Peer says that the General Election could mean that anti-Brexit Peers have committed the "ultimate act of political hara kari"

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The Lord Stoddart of Swindon (Independent Labour)

**News Release** 

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House of Lords "badly served" by anti-Brexit Peers as it faces threat to its powers from General Election

The independent Labour Peer, Lord Stoddart of Swindon has reacted to the announcement of a General Election by pointing out the threat it is to the future of the House of Lords, following its opposition to the Government's Brexit legislation.

Lord Stoddart said: "The House of Lords has been badly served by those Peers who have threatened to delay or block Brexit completely, because their threats have certainly contributed to the Prime Minister's decision to call a General Election. Undoubtedly, the Tories will include a manifesto pledge to clip the wings of the Lords by sharply reducing the period by which Peers can block legislation. They could also propose a reduction in the number of Peers or restrictions on their eligibility to take part in votes.

"Standing up to the Government is one thing but seeking to invalidate the will of the people cannot and should not be tolerated. Opposing Brexit as strongly as they did may go down in history as the ultimate act of political hara kari by Peers who should have known better."

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