

[Home](#) / [World News](#) / Italy set to get first woman PM, far-right leader Meloni wins big in polls

Italy set to get first woman PM, far-right leader Meloni wins big in polls

[World News](#)

Published on Sep 26, 2022 06:36 AM IST

Italian far-right leader Meloni, whose party came top in general elections, said Monday she would seek to lead the next government and would work for all Italians.



Giorgia Meloni won a clear majority in Sunday's Italian election, setting herself up to become the country's first female prime minister at the head of the most right-wing government since World War II.

Advertisement

Her alliance, which also includes Matteo Salvini's League and Silvio Berlusconi's Forza Italia, claimed about 43% of the vote, according to projections for RAI, the public broadcaster. That would give the bloc at least 114 seats in the Senate, where 104 votes are required for a majority.

Meloni emerged from the political fringes after leading the opposition to Mario Draghi's technocratic administration which stabilized the country over the past 18 months following the trauma of the pandemic. Yet the charismatic 45-year-old has little experience of governing and she would be taking office at a perilous moment for her country.

The next Italian government will face a series of overlapping crises as the energy shortages triggered by Russia's invasion of Ukraine fuel rampant inflation and undermine growth. The hit to Italy's finances and the prospect of more interest-rate hikes from the European Central Bank have pushed the yield on Italy's 10-year bonds to more than 4.3% compared with less than 1% in December.

Advertisement

PROMOTED



Get Life Cover along
with protection...

Born Between 1970-
1995? Get `2Cr Term...

“We haven’t arrived,” Meloni told supporters in the small hours of Monday in a sober speech at a hotel in downtown Rome. “This is a starting point. And tomorrow we will have to show what we are worth.”

Also Read | [US warns Russia of 'castastrophic' consequences of nuclear strike in Ukraine](#)

Traders shrugged off the result in Asian hours, with attention focused on the pound’s declines. Sterling fell as much as 3.7% against the euro, its biggest intraday decline against the single currency since the aftermath of the Brexit vote in 2016.

Once the final results are in, the next step in the constitutional process will see President Sergio Mattarella consulting with party leaders before, almost certainly, nominating Meloni to form the next government. That process could still last weeks. The new parliament, which has been downsized to 200 senators and 400 lower house lawmakers, will meet for the first time on Oct. 13.

Advertisement