**Austrian Politics end of 2024/2025**

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The Austrian Parliamentary Election of September 29, 2024 ended with a victory for the far-right Freedom Party which for the first time since the Second World War topped the poll.

The Federal President had been clear he would not follow convention and entrust the leader of the Freedom Party with forming a government but turned instead to three other parties, the Conservative People’s Party, the Social Democrats and the Liberal Neos.

At first all seemed to be going well but by the end of 2024 insurmountable conflicts became clear especially on budget cutbacks and pensions and the small Neos party abandoned coalition talks. Soon after that the Conservatives threw in the towel. All of them started to blame each other for ending the talks.

The leader and Chancellor of the Conservatives resigned and a new figure appeared seemingly more sympathetic to the Freedom Party despite the obvious acrimony between the two in the past.

The Federal President was left with little choice but to call on the Freedom Party’s leader to start negotiations with the Conservatives. He added that he had hoped to avoid this step and urged the parties to respect EU values and the rule of law in a hidden message to the populist Freedom Party.

At the time of writing it is not clear what will happen next. Austria has experienced some turbulent times in recent years and this latest crisis has dented the confidence of many voters in their lawmakers. Time is of the essence. Voters are running out of patience and the EU wants to know how Austria intends to reduce its deficit. Some are also suspicious of the Freedom Party’s leanings to Russia.

TVP World interviewed Dr Sully on this topic, see video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i_URTIajFhc>