

Panama will hold its next general election on May 5, 2019, the country's election tribunal announced on Saturday, with voters set to choose a new president, lawmakers, and mayors to lead the Central American country for a five-year term.



Man putting a ballot in a box during elections in Panama in front of the flag — Photo by vepar5

Roughly 2.7 million Panamanian voters in May next year will elect a replacement for current President Juan Carlos Varela, who is barred from re-election.

On Saturday, the president announced a plan to kick-start a series of popular consultations on constitutional changes ahead of next year's vote.

Among the changes, announced at the election tribunal event, Varela said he hopes to forge a constitutional assembly that would be elected in the general election, without giving any further details.

Varela's critics said the unusual move was "irresponsible" just one year before the election.

"This adds uncertainty to the electoral process," said Romulo Roux, president of the Democratic Change party. "It's a political measure for (Varela) to maintain his power after 2019."

The election tribunal said \$55.9 million would be destined for the elections, the sixth such vote since Panama's dictatorship ended.

Panama is a country in Central America. The United States cooperates with the Panamanian government in promoting economic, political, security, and social development through U.S. and international agencies.

Sources: Reuters, Wikipedia

Abhinav Kaushal

The Kootneeti Team - Latin America Watch

## Subscribe to the International Relations Updates by The Kootneeti

\* indicates required

Full Name

Email Address \*

Subscribe

made with  mailchimp



**CERTIFICATE COURSE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

SIX-WEEK ONLINE COURSE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS BY THE KOOTNEETI

**JOIN TODAY!**

team@thekootneeti.com  
courses.thekootneeti.in  
(+91) 120 4565994

*The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Kootneeti Team*

Facebook Comments