

# Liberal Democrats rule out coalition with May's Conservatives or Corbyn's Labour

Tim Farron has ruled out doing any coalition deals with Theresa May or Jeremy Corbyn after the election.

Every Liberal Democrat vote and every Liberal Democrat MP elected is a challenge to Theresa May's Hard Brexit agenda. In the next parliament we will fight to stop a disastrous Hard Brexit, keep Britain in the Single Market and make sure people have their say on the final Brexit deal in a referendum with remain as an option.

We don't rule out future coalitions – we believe in plural politics – but we won't do one with May or Corbyn.

This election is your chance to change the direction of our country. If you want to stop a Hard Brexit, if you want to keep us in the Single Market, if you want a real opposition, this is your chance. But you can only do that by voting Liberal Democrat.

With a large number of pro-European Lib Dem MPs in the next parliament we can force the government to soften its approach to Brexit and give people the final say over what comes next.

## **What about the Tories?**

Under no conditions can we sign up to Theresa May's Hard Brexit agenda. She is going to be the Prime Minister – that's not in doubt. Our job will be to hold her to account and fight for the things we believe in – above all else our membership of the single market and for the people to have the final say on the deal.

## **What about Labour?**

Everybody knows Jeremy Corbyn won't be the next Prime Minister. There is no prospect of a coalition that would put him in power. There are many issues that Labour and the Liberal Democrats agree on and many people on their side that we respect – but we won't put Corbyn into power. He is pro-Brexit, has promised to pull us out of the single market and marched his MPs and Peers through the lobbies to vote for article 50 without any concessions from the Tories. On top of that, he would be a disaster for the country – he has no plan for the country, our economy and offers no leadership.

## **Are you ruling out a progressive alliance?**

We want to work with like-minded, pro-European people of all parties and none

to oppose Theresa May's Hard Brexit agenda and fight for a Britain that is open, tolerant and united. But everyone knows Jeremy Corbyn won't be the next Prime Minister and we wouldn't want him to be. We will work with pro-European MPs in any party to stand up to the Conservatives over Hard Brexit, but Corbyn is not that – and there is no prospect of a coalition that would put him in power.

### **Would you join a coalition with the SNP?**

We won't be doing a deal with the SNP at Westminster because, whatever they might say, they are only interested in getting independence. They will not be interested in making a success of the UK.

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## **Brexit can still be overturned – this is your chance**

The President of the European Parliament has said Britain would be welcomed back with open arms if voters changed their minds about Brexit on 8 June.

This directly contradicts Theresa May's claim that 'there is no turning back' after Article 50.

Liberal Democrat Leader Tim Farron said: "This shows it's not too late to prevent a divisive, hard Brexit.

"On 8th June, together we can change the direction of this country.

"The Liberal Democrats will be the real voice of opposition to this Conservative Brexit government."

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## **Tories selling off Green Investment Bank is 'politically dubious'**

Ed Davey, former Liberal Democrat Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, has accused the government of engaging in a "politically dubious" act announcing the controversial sale of the Green Investment Bank to an Australian bank in a cut price deal.

Mr Davey, who is seeking the Lib Dem nomination for his former seat of Kingston and Surbiton, likened the £2.3bn agreement to "selling off the

family silver”.

Ed Davey said: “Selling the Green Investment Bank is environmentally irresponsible, and on the eve of an election is politically dubious. The government clearly hopes to avoid parliamentary scrutiny.

“The Toxic Tories are getting closer to Donald Trump every day and their record on renewable energy since 2015 has been pathetic. Only the Liberal Democrats are fighting for the environment.”

[View our Environment policy](#)

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## Jeremy Corbyn can't lead his party, let alone a country

Jeremy Corbyn is never going to be Prime Minister because he can't even lead his own party, the Liberal Democrats have said.

Responding to Jeremy Corbyn's speech today, Liberal Democrat Shadow First Secretary of State Alistair Carmichael said: “Jeremy Corbyn is never going to be Prime Minister. He can't lead his own party, let alone our country. The more people see him, the less they want to vote for him.

“That is not just my view. It is the view of the 172 Labour MPs who just last year said they had no confidence in his leadership.

“That's why senior Labour figures such as Bob Marshall-Andrews are defecting to the Liberal Democrats.

“Jeremy Corbyn's Labour has waved the white flag on Brexit, is failing as an opposition and has given Theresa May a blank cheque to pursue a divisive Hard Brexit. They are hopelessly divided, have no plan for the economy and are clearly unfit for government.

“This is your chance to change the direction of our country. If you want to avoid a disastrous Hard Brexit, if you want to keep Britain in the Single Market, if you want Britain to have a decent opposition – vote Liberal Democrat.

“The Liberal Democrats are the real opposition to the Conservative Brexit Government and the only party fighting for a Britain that is open, tolerant and united.”

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# Tim Farron on TV debates: What is Theresa May so scared of?

Liberal Democrat leader Tim Farron has called out Theresa May for refusing to take part in televised debates as ITV announced they will go ahead with a leaders' debate.

Speaking at Prime Minister's Questions today, Tim Farron said: "This election can change the direction of our country. From the consequences of potential hard Brexit outside the Single Market to the future of our NHS and social care, schools and environment.

"The British people deserve to hear party leaders set out their plans and debate them publicly. But the Prime Minister has refused to take part in televised leaders' debates.

"The Prime Minister and I, back in 1992, debated publicly, forcibly and amicably when we were both candidates together.

"Indeed, the Prime Minister called out the then incumbent who did not show up for some of those debates.

"Why will she not publicly debate these issues now – what is she scared of?"