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FRENCH SOCIALIST CANDIDATE ANNE HIDALGO SEEKS PRIMARY TO UNITE LEFT IN MAJOR CAMPAIGN UPSET

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BY PIERRE-PAUL BERMINGHAM

The Socialist Mayor of Paris Anne Hidalgo said Wednesday she was willing to participate in a primary between left-wing presidential candidates, a double-or-nothing gamble as her current presidential bid has failed to take off.

This fractured Left that today despairs many of our compatriots must unite to govern. There needs to be a primary for the left, arbitrated by our compatriots, Hidalgo said in a televised interview on TF1.

Hidalgo officially became the Socialist nominee in October, facing little internal competition for the nomination. But she failed to make headway and is only polling third among seven left-wing candidates that were still competing as of Wednesday.

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