# Jeremy Hunt warns of massive political earthquake amid Conservative collapse



# A "Massive Earthquake" in Politics Highlights Conservative Failure, Warns Former Chancellor

Former Chancellor Jeremy Hunt has raised alarm bells for the Conservative Party, suggesting that a “massive earthquake” in British politics spells impending doom for the party. His comments come amid plummeting support as polls reveal a seismic shift away from traditional affiliations towards emerging political movements, particularly those advocating for a return to fundamental values.

Recent polling data presents a dismal tableau for the Conservatives, with newer parties resonating more with the electorate. A YouGov Westminster voting intention poll indicates a surge of support for alternatives nearing 29%, while the Conservatives languish at a mere 17%, a plunge that could see them overtaken by both Labour at 22% and the Liberal Democrats at 16%. Such figures evoke memories of the party's lowest points under Theresa May, when internal strife and public disillusionment led to her resignation.

Hunt's warning underscores a critical juncture, stating “We can’t rule it out. Look at the massive earthquake in western democratic politics elsewhere, and we are witnessing radical shifts here.” He highlighted the increasingly fragmented voter sentiment that now supports a chorus of parties rather than the once-reliable binary choice, signalling profound discontent with the status quo.

While some party loyalists urge patience and advocate for Kemi Badenoch to usher in a revival, many are sceptical about the Conservatives' capacity to arrest their decline. Former Conservative leader William Hague has cautioned against an alliance with populist alternatives, yet there are worrying signs of grassroots activists flocking to these disruptive influences, hinting at a fundamental erosion of the party’s base.

In a desperate attempt to regain ground lost to more assertive political narratives, the Conservatives have unveiled a draconian immigration policy aimed at deporting anyone entering the UK illegally. This legislative initiative proposes to disapply key aspects of the Human Rights Act in matters of immigration—a move that has attracted sharp criticism not only from Labour but also from concerned citizens who see it as a sign of political shortsightedness. Critics, including those from the opposition, have branded these proposals as hollow electoral ploys, as they point out the Conservatives’ own failures to reform the asylum system during their lengthy tenure.

Further polling illustrates the depth of the party's crisis, with numbers reportedly sinking as low as 21%. Analysts warn that if these trends continue, the reality of electoral irrelevance for the Conservatives may come to pass—a scenario that would have been unthinkable just a few years ago.

Reflecting on the party’s challenges, Hunt alluded to the necessity for a period of reckoning, suggesting that it may take years for voters to reconsider their relationship with a party now drowning in self-inflicted woes.

As the landscape evolves, the Conservatives are at a crossroads, facing not only the grim prospect of electoral exile but also the daunting task of re-establishing their credibility in an increasingly diverse and discerning electorate. The dialogue now turns toward options that highlight a commitment to the very principles that are beginning to resonate more profoundly with voters.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2025/may/07/massive-earthquake-in-politics-could-lead-to-tory-extinction-says-hunt> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2025/may/07/massive-earthquake-in-politics-could-lead-to-tory-extinction-says-hunt> - Former Chancellor Jeremy Hunt warned that the Conservative Party could face extinction due to a 'massive earthquake' in politics, signaling the end of the traditional two-party system. He highlighted a YouGov poll showing Reform UK at 29%, Labour at 22%, Conservatives at 17%, Liberal Democrats at 16%, and Greens at 10%, indicating the Tories might fall to fourth place in popularity. Hunt emphasized the need for reflection and time for the party to regain voter trust after a significant defeat.
3. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/06/15/tories-face-electoral-extinction-support-lowest-theresa-may/> - A Savanta poll revealed the Conservative Party's support had dropped to 21%, the lowest since Theresa May's resignation in 2019. In contrast, Reform UK surged to 13%, its highest-ever share, while Labour led with 46%. This decline raised concerns about the Tories' future viability, with some analysts warning of potential 'electoral extinction' if the trend continued.
4. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/03/21/tories-now-only-four-points-ahead-of-reform-uk/> - A YouGov poll indicated the Conservative Party's support had fallen to 19%, just four points ahead of Reform UK at 15%. This marked a significant decline from previous polls, with Labour leading at 44%. The narrowing gap between the Tories and Reform UK highlighted the Conservatives' diminishing dominance in British politics.
5. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/01/25/reform-uk-support-surges-to-record-high/> - Reform UK, led by Nigel Farage, achieved a record-high support level, with a YouGov poll showing the Conservatives at 20% and Reform UK at 25%. This surge was attributed to disillusioned former Tory voters gravitating towards Reform UK, signaling a shift in the political landscape and raising concerns about the Conservatives' future prospects.
6. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/03/21/tories-now-only-four-points-ahead-of-reform-uk/> - A YouGov poll indicated the Conservative Party's support had fallen to 19%, just four points ahead of Reform UK at 15%. This marked a significant decline from previous polls, with Labour leading at 44%. The narrowing gap between the Tories and Reform UK highlighted the Conservatives' diminishing dominance in British politics.
7. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/06/15/tories-face-electoral-extinction-support-lowest-theresa-may/> - A Savanta poll revealed the Conservative Party's support had dropped to 21%, the lowest since Theresa May's resignation in 2019. In contrast, Reform UK surged to 13%, its highest-ever share, while Labour led with 46%. This decline raised concerns about the Tories' future viability, with some analysts warning of potential 'electoral extinction' if the trend continued.