# Labour and Conservatives Clash Over Security Issues in Election Season



Labour and the Conservatives are set to clash over security issues this election season, following the Conservative party's controversial new national service proposal. Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer announced that "economic security, border security, and national security" will be central to Labour's manifesto. He emphasized Labour’s commitment to conducting a comprehensive 100-day review of threats to the UK from countries like Russia and Iran if elected.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak countered by highlighting the Conservatives' plans for national service, which would require all 18-year-olds to undertake mandatory placements in the armed forces or community service. Critics, including military leaders, have expressed doubts about the feasibility and funding of the proposal, suggesting the funds could be better spent on military investment.

This debate underscores Labour's efforts to shake off historical skepticism about their stance on national security, while the Tories aim to address societal integration among teenagers through the service requirement. The Conservatives estimate the scheme will cost £2.5 billion annually, to be funded partly through tax reforms and reallocating existing funds. Both leaders are actively campaigning, with Sunak committing to raise defense spending to 2.5% of GDP by 2030.