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# HSAS COMMON SENSE:

## CURRENT EVENTS RELEASE

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### Global Events: Germany's Coalition Government Collapses

*Xander Christian and Riley Fox, Grade 11, Staff Writers*

- For three years, Germany has been governed by a trio of the Social Democratic Party (SDP), the Green Party, and the Free Democratic Party (FDP).
- On November 1, 2024, German Finance Minister Christian Linder (FDP) published a paper that entailed what he saw as failings in the handling of the German economy. In response, Chancellor Olaf Scholz (SDP) fired him from the coalition government.
- The FDP subsequently removed themselves from the coalition. While the German government was heavily divided before the Linder Paper, the FDP withdrawing from the coalition leaves the government extremely unstable.
- Chancellor Scholz stated that a snap election will be held in January of 2025 in order to restructure the German government.
- This time of uncertainty in Germany's government comes amid a broader sense of instability across the globe, with Donald Trump being voted in as President-Elect of the United States.

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### American Politics: Donald Trump Wins the 2024 Election

*Camille Dillon-Eirich and Elyn Torres, Grade 9, Staff Writers*

- Former President Donald Trump has won the 2024 U.S. Presidential Election with 312 electoral votes compared to Vice President Kamala Harris's 226 electoral votes. Trump won both the Electoral College and the popular vote. Many Harris supporters feel devastated by this loss for the Democrats.
- Republicans have won the Senate as well but by how much is still yet to be determined, with Bob Casey's race in recount territory. Casey attests that with overseas and provisional ballots not yet counted in Pennsylvania, he can win.
- It is yet to be determined whether Republicans will control the House, but they likely will based on current CBS projections. According to the AP, House Republicans have won 217 seats, while Democrats have won 207. Many ballots haven't been counted and a few House members will be resigning their seats to be in Trump's cabinet, thereby giving greater (temporary) power to the Democrats.

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### Miscellaneous News:

*Syeda Ahmed and Saja Amrati, Grade 9, Staff Writers*

- Frequent wildfires have been reported across the Northeast, including New York City. Climate factors like intense drought have led to dry brush that is vulnerable to catching fire and spreading. Governor Kathy Hochul has issued a "burn ban," urging New Yorkers to avoid using campfires and outdoor grills.
- In response to competition from Temu and Shein, China-based online shopping platforms, Amazon has released its storefront of inexpensive products called "Amazon Haul" which mimics the flashy and discount-heavy marketing tactics of its rivals.
- Microsoft is now introducing Magnetic-One, an innovative AI system designed to provide solutions for complex, real-world tasks. Its unique multi-agent setup allows it to tackle everyday tasks with precision and fluency beyond single-agent AI systems.
- Spirit Airlines is supposedly filing for bankruptcy after its stock shares decreased by 59%, following an unsuccessful merger with Frontier Airlines, whose stock declined only by 2%.

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