



## What France's election may mean for the western world

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There were protests in Paris immediately following Sunday's election results, as a battle for the soul of France came to a head. Supporters of the top two vote-getters, far right candidate Marine Le Pen and And centrist candidate Emmanuel Macron seemed to be sending a message to the masses.

"France is a deeply unhappy country," said Marian Tupy, a Senior Policy Analyst with The Cato Institute who studies the European Political and Economic Landscape.

From multiple terror attacks in France over the last few years to high unemployment and debt in France, Tupy said France is following a trend we've already seen in the United Kingdom, with the Brexit vote, and in the United States, with the election of Donald Trump.

Having a stacked political resume with lots of political credentials is no longer what people are looking for, he said.

"If you are perceived to be part of the establishment and somebody with a very long record in government, well then people simply assume you are going to be corrupt and inept," he added.

"The last 20 years have seen the creation of a political class that is disconnected from the needs and desires of ordinary people. "

Those ordinary people now placing their hopes in Marine Le Pen, who's advocated for things like strict border control and shutting down mosques, and investment banker Emmanuel Macron. A country that prides itself in rich history and steep tradition now seems to be showing its political landscape is already altered.