

# Majorca Daily Bulletin

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## Divide and conquer Johnson launches high-risk election

London.—The phoney war is over. After months of rehearsing his election strategy, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson is poised to run a high-risk campaign designed to exploit divisions over Brexit despite his public appeals for national unity.

Ahead of the Dec. 12 vote, he will focus on portraying his new Brexit deal with the European Union as a victory for a leader who many said would be unable to win concessions from Brussels and would instead leave without an agreement.

Central to the election campaign will be the message that only Johnson can finish

the job of leaving the EU, two sources close to the campaign said.

It is a stance the former foreign minister and London mayor has used with varying degrees of success since becoming prime minister in July, after his predecessor failed three times to get parliament to approve her own Brexit deal.

Johnson's deal secured initial parliamentary approval, though its passage remains uncertain. In the election, he hopes to win a parliamentary majority - something he does not currently enjoy - to push the agreement through. See Inside



# NO VOTE

- While Britain goes to the polls in the so-called Brexit election, millions of people who will be directly affected by Britain's withdrawal from the European Union will not have a say.
- **NONE VOTERS**; the more than three million EU citizens living in Britain and thousands of British expatriates.

## ● Expats had been promised "vote for life" by Cameron

**E**UROPEAN Union citizens and thousands of British expatriates who will be directly impacted by Brexit will not be able to vote in the British general election in December. British citizens resident in Spain can only vote if they have lived outside Britain for less than 15 years and the British government has refused the vote to more than three million European Union citizens resident in Britain. This means that the two groups of people who will be most affected by Brexit will not have a say

at the elections. Former Prime Minister David Cameron promised to give British citizens resident in the European Union the vote for life but the legislation but the legislation was never put to parliament. The Labour Party did attempt to introduce legislation which would have allowed European Union citizens in Britain to vote but it never got the green light in parliament. Many British expatriates are still furious that they were unable to vote in the original European Union referendum.

### Opinion polls

The Conservatives are ahead of Labour by an average of about 10 percentage points in polls this month, indicating a majority in the 650-seat parliament for Johnson, though pollsters admit their models are imperfect with turnout a key variable.

The election pitches two of the most unconventional British politicians of recent years against each other. Both have been repeatedly written off by opponents and both offer starkly different visions for the world's fifth largest economy

