German Chancellor Olaf Scholz fires finance minister, ends nation's three-party coalition govt

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz fired his rebellious Finance Minister Christian Lindner on Wednesday (November 6), effectively ending the nation's three-party coalition government.

The decision followed weeks of intense disputes within the coalition, comprised of Scholz's Social Democrats, Lindner's Free Democrats, and the Greens.

The chancellery confirmed the firing after a high-stakes meeting with senior members of all three parties, according to Scholz's spokesman, Steffen Hebestreit. A press conference is scheduled for 2015 GMT.

Lindner, a vocal advocate for economic reform, had pushed for substantial policy changes to revive Germany's struggling economy, clashing with the Social Democrats and the Greens. He had previously hinted at a possible split from the coalition, warning of "an autumn of decisions" as tough budget negotiations approached.

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