

Norway's voters ponder political change

Norway's election for the 169-seat Parliament (Storting) is set to be a close race, with four right-wing opposition parties in a position to oust the ruling left-wing coalition that has been in power since 2005

RED-GREEN COALITION



Norwegian Labour Party: Led by Prime Minister **Jens Stoltenberg**. Won **61 seats** at last election. Boosted state spending of Norway's \$400bn



sovereign wealth oil fund to 5.7% – above 4% so-called “spending rule” – to counter recession. **Unemployment rate of 3.0% is lowest in Europe.**

Supports oil and gas drilling in pristine **Lofoten** region in Arctic Circle



Socialist Left Party: Led by finance minister **Kristin Halvorsen**. **15 seats**

Supports gender and economic equality, improvement of welfare state, environmentalism



Centre Party: Led by **Liv Signe Navarsete**. **11 seats.**

Heads ministries of Regional Development, Transport and Communication, Oil and Energy, and Agriculture and Food



OPPOSITION PARTIES



Progress Party: Led by **Siv Jensen**. **38 seats**

Plans to abolish 4% spending rule, stricter immigration control, higher spending, tax cuts to boost economy.



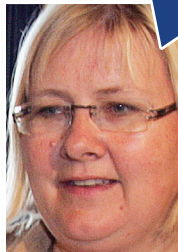
Privatisation of state-owned companies could raise \$11.9bn

Christian Democratic Party: Led by **Dagfinn Hoybraten**. **11 seats**
Has ruled out coalition with Progress Party and Conservatives



HØYRE Conservative Party: Led by **Erna Solberg**. **23 seats**

Three out of four supporters favour coalition government with Progress, while one in three favours



coalition with centre-right Christian Democrats and Liberals

Liberal Party: Led by **Lars Sponheim**. **10 seats.** First European mainstream political party to advocate legal file-sharing



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