**PRESS RELEASE**

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**DEMOCRACY AND MAJORITY RULE**...

...**AND YET EMERGENCIES DEMAND CONSENSUS!**

Just as a ½ of a ½ is a ¼; so too, a majority of a majority is often a minority. Real majority rule is best effected in an all-party coalition... which is what we should have anyway, given Covid and Climate Change.

Accordingly, parliament should resolve its policies in multi-option, preferential ballots; if there’s no consensus, it’s the *status quo ante*. Would consensus voting work? The first person to dismiss this ‘consensus nonsense’ was Napoléon Bonaparte who then, in 3 majority vote referendums... and the rest is history. Next in a party caucus majority vote was Lenin, then the binary referendums of Mussolini and Hitler... and yet more bloody history.

So, all-party power-sharing: in a 6-party parliament, there might be 6 budget proposals on the table. Debate, tweak, composite perhaps, and take a preferential ballot; parliament then adopts the policy with the highest *average* preference (if it passes a certain threshold), and MPs accept collective responsibility for the decisions of parliament.

Some politicians would find consensus decision-making difficult; indeed, they might well walk out – the likes of Trump, Bolsonaro, Johnson... Bye-bye!

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***THE PUNTERS’ GUIDE TO DEMOCRACY***

**by**

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