

The main political parties in the UK - October 2024

<i>Name of Party</i>	<i>Name of leader</i>	<i>Ideology</i>	<i>Number of seats¹</i>	<i>Other information</i>
Labour Party	Keir Starmer, MP current Prime Minister	Centre-left. Encompasses a diversity of ideological trends, from strongly socialist to more moderately social democratic .	402	Holds an overall majority in the House of Commons .
Conservative Party	Kemi Badenoch, MP	Centre-right , conservatism, economic liberalism, British unionism. The Conservative Party believes that free markets and individual achievement are the primary factors behind economic prosperity.	121 Lowest seat total in the party's history	Also known as " the Tory party " or " the Tories ". They are the Opposition party and as such, have formed a Shadow Cabinet .
Liberal Democrats	Edward Davey, MP	Social liberalism and economic liberalism. Pro European.	72	Often referred to as the " Lib Dems ". Third-largest party in the Commons.
Scottish National Party (SNP)	John Swinney, MSP	Scottish nationalist and social-democratic political party in Scotland. The SNP is a pro-European party , in favor of independence .	9	The SNP only contest seats in Scotland. In the 2015 election, the SNP won 56 seats to become the third-largest party in the Commons.
Democratic Unionist Party (DUP)	Gavin Robinson, MP	Unionist political party in Northern Ireland . It is right-wing and socially conservative. The DUP sees itself as defending Britishness and Ulster Protestant culture against Irish nationalism. Eurosceptic . Supported Brexit.	5	Had signed a "confidence and supply" agreement with the Conservative party after the 2017 election, but voted against the Brexit withdrawal agreement.
Sinn Féin	Mary Lou McDonald	Left-wing Irish republican political party active in both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland.	7	"Sinn Féin" is Irish for "Ourselves" or "We Ourselves".
Plaid Cymru	Rhun ap Iorwerth	Welsh-nationalist and social-democratic. Advocates Welsh independence.	4	"Plaid Cymru" is Welsh for "the party of Wales". Member of European Free alliance.

¹ Cf. Current state of the parties - UK Parliament