DAILY tribune



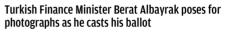


President Recep Tayyip Erdogan (2nd R) casts his vote

Turkish ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) Istanbul mayoral candidate Binali Yildirim casts his ballot



Istanbul mayoral candidate of the main opposition Republican People's Party (CHP) Ekrem Imamoglu (C-R) casts his vote with his wife Dilek Imamoglu (C-L) in Istanbul.



Erdogan suffers major setback

Election authorities annulled the first vote in March after Erdogan's ruling party alleged corruption

The city of 15 million is Turkey's economic powerhouse

Imamoglu, of the secular Republican **People's Party faced** Binali Yildirim, a mild-mannered **Erdogan loyalist**

Istanbul, Turkey

a major blow vesterday

oral election re-run romped to victory.

Ekrem Imamoglu won the first vote in March by a tiny margin of just 13,000 votes in the city of 15 million.

But after being stripped of that victory over controversial claims of fraud, he vowed a "battle for democracy" that turned him into a household name.

With more than 99 percent of ballots counted on Sunday night, Imamoglu was winning by more than 775,000 votes -- and had 54 percent overall.

"It was not a single group or party, but the whole of Istanbul and Turkey that won this election," Imamoglu said in his victory speech.

Tayyip Erdogan suffered time possible," he added.



Surrounded by security, press and party supporters, Ekrem Imamoglu, candidate of the secular opposition Republican People's Party (CHP), leaves the in a vehicle following his victory statement at the CHP offices in Istanbul

"Mr President, I am ready to ic powerhouse and a crucial relentlessly positive campaign convey from here my request to conservatives since he won the will be fine". urkish President Recep meet with you in the shortest mayorship himself a quarter of a century ago.

as the opposition candidate in refusing to give up control of district mayor at the start of the a chord with voters. Istanbul's controversial may- Istanbul, Turkey's econom- year, galvanised voters with a He faced the juggernaut of ternational relations at Ankara's politics.

work in harmony with you. I source of patronage for Islamic under the slogan "Everything

the usual aggressive name-call-Critics accused Erdogan of But Imamoglu, a little-known ing of Turkish politics and struck

the AKP, which has ruled Tur- Bilkent University, told AFP. key since 2002 and remains the most popular political force nationwide.

Erdogan loyalist who oversaw several huge transport projects and served as prime minister, try to de-emphasise the election had already struck a conciliatory and act like it's no big deal," said tone earlier on Sunday.

"If we have wronged, knowforgiveness," he said.

'Colossal defeat'

Imamoglu and wished him good night. luck.

That was in stark contrast to Yildirim but also Erdogan. His tired shopkeeper Mehmet. gamble (in calling for a replay of the election) backfired," Berk dogan and his party remain the Esen, assistant professor of in- most popular force in Turkish

It comes as an economic slump and rising prices have dented the president's reputation for eco-The AKP's candidate, Bina- nomic stewardship, with the AKP li Yildirim, a mild-mannered also losing the capital Ankara in March.

> "The AKP elites will probably Esen.

Erdogan has indeed already ingly or unknowingly, one of played down the importance of our fellow Istanbulites or our the re-run, saying last week that challengers, if we have done the choice of mayor was "only something unjust, I ask for your a change in the shop window" since the AKP controls almost two-thirds of the city's districts. But it was a bitter loss for AKP Conceding defeat later in voters, with some in tears at the

the day, Yildirim congratulated party headquarters on Sunday

'Let them rejoice while they "It's a colossal defeat for can, they will see..." vowed re-

Despite recent setbacks, Er-

WHD, UPF hold inaugural Trilateral Global Summit in London



Participants during a group photo session

• The summit revolved around the idea of enhancing "Trade for Peace"

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my and businesses as a pathway ideas to strengthen global ties for peace.

The World Humanitari- sharing. an Drive (WHD) in partnership with the Universal Peace countries took part including ments opportunities that it has summit. Federation (UPF) hosted the from the UK, Portugal, Morocco, enabled," said Syed. summit held on 19th and 20th Bahrain and India. June.

The inaugural edition of 'Tri- form for diplomats, corporate for Peace" initiated by Abdul Group Dr James Lee, Humphrey President of Megaworld In- in UPF' UK HQ. Iateral Global Summit' was heads, policy makers, investors Basit Syed, the founder of WHD Hawksley former BBC Foreign ternational Corporation from Next Trilateral Global Summit

integration of the global econo- the globe to demonstrate their globally.

Participants from over 25

held in London promoting the and influencers from around to support U.K's trade relations Correspondent, AbdelMajid the Philippines, Ali AlDerazi will be held in June 2020.

During a honouring



One of the sessions

"This summit has exceeded gela Guerra M.P Portugal, San- SPC Director, Bahrain with for investments and knowledge our expectations in term of the dra Pereira M.P Portugal and awards. quality of the presentations most Angelina Teny Former Minimportantly trade and invest- ister Sudan spoke during the mit session in the house of Lords

Fassi Fihri M.P. Morocco, An- Former M.P. and Fundament

Baroness Verma hosted a sumin the presence of WHD Patron The summits honoured Dr Chris Philp MP. Mayor of Croy-CEO of Doha Bank Dr Ragha- Raghavan Seetharaman CEO don Humayun Kabir hosted a The event revolved around van Seetharaman, former Man- Doha Bank Qatar, Maria Vic- session in the Croydon Town The event provided a plat- the idea of enhancing "Trade aging Director of World Bank toria M Acosta, Senior Vice Hall. Another session was held