
SCOTLAND'S RISKY ROUTE TO A NEW INDEPENDENCE VOTE

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Despite being on course to win next weeks Scottish parliament election, pro-independence parties face a perilous path to secure a new referendum on breaking away from the U.K.

The first major obstacle is U.K. Prime Minister Boris Johnson, who says he will refuse to grant a second referendum even if the Scottish National Party (SNP) retains power and the broader pro-independence camp wins an overall majority of seats in the election on May 6.

If Johnson sticks to that stance, the independence movement is divided over how to force the issue. And those divisions could erupt into open warfare between different factions, opening up a new front in the battle over the countrys future that has raged for most of the past decade.

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