

PSOE: Partido Socialista Obrero España

During the Second Republic the Partido Socialista Obrero España, the Spanish Socialist Party, comprised two main strands of thought. Reformist socialists looked to the intellectual journalist Indalecio Prieto; revolutionary Socialists to Largo Caballero a working class socialist and general secretary of the socialist trade union, the UGT. Both served in the republican government of 1931-1933. Following the disastrous collapse of the left-republican alliance that led to the 'black years' of 1933-1935, the PSOE was an important member of the Popular Front government elected in February 1936.

The Socialists came under pressure from their youth movement, which developed throughout 1934, who wanted the Party to move further to the left. Despite attempts by the right-wing of the party to slow down the process of bolshevisation taking place, the young radical followers of Largo Caballero came to dominate both the PSOE and the UGT.