

KOMEITO Leaves Coalition

End of 26-Year-Long LDP-KOMEITO Coalition Raises Uncertainty for Prime Ministerial Election

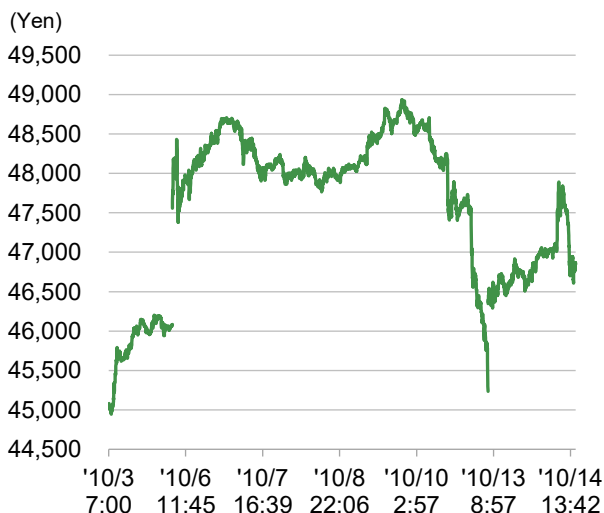
October 14, 2025

Political Turmoil as LDP-KOMEITO Coalition Collapses; Nikkei Closes Down ¥1,241.48 from Previous Week

The 26-year Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)–KOMEITO coalition has been dissolved, and the outlook for the Diet vote to designate the prime minister has rapidly become more uncertain. With renewed US–China tensions, on the 14th, the Nikkei closed at ¥46,847.32, down ¥1,241.48 from the previous week. Immediately after Sanae Takaichi was elected as LDP president, expectations for expansionary fiscal policy and the continuation of an accommodative monetary environment sparked active “Takaichi trades,” such as equity buying. However, these were later unwound as KOMEITO’s resistance to the LDP strengthened in response to the appointment of the strongly conservative Takaichi, and coalition talks stalled. As the LDP–KOMEITO relationship wobbled, the yen’s depreciation heightened concerns that rising import prices would push domestic inflation higher. In particular, shortly after 3:00 p.m. on the 10th, reports of KOMEITO’s exit from the coalition triggered a sharp decline in Nikkei futures.

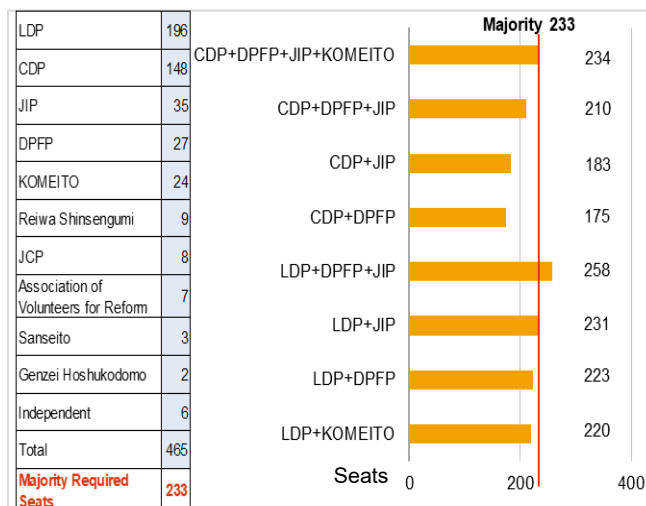
Possible political scenarios going forward include: ① a single-party government led by the LDP, ② a coalition between the LDP and some opposition parties, and ③ a change in administration through the unification of opposition parties. In scenario ①, it goes without saying that the continuation of a minority government is inevitable. Regarding scenario ②, under the previous LDP-KOMEITO coalition, a majority could be secured by forming a coalition with the Democratic Party for the People (DPFP), but currently, a majority would not be achievable unless both the DPFP and the Japan Innovation Party (JIP) are included. In scenario ③, a coalition of the Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan (CDP), DPFP, JIP, and KOMEITO would exceed the majority. The CDP has shown a willingness to compromise, suggesting DPFP leader Tamaki as a unified candidate. However, many view it as unrealistic to field a unified candidate merely for numbers, given the insufficient policy coordination. Nevertheless, politics does not move solely on economic rationality, so attention must be paid to future developments.

CME Nikkei 225 Futures



※ 3-minute chart. The latest value is at 15:30 on Oct. 14, 2025
Source: Bloomberg; Compiled by Daiwa Asset Management

House of Representatives Constituent Power and Political Scenario



Source: Website of the House of Representatives; Compiled by Daiwa Asset Management

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