
BRITAIN'S CONSERVATIVES IN FOURTH PLACE IN EU ELECTION POLL, FARAGE LEADS

-

13.05.2019

EurActiv (13 May 2019)

Theresa Mays Conservative Party has fallen into fourth place in a poll on voting intentions for the European elections, well behind Nigel Farages new Brexit Party which has more support than Britains traditionally two biggest parties combined.

According to the latest Opinium poll for the Observer newspaper, Farages newly formed party is on 34% of the vote ahead of the 23 May election that is being held because Britain failed to leave the European Union as expected in March.

The poll put Labour in second place on 21% while the prime ministers Conservatives are back in fourth on 11%. The pro-EU Liberal Democrats, the most popular party to explicitly call for a second referendum to reverse Brexit, are on 12%.

Britains two biggest parties endured a drubbing at the polls this month when voters expressed their frustration with the Brexit deadlock at local elections.

Farage, whose former party UKIP is credited by many with forcing Britains 2016 referendum on EU membership, launched his new party in April, threatening to take on Britains political leaders who he accused of betraying the vote to leave.

May has been forced to open talks with the opposition Labour Party to find a compromise on Brexit after lawmakers heavily rejected her EU withdrawal deal three times.

Britain is now due to leave the bloc in October but with parliament split over the terms, it remains unclear how or whether it will.

Life after May

The battle among leading Conservatives to replace Theresa May as prime minister threatens to derail talks with the Labour Party and the bid to find a Brexit compromise, Labours John McDonnell said.

May, who has offered to quit if MPs accept her Brexit deal, opened cross-party talks with Jeremy Corbys Labour Party more than a month ago after parliament rejected her European Union withdrawal deal three times.

The talks with Labour are a last resort for May, whose partys deep divisions over Brexit have so far

stopped her getting approval for an exit agreement and left the worlds fifth largest economy in prolonged political limbo.

McDonnell, Labours financial spokesman and a member of the partys negotiating team, said the situation was precarious.

The problem they have is that literally in front of us they will fall out, he told the Sunday Mirror. So the exercise here is holding themselves together. And that is proving impossible. The administration is falling apart.

In terms of progress, the second most powerful man in the Labour Party said nothing new had been put on the table, and in some cases the talks had gone backwards.

Kaynak/Source: