

The DUP deal may be legitimate under our electoral syst...

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I have no love for the DUP, and little affection for Conservative government. But I am not getting angry about the two parties involved entering into a confidence and supply agreement. This is part of our democracy. Such outcomes can happen.

But I am angry that we should end up with such a tawdry arrangement propping up a government that has been elected on a totally discredited electoral system. Let me be clear: I know the Tories won most votes at the last election. I know they got most seats. But let me also be clear, that's because of the electoral system that showed only too clearly its bias towards the two party system. And what has also been clear is that the system in question has not reflected the will of many people in this country for a very long time.

The Conservatives have not won a decent majority since the 1980s but have ruled. Labour managed a majority but it did not result in good government on all issues. If first past the post is meant to deliver strong government it does not work. And it does not deliver good coalitions either.

The DUP / Tory deal may be legitimate under our existing electoral system. But the system is rotten. It's to Labour's shame that it will not say so.