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## AFTER MERKEL, GERMAN CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS SEEK NEW SAVIOR

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Politico (3 November 2021)

Germany's Christian Democrats are searching for their soul — and a new savior.

Having enjoyed 16 straight years in power under Chancellor Angela Merkel, defeat in September's general election hit the center-right Christian Democratic Union (CDU) hard. It has plunged the party into bitter internal debates over what went wrong and how the CDU, the preeminent force in German postwar politics, can find its way back to power.

The party took a small step on the path to renewal on Tuesday when CDU chiefs agreed on a plan to elect a new leader to replace Armin Laschet, the party's hapless candidate to succeed Merkel in the election.

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