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Ukraine / Politics

End of the Orange coalition?

Two MPs' resignations spoil majority

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Seats in Rada, of 450 total

Party of Regions	175
BYuT	156
NU-NS	72
Communist Party	26
Lytvyn Bloc	20

Latest parliamentary poll results

BYuT	25.1%
Party of Regions	23.0%
NU-NS	5.4%
Lytvyn Bloc	2.9%
Communist Party	2.9%

According to FOM-Ukraine of April 25

Latest presidential poll results

Yulia Tymoshenko	24.0%
Viktor Yanukovich	23.0%
Viktor Yushchenko	10.0%
Undecided/Other	43.0%

According to KMIS of April 13

Pair of deputies bow out of governing coalition

At the Verkhovna Rada's morning session today, Speaker Arseniy Yatsenyuk read a statement that deputies Ihor Rybakov (Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc) and Yuriy But (Our Ukraine-People's Self-Defense Bloc) are leaving the parliament's governing coalition. Without the two votes, the Our Ukraine-Tymoshenko Bloc coalition is one seat shy of a simple majority, at 224.

Nine lives of the Orange coalition

Following the announcement, Vyacheslav Kirilenko, head of the Our Ukraine-People's Self-Defense Bloc, said that the coalition still exists formally, as neither of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc nor the Our Ukraine-People's Self-Defense Bloc has officially withdrawn from it. A Tymoshenko Bloc representative said that the coalition could make up for the "lost" votes by working with supporters from other parties inside parliament.

Grand coalition hopes still alive

Representatives of the opposition Party of Regions, the largest faction in the Rada with 175 seats, responded with a statement that they are ready to negotiate a new coalition structure.

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