

If faced with the choice of Corbyn v May the only ratio...

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What did people write about during the so-called 'phoney-war'? I do not know. I have not checked. But I bet there was a mighty lot of posturing.

And then what did they write about when Blitzkrieg began? Did it matter? It was too late to write about things by then: the ghastliness of reality was, I suspect, all consuming.

I feel like we are in a phoney-war. We know May is set on a path. We know she will fail. We know chaos will ensue. I just wish someone had a plan for the chaos.

This is a task that most especially falls to the Opposition. It is their job to have a plan when the government. For all practical purposes it is their only job. And they are failing at it.

There are only four possible outcomes to this situation. The obvious ones are hard Brexit, May's deal and Remain. The fourth might be a variation on Norway, even now. But that's it at most.

So Labour have to decide. They reject hard Brexit. They reject May's deal. So what then? Who knows? They will not say. Nor will they say how they might get anywhere. There is no plan.

Next weekend we may have a debate between Corbyn and May, on television.

She is deluded. She will argue her plan can work when it is dead in the water.

He is deluded enough to think he can either force an election or have Labour's six points agreed by the EU. Neither is likely. The second is impossible.

Both are deluded enough to think theirs are the opinions that matter. Actually, there are a whole range more views that people would like to hear. That's because they'd like to think there are politicians without delusions in the UK.

That might be a wildly optimistic aspiration. But I suspect I am not alone in sharing it.

What we know is that after years of failed policy, paper waving, false assurance and failed Opposition we have reached the point where the existing political hierarchy has collectively failed us. If faced with the choice 'Corbyn or May' I would have considerable difficulty choosing either. And Cable is no alternative.

The time for reform has arrived.

But are we prepared for what might come next? I doubt it. And yet the need for a new politics of sustainable possibility for all has never been greater. And we may suffer greatly for its absence. Now is still the time to talk. Really talk, that is. But our two main party leaders won't.