

ADVANCE INFORMATION

COALITION

THE INSIDE STORY OF
THE CONSERVATIVE–LIBERAL DEMOCRAT
COALITION GOVERNMENT

DAVID LAWS



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“David Laws has written what deserves to become the definitive account of the 2010–15 coalition government.” **Paddy Ashdown**

Coalition is the definitive insider account of the historic Conservative–Lib Dem coalition from its birth in 2010 through to its demise in May 2015. It reveals how key decisions were made, lays bare the often explosive divisions between and within the coalition parties, and explores candidly the personalities and positions of the key players on both sides of the government. Finally, it makes a thorough assessment of the government’s successes and failures.

David Laws is uniquely placed to provide this compelling insider account of a fascinating chapter in modern British politics. He took part in the negotiations that brought about the coalition in 2010, then became the coalition’s first Chief Secretary to the Treasury, later taking up key posts in the Education Department and in the Cabinet Office – the very heart of government.

This revealing account will be one of the most important political books of the year, shedding light on perhaps the most fascinating political partnership since the Second World War. It will also provide an essential historical record of the issues and challenges facing all political parties.

- The defining account of David Cameron’s government.
- Author was at the heart of government and writes candidly of his experiences.
- Hardback edition (ISBN: 9781849549660) sold 6,000 copies.

David Laws was the Liberal Democrat MP for Yeovil from 2001 to 2015. He helped negotiate the historic Lib Dem–Conservative coalition in 2010, and briefly became Chief Secretary to the Treasury before resigning. He later returned to government as a Minister of State for Schools, and then to the Cabinet Office.

“There are few – even from within my own party – whose inside story of the 2010–15 coalition I would trust more than David Laws’s.” **Matthew Parris**

“This book makes the politics of coalition come alive. It is well written, with a great deal of humour and a nice eye for detail. [...] This is an important work that goes a long way towards explaining our contemporary political predicament. I cannot recommend it too highly.” **Peter Osborne, *New Statesman***

“Packed with remarkable verbatim accounts of the arguments between the men at the top: David Cameron, George Osborne and Nick Clegg.” ***Sunday Times***

“This is an impressive work. A lucid, engaging mix of anecdote and forensic detail, it has a fair claim to become, at least for the foreseeable future, the definitive account of the UK’s first post-war experiment in coalition government.” ***The Observer***

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