the constituent process, a source of world pride and the only way to

to build, in democracy and with everyone, a better country. For the first time in our history we are writing a Constitution in a democratic, parity way, with the participation of the native peoples. Let us all take care of this process in order to have a Magna Carta that is one of encounter and not of division.

We will work as a team with all sectors. The challenges are too important for us to remain tied to the trenches. We are all needed here. The workers who forge the wealth of our country day by day. The cooperation of the business world, to build alliances, to bring our views closer together. If we are here, it is to ensure that prosperity reaches every corner of our land, and for that no one is superfluous.

On this night of triumph I repeat the commitment we made throughout the campaign: we will expand social rights and we will do it with fiscal responsibility, we will do it taking care of our macroeconomy. We will do it well and that will allow us to improve pensions and health care without having to go backwards in the future.

We will have a balanced Congress, which in turn means an invitation and an obligation to dialogue. I honestly see it as an opportunity to meet again, to unite in great deeds for the welfare of our country, to achieve broad and lasting agreements that improve the quality of life of our compatriots. I trust in the responsibility of all the forces

We will always put the common good first and clearly and unambiguously reject violence in politics and in our life in society. Please know that in me, you will find a president open to listen and to incorporate different visions, being also receptive to constructive criticism that will help us to improve.

Chilean men and women

I receive this mandate with humility. I know that the future of our country is at stake in the coming years. That is why I guarantee that I will be a president who cares for democracy and does not expose it, who listens more than he speaks; who seeks unity of agreements and who attends, day by day, to the needs of the people; who fights against privileges and works every day for the quality of life of your family.

Today is a day of great happiness, but above all of great responsibility, the work ahead of us is enormous, and we need each and every one of us. We must continue to be one, we must continue to meet to carry forward the changes that the country needs so much.

This is how we will do it, governing with all people. Adding ideas, opening doors, building bridges. This is how we will go, step by step, building a just homeland little by little, day by day.

That is why tonight we must celebrate, but we will do it calmly. Go home with the healthy joy of the clean victory achieved. I ask you to take care of this triumph, because from tomorrow we will have a lot of work to do to find ourselves again, to heal wounds, and to walk towards a better future.

With hope intact.

With the awareness of the challenges we face.

I say goodbye to you with a giant hug, I will leave the best of me

Thank you very much.

We will continue.