

Beat: Politics

David Cameron speech: Conservative Party manifesto launch

Conservative launch in Swindon

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USPA NEWS - The United Kingdom Conservative Prime Minister David Cameron with an aim to guarantee a "good life" for British workers and families as he launched the Conservatives' election manifesto in Swindon today.

At the heart of this manifesto is a simple proposition.
We are the party of working people, offering you security at every stage of your life.
If you're a young person looking for training.
If you're looking for a good job.
If you want to buy your own home.
If you're raising a family and need help with childcare. Or a great school place for your child.
If you fall ill, and need to rely on our NHS.
If you are reaching retirement, and want real security"
"we are there for you "" offering security at every stage of your life"
"yes, the Conservative Party "" the real party of working people in our country today.
The truth is this.
We are on the brink of something special in our country.
These past five years have been a critical period.

We have drawn on all the resources of our nation to turn a great recession into a great recovery.
Together, with the hard work of the British people, we have rescued our economy, created record numbers of jobs, put Britain back on her feet.
We have put our country on solid ground, laid solid foundations.
But let me tell you: the next five years are much, much more important.
The next five years are about building on those foundations.
The next five years are about turning the good news in our economy into a good life for you and your family.

Realising the potential of Britain"
"not as a debt-addicted, welfare-burdened, steadily-declining, once-great nation "" which is what we found"
"but a country where a good life is there for everyone willing to work for it"
"a good job, a good home, a good start for your children, a good and secure retirement.
Britain has lived its long life as an exemplary country"
"the small island with a massive impact"
"the bright light in the North Sea that has exceeded expectations decade after decade, century after century.

And we are on the brink of being that country once again.
We can be the country that not only lives within its means and pays its way"
"but that offers a good life to those who work hard and do the right thing.
The country that doesn't just lead in what we invent and create and sell"
"but how we care for the elderly and look after the sick.
In Britain we've always shown we have the ingredients, the will "" above all the people "" to overturn what's inevitable"

"and with a strengthening economy behind us "" this buccaneering, world-beating, can-do country "" we can do it all over again.
That's what I mean by being on the brink of something special.
This is a great country and we can be greater still.
So let's not waste the past five years.
Let's not let Labour drag us back to square one "" let us finish what we have begun.

STRONG LEADERSHIP

This manifesto is about how we build that brighter future.

And it starts with strong leadership.

Doing what's right "" and sticking to it.

I see that around my Cabinet table.

When the Great Recession had this country in a stranglehold"

"|when people were talking about a double dip "" a triple dip "" saying we had to change course"

"|George Osborne said: No. We hold firm and stick to the plan.

When lobby groups and interest groups were ranged against her"|saying you can't deport this extremist, or change that law"

"|Theresa May said: No. We will hold firm and do whatever it takes to keep Britain safe.

When he was attacked from all sides for his welfare reforms"

"|Iain Duncan Smith said: No. We hold firm and stick to the plan because this is about giving people dignity and hope and getting Britain back to work.

That's what we offer: strong leadership, not weakness"

"|competence, not chaos "" and that's what Britain needs today.

To me, as a leader, one word matters above any other: security.

As Prime Minister I have worked with our allies to go after ISIL in Iraq.

I have helped lead the global sanctions to punish Putin for his belligerence and Iran for their nuclear ambitions.

And we have not only repaired the £38 billion black hole we inherited in our defence budget"

"|we are now implementing a £160 billion plan, to get the best equipment to those men and women who stand between us and those who would do us harm"

"|yes "" our brilliant, brave armed forces "" and we in this Party will always be grateful to them.

Big choices "" and there are more in this manifesto.

The choice to hold an EU referendum.

Strong leadership isn't denying the British people a say and ducking the issue"

"|it's negotiating, getting changes on welfare so we can reduce immigration, then letting you decide in an in-out referendum.

There's the big choice to renew Trident.

Not three submarines, but four, so it's there 365 days a year.

This is, quite simply, the ultimate insurance policy for our country.

And there's the big choice on how we deal with Islamist extremism, at home and abroad.

The threat is, in many ways, unprecedented.

Young people with every chance in life, in great schools "" leaving Britain and all it offers to join a brutal death cult thousands of miles away.

This manifesto equips the next Government to tackle this threat.

Stopping young people travelling to Syria and Iraq"

"|closing our borders to extremist preachers"

"|banning those groups who want to congregate to spread their hate.

And yes "" we'll give our security services the powers they need "" including keeping up to date their ability to access vital communications data.

We also need to assert the British values of democracy, freedom and the rule of law "" and assert them proudly.

Other parties might be wary of causing offence, or of being criticised by those who see every single measure as an affront to their civil liberties.

Well, I have met the parents and loved ones of those killed by terrorists. I read the intelligence reports. I know the threats.

I have to make the judgement calls needed to tackle them.

And I know this above all: our generation must fight the threat of Islamist extremism with the same resolve and tenacity as any threat Britain has faced before.

Because this is the Conservative party "" and we will never take risks with our nation's security.

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