

Questions for RDTL Presidential Candidates

La'o Hamutuk's questions to Electoral Candidates for the
2017-2022 election period

General questions to all candidates
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What is your <i>strategic vision</i> for the people of Timor-Leste for the next five years if they choose you as President of the Republic?2. What is the advantage of your vision for Timor-Leste?3. According to your responsibilities as defined by the Constitution, which is your highest priority?
Questions on politics, democracy and security
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The RDTL Constitution outlines several important responsibilities which must be carried out by the President of the Republic – what are your thoughts on these responsibilities?2. The Constitution is clear about the <i>principle of separation of powers</i> – how will you act as a “check-and-balance” to other state organs?3. According to your understanding, <i>what is the value of “using the right to veto”</i> if you receive draft legislation from the National Parliament which you think does not promote the public interest?4. The RDTL Constitution says that the <i>President of the Republic is the Head of State, a symbol and guarantor of national independence and unity of the state, and of the regular functioning of the democratic institutions</i>. What will you do to guarantee this independence if your party or an alliance of parties wins the parliamentary elections and forms a government?5. As President of a democratic sovereign state which today still does not have <i>fixed maritime, terrestrial and aerial boundaries with its neighboring countries</i>, what will you do to guarantee that Timor-Leste will not lose territory in land or sea due to occupation by other countries?6. <i>The Chega! report gave recommendations to establish a credible mechanism to prosecute those who committed crimes against humanity during the Indonesian occupation</i>, but there has never been a formal mechanism created by the State of Timor-Leste to implement these recommendations. As President, what will you do to bring justice to the people of Timor-Leste and accountability to the perpetrators of serious crimes?7. In order to <i>guarantee national stability and strengthen the defense forces of Timor-Leste</i>, as supreme commander of F-FDTL what changes would you implement to improve this security institution in the future?8. What does Timor-Leste need to do in order to <i>guarantee that training for the defence forces includes human rights issues</i>?9. <i>An objective of the state is to defend and guarantee democracy and the participation of the people in the resolution of national problems</i>. As President of the Republic, what will you do in order to strengthen the relationship between the people and their leaders?10. Between 2013-2015, <i>there was a major military operation in Timor-Leste to search, capture and kill Mauk Moruk and his supporters</i>. This operation led to violations of many citizens' basic rights and liberties, and many people question the state's commitment to the principle of democratic rights. What will you do to ensure that Timor-Leste will not repeat such a policy?
Questions on economy

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1. As you know, *Timor-Leste's economy is highly dependent on revenues on oil and gas* and that our non-oil economy is very small – what is your vision for sustainable economic development?
2. Is *developing the agriculture, industry and tourism sectors* important for Timor-Leste? If so, how do you think Timor-Leste should do this?
3. *Since the Bayu-Undan oil field will be empty three or four years from now*, what model for economic diversification do you suggest the government and Parliament consider?
4. In Timor-Leste, *almost half of the population still lives under the poverty line*, due to the lack of employment opportunities and ability to make a decent living. What would you suggest that the government and Parliament do to reduce poverty in Timor-Leste?
5. Many ordinary people in Dili are discriminated against due to the *Decree-Law on public order and hygiene and the policy of Dili Municipality which involves arrests and harassment of ordinary people, in particular the banning of street vendors from selling their goods in public areas*. What will you do as President to improve social justice for these people?
6. The Parliament is currently discussing laws which include the *Mining Law* which will allow community lands to be used for extractive industries. La'ó Hamutuk believes that the Mining Law will create serious socio-economic problems when it is implemented – what is your opinion about this Law?
7. For the last two years, we have seen that *Timor-Leste's Petroleum Fund has already begun to decline, and that the balance will continue to fall*. This has happened because the Government has withdrawn more than the Estimated Sustainable Income (ESI) from the Fund almost every year. What will you suggest to Parliament and the Government in order to prevent the Petroleum Fund from being spent quickly?
8. *The accession to ASEAN has been a high priority for Timor-Leste over the last number of years*. However, ASEAN's liberal trade and investment agreements may negatively impact our farmers and domestic economy. What will you do to protect Timor-Leste's economic interests and ensure that our agricultural production can compete in the region?
9. The Special Zone of Social Market Economy (ZEESM) and the Tasi Mane Project have already cost hundreds of millions of dollars and will cost billions more. Until today, no viability studies have been published by the ZEESM Authority or by TimorGAP. How will you help people to obtain information on these two major projects?
10. The money for ZEESM in the State Budget has always been allocated as a *'Public Transfer.'* Do you have any suggestions for changing this in the future?

Dadus Pesoál

Naran Kandidatu :

Data :

Asinatura :