**PRESS RELEASE**

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**DICTATORSHIPS**... **AND ELECTED DICTATORSHIPS!**

For Xí Jìnpíng to just choose his own cabinet is 很不好 ([hěn](https://www.mdbg.net/chinese/dictionary?page=worddict&wdrst=0&wdqb=%E5%BE%88%E9%AB%98%E5%85%B4) [bu hǎo](https://www.mdbg.net/chinese/dictionary?page=worddict&wdrst=0&wdqb=%E5%BE%88%E4%B8%8D%E5%A5%BD) – not good); for the British PM to do the same is also inadequate. Instead, let parliament decide, *democratically*: let each MP vote, in order of preference, who should do what, in a matrix vote. Imagine, then, a simple example, a cabinet of only 6, and a ballot paper like this:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Preferences | Names | PM | Ministers of: | | | | |
| Chancellor | Foreign  Affairs | Climate  Change | Environ-ment | Education |
| 1st |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2nd |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3rd |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4th |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5th |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6th |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Each MP enters the names of 6 of his/her colleagues in the shaded column, and then indicates in which portfolio he/she wishes each nominee to serve:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Preferences | Names | PM | Ministers of: | | | | |
| Chancellor | Foreign  Affairs | Climate  Change | Environ-ment | Education |
| 1st | Nina |  |  |  | ✓ |  |  |
| 2nd | Freda | ✓ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3rd | Peter |  | ✓ |  |  |  |  |
| 4th | Fred |  |  |  |  | ✓ |  |
| 5th | Rita |  |  |  |  |  | ✓ |
| 6th | Zeta |  |  | ✓ |  |  |  |

**Part I** of the count analyses the preferences in the shaded columns to identify the members of the new cabinet; **Part II**, the preferences now turned into points, allocates each in turn to the ministry for which he/she has the highest score.

This methodology, first tested in Belfast in 1986 and since demonstrated in Berlin, Dublin, Munich, Tiānjīn and Vienna, is PR, robust, accurate, and most importantly, colour-blind! It could be used by the Tory Parliamentary Party to elect a Tory Party; better still, the entire Parliament could elect an all-party, power-sharing government of national unity, such as is needed in times of crises: Covid, Climate Change, and war!

**A GOAT (government of all the talents) IS A GNU (government of national unity)!**

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***THE PUNTERS’ GUIDE TO DEMOCRACY***

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