# France's NATO Participation Faces Uncertainty Amid Snap Parliamentary Election



France's participation in NATO has been robust since rejoining the alliance’s integrated military command in 2009 after a long hiatus since 1966. French contributions include troops and fighter jets for NATO operations and air policing along the eastern flank with Russia and manned aircraft patrols over the Black Sea. President Emmanuel Macron has been a vocal supporter of integrating Ukraine into NATO, proposing a coalition of military instructors and the transfer of French Mirage 2000-5 fighter jets to Ukraine.

However, France’s foreign policy commitments may face uncertainty due to an upcoming snap parliamentary election, scheduled for June 30th and July 7th. President Macron called this election following a significant setback for his centrist party, which lags behind far-right and left-wing parties in recent polls. An Ifop poll dated June 24th indicates Marine Le Pen’s National Rally (RN) leading with 36% support, followed by the left-wing New Popular Front (NFP) at 29.5%, and Macron’s centrist group at 20%.

Jordan Bardella, the 28-year-old president of the RN, has declared his party ready to govern, emphasizing key issues such as immigration and cost-of-living challenges. Bardella advocates for a majority win to implement the party’s eurosceptic, anti-immigration, and law-and-order agenda.

France’s political landscape stands at a pivotal juncture, with significant implications for its future domestic and international policies.