

RIC-EDINBURGH STATEMENT FOR THE WESTMINSTER GENERAL ELECTION, 12.12.19

The Radical Independence Campaign has members in the SNP, Greens, socialist organisations, and a majority in no party at all. Therefore, as in the 2015 and 2017 Westminster and the 2016 Holyrood elections we will not be making specific party voting recommendations for the June 4th general election.

Nevertheless, we call on RIC supporters to recognise the Tories' attempt to turn this election into a plebiscite to centralise UK state power. This will be wielded on behalf of corporate business and open up Scotland and the UK to a US Trump deal which threatens the NHS, workers' rights, environmental and consumer safeguards, promotes more wars, and introduces even more draconian racist immigration laws. The Tories intend to remove large sections of the working class from the electoral register to further their plans.

Two prime Tory targets are the democratic right of the Scottish people to exercise our right to self-determination. and the limited post 1997 devolution-all-round settlement. A Tory Brexit will be used to reinforce all the most reactionary features of Britishness. Instead of a Tory Brexit fiasco we need an Ex-Brit (or break-up the UK) strategy to help us break free. In RIC's spirit of internationalism from below, this also involves the people of Ireland, Wales and England too. Therefore, we call for the rejection of all Unionist candidates in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and recommend our Labour and Green supporters in England to ask their candidates if they support the right of the Scottish parliaments to hold an early independence referendum.

We will continue to work in and with trade unions, community organisations and international solidarity campaigns to prepare a defence against their planned attacks and to create our new society based on RIC's 5 Principles:-

- 1) For a social alternative to austerity and privatisation
- 2) Green and environmentally sustainable
- 3) A modern republic for real democracy
- 4) Committed to equality and opposition to discrimination on grounds of gender, race, disability, sexuality or age
- 5) Internationalist and opposed to war, NATO and Trident

We remain adamant that Another Scotland, Another Europe and Another World are Possible.

(This motion is based on RIC-Edinburgh activities in the 2015 Holyrood and 2017 Westminster general elections)