

Dutch government collapses over prime minister's harsh anti-immigrant policies

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Amsterdam, July 11 (RHC)-- The government of the Netherlands has collapsed after failing to reach an agreement on stricter rules for asylum seekers.

Prime Minister Mark Rutte said he is quitting politics but will serve as a caretaker leader until general elections are held in November. His ruling coalition came apart after two parties objected to plans by Rutte to restrict the rights of migrants whose asylum claims had already been approved — barring them from reuniting with their children. Rutte has denied those reports.

Rights groups have blasted Rutte's government for closing government-run asylum centers and for dangerous and unsanitary conditions at existing centers that violate European Union standards.

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