



Open letter to the Rt. Hon Prime Minister of the United Kingdom,

After the recent Conservative election victory in early February I was surrounded by hope for the future. A 'new style of leadership' we were promised, a premiership that would be just and open to negotiations, criticisms and suggestions. A Conservative Government that would live up to its election manifesto.

As a party supporter and enthusiast I joined many people campaigning on social media and in the streets of London. I was a part of this small group that helped gain them the victory that they now enjoy.

However over recent days I have become disillusioned and deflated due to the poor leadership and decisions that have had acrimonious consequences, not just for the UK but for foreign alliances too.

The Italian Republic opened discussions with a new, less populated, America and for that the United States became overzealous and irrational and issued a declaration of war over Italy. That declaration was revoked, but the wheels of disagreement were already put in place. This has led to the war between USA and Italy and it is one which I believe the UK should have played no part in. As a mutual ally of both nations it was our responsibility to aim to establish peace, not to pick a side. I believe the Prime Minister's kneejerk reaction in joining America was a poor decision and one backed up by the House of Commons.

Regardless of what position the Government takes, they should always be open to suggestions and criticisms. That's what helps establish an open and transparent government and one that is accountable to the electorate. However this administration has already blocked those who disagree with them and sidelined those in office who may prove 'troublesome'. This is not the 'new' style of conservative politics that I voted for. The UK Government have legitimised this war by claiming they are battling the Italian Fascists. However if the Prime Minister continues to block those in his own party who disagree with him then how can he claim to be any different than those he is supposedly aiming to crush? I fear that hypocrisy will be the downfall of a good governance.

I call upon the Prime Minister, not to break with his views but to be more accepting of the views of others. One of the firm British principles we hold dear is that of tolerance, and I feel the Prime Minister is being hypocritical in not accepting it.

For my part, I have thought long and hard over the type of party I want to vote for and I don't believe that it will be a Conservative one. Not unless they change to the type of responsible government they labelled themselves to be in their election rhetoric.

Yours,

Elizabeth Stockbridge

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