# British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak calls for general election amidst global uncertainty



British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has announced a general election on July 4, 2024, in a rain-soaked speech outside 10 Downing Street. Despite adverse weather and a backdrop of protesters playing the 1997 Labour anthem "Things Can Only Get Better," Sunak declared the election's timing as a key moment for the nation to choose its future amidst uncertain global conditions.

Sunak urged voters to trust his leadership, citing achievements in economic stability and reduced inflation as foundations for a secure future. The decision to call the election in July, ahead of expected autumn polling dates, was a strategic move influenced by improving economic indicators. The Prime Minister highlighted the ongoing threats from global adversaries as central to his campaign, emphasizing stability and security.

Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer responded by framing the election as a crucial opportunity for change, criticizing 14 years of Conservative governance marked by economic and social decline. Starmer promised improvements in public services, border security, and economic stability.

The announcement came shortly after significant adjustments in travel plans by senior cabinet members, further adding to the day's speculations. While the Conservatives trail Labour by a significant margin in the polls, Nigel Farage speculated that Sunak may have acted to pre-empt a resurgence of the Reform Party.

Jeremy Hunt, Chancellor of the Exchequer, confirmed his candidacy in his Surrey constituency, and former Prime Minister Boris Johnson expressed strong support for Sunak's campaign.

In Scotland, First Minister John Swinney criticized the election date, coinciding with the start of Scottish school holidays, as disrespectful. Polling expert Sir John Curtice suggested that the timing might not favor the SNP, which recently changed leadership.

As the campaign kicks off, both major parties gear up for a rigorous contest against a backdrop of economic recovery and political uncertainty.