# UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak Calls Snap General Election Amid Conservative Party Struggles



UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak shocked the nation and his Conservative Party by calling a snap general election for July 4, 2024. This decision comes despite the Conservatives trailing Labour by over 20 points in many polls.

Sunak's reasons for the early election include forcing the country to make a choice between himself and Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer. Additionally, Sunak seeks to highlight achievements like reduced inflation and economic growth, and aims to counter the potential future issues such as rising interest rates and global economic uncertainties. Moreover, the timing aims to silence concerns over the controversial Rwanda immigration policy and mitigate the rise of Reform UK. Sunak also hopes to unite the Conservative Party and solidify his leadership.

Labour, led by Sir Keir Starmer, has criticized Sunak's decision as an act of desperation, suggesting it exposes deep internal divisions within the Conservative Party. Labour aims to appeal to key voter groups, including retirees upset over Sunak's actions against former Prime Minister Boris Johnson, to strengthen their lead.

In the first weekend of campaigning, both major parties clashed over economic policies. Chancellor Jeremy Hunt hinted at tax breaks for higher earners, while Rachel Reeves, Labour’s Shadow Chancellor, emphasized a commitment to financial stability, criticizing the Conservatives for unfunded spending promises.

In Scotland, Sunak warned voters that Starmer could not be trusted to prevent a second independence referendum, emphasizing his own commitment to the Union and highlighting Conservative achievements in the region, such as National Insurance cuts and support for the North Sea oil and gas industry.

As election day approaches, both parties are intensifying their campaigns, focusing on issues like the economy, immigration, and national unity to sway voters.