

# Irish Prime Minister Leo Varadkar announces surprise resignation

*CNN* — Ireland's Prime Minister Leo Varadkar has announced his resignation, citing "personal and political, but mainly political reasons" in a surprise move. Flanked by colleagues outside government buildings in Dublin on Wednesday, Varadkar said he felt he was no longer the "best man" for the job. He said he would stay as prime minister until a successor can be elected after parliament returns from recess next month.

Varadkar first became prime minister in 2017, after being elected leader of the Fine Gael party. He is the country's youngest premier and Ireland's first gay leader.

"I am resigning as president [of the party] and leader of Fine Gael effective today, and will resign as taoiseach [Irish prime minister] as soon as my successor is able to take up that office," Varadkar said.

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Source:

<https://www.cnn.com/2024/03/20/europe/leo-varadkar-ireland-prime-minister-resignation-intl/index.html>

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