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CAN GERMANY'S HUMBLED POLITICAL ESTABLISHMENT REGROUP?

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John Kampfner is a British author, broadcaster and commentator. His latest book In Search of Berlin is published by Atlantic. He is a regular POLITICO columnist.

Friedrich Merz is Germanys next chancellor. The adherents of the far-right Alternative for Germany party (AfD) believe tomorrow belongs to them. Meanwhile, The Left party is now the parliaments radical new insurgent.

But what happens to the three political parties that ran Germany for the last four years \Box and technically still do until the next administration is ready? Theyve all been humbled. All of their figureheads are stepping down. So, how will they regroup in a landscape where polarization is the new normal?

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