

Boris Johnson blames ‘the herd,’ resigns to make way for new U.K. leader

By [Karla Adam](#) and [William Booth](#)

Updated July 7, 2022 at 11:28 p.m. EDT | Published July 7, 2022 at 4:53 a.m. EDT

LONDON — Boris Johnson stepped down as leader of the Conservative Party on Thursday, making way for a new prime minister, following an avalanche of resignations by members of his party that eroded his authority and paralyzed the British government.

Speaking to a crowd of supporters and onlookers at the lectern outside 10 Downing Street, Johnson said, “It is clearly now the will of the parliamentary Conservative Party that there should be a new leader of that party and therefore a new prime minister.”