

The unfolding tragedy of the UK's political right

Adam Tugwell | 14 January 2025



You may have read the title of this blog and immediately wondered what I'm on about. After all, Reform UK are running level with the Labour Government in the polls; the gap is opening up to the Conservatives behind them, and it's all looking rather like Nigel Farage's prophecy that Reform will form the next government in 2029 is unfolding in front of them like a political itinerant's dream come true.

Anything is of course possible. And with the result and consequences of the General Election only six months ago plain for all to see, there is just as much reason to believe that Reform *could* sweep to victory on a 2029 landslide, that a majority vote for, simply because *they* appear to then be the better option out of a very bad bunch.

However, could it *really* be as straightforward as that?

My guess today, as someone whose political background is the 'right'; who was elected into local government twice as a Conservative and who has dealt with evolutions of reform that include UKIP and the Anti Federalist League before Farage himself was even around is a considered no.

Not because a new political party from outside of the traditional mainstream cannot smash the current triopoly. But because both Reform and those who are riding off the

idea that they can profit from being like Reform are still playing the establishment game and offering too much of the destructive sameness that the establishment demands.

Whilst the reader would need to be watching all forms of media closely to see a very different reason for Reform's future unfolding differently, the other problem that Reform – and therefore the whole of the right or conservative family has, is that there are already two further parties emerging that to one degree or another could easily split the Conservative Party and Reform axis even further. Leaving it ever more realistic that a left-wing or rainbow coalition will form the next government, with an even weaker Labour Party leading and 'in charge' than the one being accused of crashing the economy right now.

What Andrew Tate, whatever Dominic Cummings has cooking, the current mentality of the Conservative Party and Nigel Farage's Reform all have in common is their belief that they are different. Whilst the only difference they offer *or look like they will offer*, is a distilled version of policies which are no better than calling out the issues facing the UK as they see them. *Which in terms of being the difference that the majority of people now need and want is the same thing as no difference at all.*

Whilst the polls create a constant source of excitement for political anoraks, they do not indicate that a sweeping aside of petty rivalries and egos is now or is currently likely to take place.

That means all the right is offering today is all it has done for living memory:

Whichever version you choose, it's all about the politicians themselves rather than people – which is what we all so desperately need.

Being able to talk about the uncomfortable issues that the government today and the last conservative government would not, is no longer enough.

That much has been quickly proven by the reality that the Labour Cabinet is massively out of its depth with the problems and realities of the establishment machine that they face. When they also rode a wave of good faith-based voting that led them to believe that they were equipped and ready to take on what faced them on the 5th of July.

It will not be different for any of the politicians currently coveting the keys to No. 10. As will be the same case for all of their understudies who sadly show all too easily what we can expect from them through their ambition and failure to genuinely connect.

If the political right is going to gain a meaningful result at the next election, rather than contributing to the creation of greater damage to the UK and what may then be an unnavigable mess, they have to be ready to fight the next general election together, and more importantly they will have to work together in a very different, people orientated way.

2029 is not a long time, assuming that the next general election will be then rather than much before.

The time to deal with the differences and find common ground is now. Not in 3 years and certainly not during the fall out of the next general election where on current trajectories, things are going to be hideously worse than they are even now.

However, I'm not convinced that even a coalition of the right is possible as things stand. Because nobody in politics can face up to the truth that it's the outcome that is the most important factor to consider. *Not how they take us there or who becomes the name that everyone then thinks about as being in charge.*

The one thing we can be sure of is that change of the kind that the UK currently needs and what getting there really means, isn't going to be offered or achieved by any political vehicle constructed with the same motives and way of looking at the electorate as the Political Parties who have been swapping power between them up until now.

Please Note: This blog was originally published on www.adamtugwell.blog on 14 January 2025. It was formatted and published as a PDF on 1 October 2026. The original text has not been changed.

Further Information

To explore more of Adam Tugwell's writing, including the online edition of this post, please visit:

www.adamtugwell.blog

Copyright Notice

Copyright ©2025-2026 Adam Tugwell

All rights reserved.

This publication reflects the personal experience, views, and opinions of the Author.

No part of this work may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, transmitted, adapted, translated, or otherwise used in any form or by any means - electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise - without prior written permission from the Author.

The Author asserts the moral right to be identified as the creator of this work and to object to any distortion or misrepresentation of it.

This work may be downloaded and stored for personal, non-commercial use only.

Any unauthorised reproduction, plagiarism, or misattribution constitutes a violation of copyright.

The Author accepts no responsibility for, and makes no endorsement of, content accessed through external links, PDFs, digital platforms, organisations, or individuals referenced herein.

Readers remain solely responsible for evaluating the accuracy and suitability of all external material.

This copyright notice shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of England and Wales.