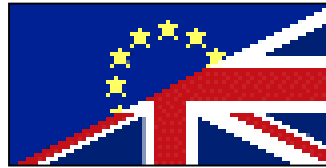


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The BREXIT Debate

The United Kingdom and the European Union
A guide to information sources

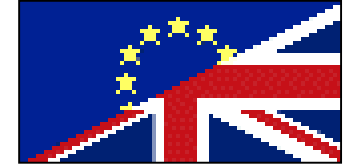
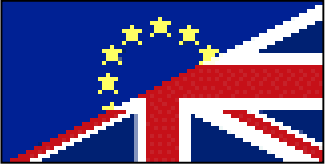
Ian Thomson
Director, Cardiff EDC



Cardiff University Press
Gwasg Prifysgol Caerdydd

Latest revision: April 2016
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The BREXIT Debate

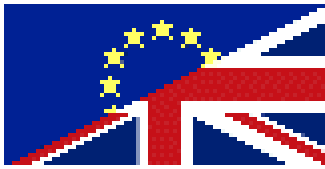
The United Kingdom and the European Union

The Cardiff EDC can help you find information from all points of view on this important topic

Click on the images in this guide to link into a range of information sources

To find further information search in [ESO](#)





The United Kingdom and the European Union



The EU deal

Full Fact

3 November 2015

Britain may not need the EU, but the EU needs Britain

By Leopold Traugott



LSE THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

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Britain needs Europe a lot more than Europe needs Britain

Supported by the LSE's European Institute

The UK will hold a referendum on its EU membership before the end of 2017. **Dennis** **Novy** writes that a divorce from the EU would risk putting the UK in a weaker economic position. Among the reasons he quotes, he mentions an often overlooked issue: that Britain simply does not have the administrative expertise to carry out some of the functions that the EU currently fulfils on behalf of its member states.

The option of Britain leaving the European Union sounds superficially attractive. Who doesn't like the idea of freedom and independence? But it isn't as simple. In fact, Britain needs Europe a lot more than Europe needs Britain. Isolation is costly.

Recent

Hungary, Poland and Slovakia show the risks associated with mainstream parties

HOUSE OF LORDS

Library Note

European Union: Prime Ministers' Speeches and Party Manifestos since 1970

At different times statements by Prime Ministers about the UK's relationship with the European Union have sought to set the agenda, capture public opinion and set the tone for future debates on Europe. This House of Lords Library briefing outlines some of the key statements made by Prime Ministers since 1970 and reproduces the manifesto commitments made at general elections by each party over the same period.

The briefing is set out over three sections. The first section charts key speeches made by Prime Ministers between 1970 and 2010, therefore covering the period when the UK entered in to the European Economic Community (EEC), the 1975 referendum held on the UK's continuing membership and subsequent developments over the course of the decades that followed, up to and including the 2005 Labour Government.

The second section then explores the 2010 Coalition Government's position on the EU, focusing on David Cameron's Bloomberg speech in 2013 where he announced he would seek a renegotiation of the UK's terms of membership, which would then be put to a referendum.

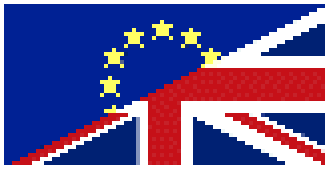
The 2015 Conservative Party manifesto confirmed this stance. It stated that in government the Conservatives would "negotiate a new settlement for Britain in Europe, and then ask the British people whether they want to stay in the EU on this reformed basis or leave" with an in-out referendum being held "before the end of 2017". The third section looks at key speeches made on this issue by David Cameron since the 2015 general election and the developments that led to the announcement that the EU referendum would take place on 23 June 2016.

The Appendix to this briefing provides extracts from political party manifestos since 1970 charting the various positions taken over the last four decades.

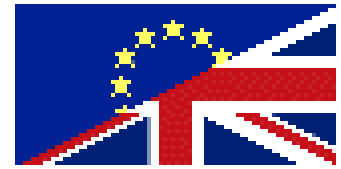
For further information, the House of Commons Library has prepared a [Reading List on UK-EU Relations 2013-16: Reform, Renegotiation, Withdrawal](#) (4 March 2016) and the parliamentary web page, [The UK's EU Referendum 2016 Explained](#), includes other key documents, briefings and resources.

Emma Kerry
15 March 2016
LLN 2016/015

The BREXIT / BREMAIN Debate : Let the debate begin...



The United Kingdom and the European Union



Government Response to the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee Report HC 87 of Session 2013-14

The future of the European Union: UK Government policy

Presented to Parliament
by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
by Command of Her Majesty

September 2013

Cm 8693

£6.25

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Topic

Europe

Organisations: [Foreign & Commonwealth Office, Department for Business, Innovation & Skills, FCO Services, Wilton Park, British Council, Westminster Foundation for Democracy, Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission, BBC World Service and Government Communications Headquarters](#)
Related topics: [Foreign affairs and Trade and Investment](#)

The government is working with allies to reform the European Union to make it more open, competitive, flexible and democratically accountable, for the benefit of the UK and the whole of Europe.

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Guidance

Review of the balance of competences

From: [Foreign & Commonwealth Office](#)
First published: 12 December 2012
Last updated: 18 December 2014, [see all updates](#)
Part of: [Review of the balance of competences, Compliance with European Union laws and regulation and Europe](#)

The review of the balance of competences will be an audit of what the EU does and how it affects the UK.

The Telegraph

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HOME » NEWS » NEWS TOPICS » EU REFERENDUM

David Cameron: the EU is not working and we will change it

Only the Conservatives will give voters a real choice over Britain's future in Europe, says Prime Minister David Cameron



Photo: EPA

By David Cameron

9:00PM GMT 15 Mar 2014

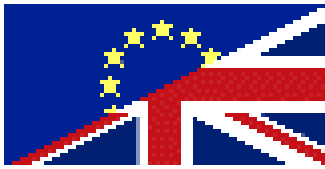
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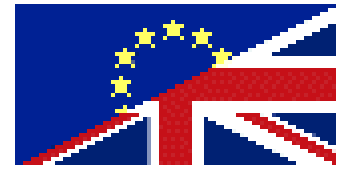
Facebook 532

The British people now have a very clear choice: if you want a referendum on whether Britain should stay in the EU or leave, only the Conservative Party will guarantee to hold one.

The BREXIT Debate: Background



The United Kingdom and the European Union



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Guidance

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EU News & policy debates, across languages

Türkiye ekonomisi 2014'te yüzde 2.9 büyüdü
İran ile nükleer müzakerelerde ön anlaşma için son gün
Erdoganı Slovenya ile uçurdu ülkelerde ortak yabrim istiyoruz
Karadağ, AB'ye katılım müzakerelerinde ilerliyor
İtalya zeytin ağaçlarının mücadelesini veriyor

Home > UK in Europe > News > House of Lords report finds allegations of EU interference unfounded

House of Lords report finds allegations of EU interference unfounded

Published: 31/03/2015 - 07:37 | Updated: 31/03/2015 - 06:43

The European Union Committee of the House of Lords has accused the government of attempting to "bury" the results of a report on the UK's relationship with the EU after it found no evidence of excessive interference from Brussels.

HOUSE OF LORDS

European Union Committee

12th Report of Session 2014-15

The Review of the Balance of Competences between the UK and the EU

Ordered to be printed 17 March 2015 and published 25 March 2015

Published by the Authority of the House of Lords
London: The Stationery Office Limited
£price

Briefing
January 2016

European Parliament

The Balance of Competences Review in the United Kingdom, 2012-2014

Background

Against a backdrop of continuing and often intense political debate in the United Kingdom about its relationship with the rest of the European Union (EU), the [Coalition Agreement](#) of May 2010, underpinning the 2010-2015 Conservative-Liberal Democrat government, stated that the new administration would 'examine the balance of the EU's existing competences', in the context of an overall government commitment to 'ensure that there is no further transfer of sovereignty or powers' to the EU during that five-year parliamentary term. This process was taken forward in a formal 'Review of the Balance of Competences between the UK and the EU', which was launched in July 2012 and concluded in December 2014.

The UK government's official communication to the House of Commons and House of Lords to launch the Balance of Competences Review ([Command Paper 8415](#)) used a broad definition of EU competence, covering 'everything deriving from EU law that affects what happens in the UK'. The review was to seek to examine all the areas where the Treaties gave the EU competence to act (see box below), and to audit what the EU did and how this affected the UK. The whole process would be 'comprehensive, well-informed and analytical', gathering evidence to help inform public debate. Whilst the review would be government-led, it would also involve outside experts, organisations and individuals who wished to feed in their views on the issues covered.

The competences of the European Union

The Treaty of Lisbon amended the Treaty on European Union and [clarified the division of competences](#) between the EU and Member States, introducing a precise classification of such competences for the first time. The Treaty sets out three main types of EU competence:

Exclusive competence (Article 3 TFEU): The EU alone is able to legislate and adopt binding acts in these fields. The Member States' role is therefore limited to applying these acts, unless the Union authorises them to adopt certain acts themselves;

Shared competence (Article 4 TFEU): The EU and Member States are authorised to adopt binding acts in these fields. However, Member States may exercise their competence only in so far as the EU has not exercised, or has decided not to exercise, its own competence;

Supporting competence (Article 6 TFEU): The EU can only intervene to support, coordinate or complement the action of Member States.

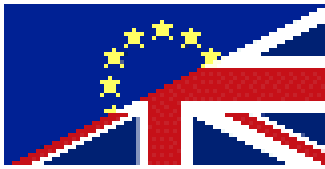
Individual UK government departments were tasked to lead the examination of competences falling within their own areas of responsibility, with the overall review being managed jointly by the [Foreign and Commonwealth Office \(FCO\)](#) and [Cabinet Office](#). It was made clear from the outset that the review would not look to produce specific recommendations, prejudice future policy, or consider alternative models for

EPRS | European Parliamentary Research Service
Author: David Easock
Members' Research Service
PE 573.915

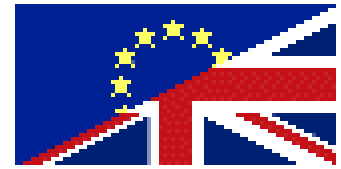
EN

Find more information via [ESO](#) on the Review of the Balance of Competences

The BREXIT Debate: Review of the Balance of Competences



The United Kingdom and the European Union



LET BRITAIN DECIDE

EUROPE NEEDS TO CHANGE

Britain's relationship with the EU isn't working. It needs fundamental change.

The Conservatives have already delivered change in Europe by:

1. Cutting the budget – reducing the cost of the EU to Britain
2. Vetoing a new EU treaty – stopping more powers going to Brussels
3. Refusing to bailout the euro – saving British taxpayers' money

We have the record of delivering for Britain in Europe – and we now want to go further.

BRITAIN NEEDS A REFERENDUM

Our plan is clear:

We will negotiate a better deal for Britain in Europe then give the British people their say in an in-out referendum by the end of 2017.

Only the Conservatives will give you that referendum. Labour and the Lib Dems won't and UKIP can't.

So if you want a referendum, sign our petition today and vote Conservative at the European elections on 22 May.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR A REFERENDUM

Sign the petition today and support our campaign for a referendum:

First Name

Last Name

Email

Postcode **SIGN**

By entering your email address you agree to receive communications from us, from which you can opt-out using the "unsubscribe" link in each email we send. We will not share your details with anyone outside the Conservative Party.

EU REFERENDUM: HIGHEST 'IN' LEAD FOR TWO YEARS

by Anthony Wells in [Commentary](#), [Europe](#), [Front Page](#), [Latest](#)
 Commented on Politics
 Wed March 25, 2014 9:02 a.m. GMT

Ahead of tonight's first Europe debate between Nick Clegg and Nigel Farage how do the public stand on the European Union?

EU Referendum

If there was a referendum on Britain's membership of the European Union, how would you vote?

March 23-24, 2014

Leave EU	36%
Remain in EU	42%

Back in 2012 we were regularly seeing strong leads for those who wanted Britain to leave the European Union, but since David Cameron's referendum pledge in January 2013 the position has tightened up. Our last few polls have even shown more support for staying in the European Union than leaving. On Monday we found 42% of people would vote to stay in the European Union, 36% would vote to leave – the six point lead for those wanting to stay in the Union is the largest we've found since January 2012.

European Union (Referendum) Bill and the Parliament Acts

Standard Note: SN/PC/6912
 Last updated: 18 June 2014
 Author: Richard Kelly
 Section: Parliament and Constitution Centre

The *European Union (Referendum) Bill 2013-14*, a private Member's bill, provided for an in/out referendum on membership of the European Union to be held before the end of 2017. It was passed by the Commons in 2013-14 but not passed by the Lords.

During the debate on the Queen's Speech at the beginning of the 2014-15 Session, David Cameron, the Prime Minister, confirmed that he would support a bill to provide for an in/out referendum, if it were introduced in the current Session. Subject to certain conditions, such a bill could be presented for Royal Assent in accordance with the provisions of the Parliament Acts 1911 and 1949.

Robert Neill, who was drawn third in the private Members' bill ballot, has given notice of his intention to introduce the *European Union (Referendum) Bill 2014-15*.

The Parliament Acts 1911 and 1949 allow public bills¹ other than money bills rejected by the House of Lords in one parliamentary session to be presented for Royal Assent in the following session if they are passed by the House of Commons and rejected again by the House of Lords. Section 2(3) of the 1911 Act states that for this purpose a bill is deemed to be rejected by the House of Lords "if it is not passed by that House either without amendment or with such amendments only as may be agreed to by both Houses". A number of conditions about timing apply to the process. The Parliament Acts do not apply to bills that extend the life of a Parliament, bills which originated in the House of Lords, private bills or provisional order bills.

ESO European Sources Online

Full Details

Title: EU referendum bill to be debated by Lords / EU referendum bill defeated in UK parliament

Author: BBC

Series/Date: BBC News 10.01.14

Source Origin: Commercial publisher and media

Source Type: News source

Notes: The United Kingdom Parliament's second chamber, the House of Lords started its investigation (second reading) of the European Union (Referendum) Bill 2013-14 on the 10 January 2014.

The bill introduced by a backbench Conservative Party MP James Wharton in 2013, but with the support of the Coalition government, would allow a referendum on the UK's membership of the EU in 2017.

The Bill makes provision for an in/out referendum on the question of the United Kingdom's membership of the European Union. It also stipulates that such a referendum must be held before 31 December 2017.

On the 31 January 2014, plans to put an UK referendum on EU membership into law were dashed after the House of Lords voted to block the bill by 180 votes to 130.

Source URL: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-25672977>

Homepage URL: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/default.stm>

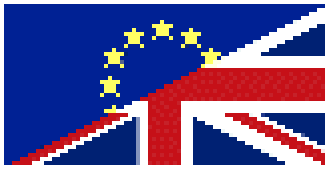
Related URL:

- ESO: Background information: EU referendum: MPs call for public to have their say
- ESO: Background information: European Union (Referendum) Bill 2013-14: Progress of the bill
- BBC News, 10.01.14: Mandelson: Referendum 'a pistol to Europe's head'
- Blog: Eurornove, 16.01.14: An EU referendum and when?
- Blog: OpenEurope, 31.01.14: EU Referendum Bill: Peers or the People - will Cameron seek to overrule the Lords?
- EUObserver, 31.01.14: EU referendum bill defeated in UK parliament
- EurActiv, 13.01.14: Cameron under attack over EU membership vote
- The Guardian, 10.01.14: Cameron's EU referendum 'timebomb' could undermine UK position, say lords
- UK Parliament: House of Lords: Library Note, January 2014: European Union (Referendum) Bill (HL Bill 63 of 2013-14)
- UK Parliament: House of Lords: Parliamentary Business: News, 03.02.14: European Union (Referendum) Bill: Lords committee stage

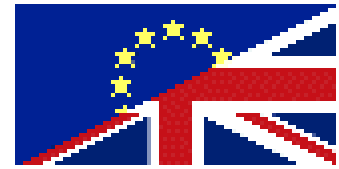
Keywords: United Kingdom and the European Union - Call for Referendum - Brexit - Repatriation of powers / Renegotiation - National sovereignty - European Union (Referendum) Bill 2013-14 - Referendum on Europe / EU - David Cameron

Geographic Indicators: United Kingdom: External

United Kingdom : Referendum on EU membership: Background



The United Kingdom and the European Union



Reforming the EU: UK plans, proposals and prospects

Standard Note: SN/IA/7138

Last updated: 16 March 2015

Author: Vaughne Miller and Constance Woollen

Section: International Affairs and Defence Section

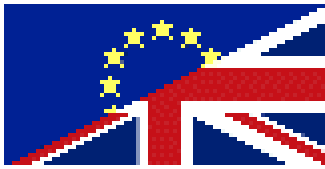
The UK Government has stated that membership of the European Union is in the national interest, but the Prime Minister David Cameron would like to reform the EU and renegotiate the UK's relationship with it, before holding an in/out referendum in 2017 if a Conservative government is elected in May 2015. The UK's new relationship with the EU would be put to the electorate, who would decide whether the UK should remain in the EU under new terms or be the first Member State to leave the EU.

David Cameron identified areas for reform in his 'Bloomberg speech' on 23 January 2013. His five principles for a European Union "fit for the 21st Century" were: competitiveness, flexibility, repatriating powers to Member States, democratic accountability and fairness. In March 2014 he set out proposals for reform:

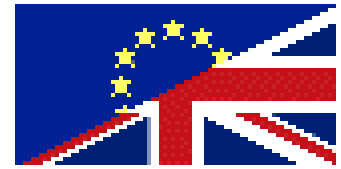
- Powers flowing away from Brussels, not always to it;
- National parliaments able to work together to block unwanted EU legislation;
- Businesses liberated from red tape;
- UK police forces and justice systems able to protect British citizens, without interference from the European institutions;
- Free movement to take up work, not free benefits;
- Removing the concept of "ever closer union".

This Note looks at what the Government is doing to tackle some of the perceived weaknesses of EU policy and procedures and looks at prospects for future reform.

UK Government 2014 – 2015



The United Kingdom and the European Union



Judy Dempsey's *Strategic Europe*

And Britain Voted for . . .

Posted by: JUDY DEMPSEY

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2015 + PRINT PAGE

EU Law Analysis

Expert insight into EU law developments

Friday, 8 May 2015

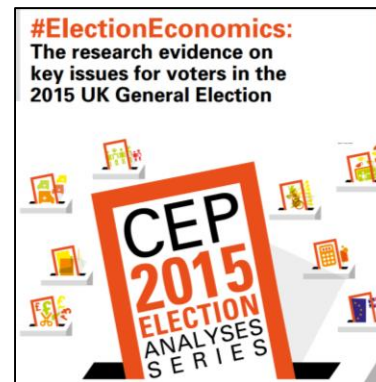
Is Brexit inevitable? The UK's EU membership after the General Election



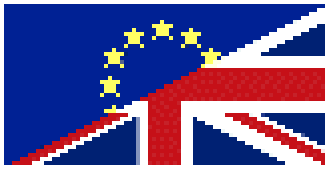
oe *Responds*

The road to EU reform and referendum - Cameron's challenges and opportunities following UK General Election

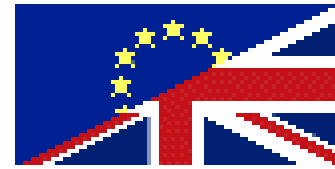
[Elections](#), [EU Reform](#), [National Parliaments](#), [UK Politics](#)



UK general election May 2015 ... and aftermath



The United Kingdom and the European Union



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You are here: Parliament home page > Parliamentary business > Bills and legislation > Bills before Parliament 2015-16 > Public Bills > European Union Referendum Act 2015

European Union Referendum Act 2015

Type of Bill: Government Bill

Sponsors: Philip Hammond
Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
Baroness Anelay of St Johns
Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs

Progress of the Bill

Bill started in the House of Commons

House of Commons (1, 2, C, R, 3)

House of Lords (1, 2, C, R, 3)

Royal Assent (A)

Last events

- RA Royal Assent (Hansard) 17 December, 2015 | 17.12.2015
- RA Royal Assent (Minutes of Proceedings) 17 December, 2015 | 17.12.2015

Read debates on all stages of the European Union Referendum Act 2015

HOUSE OF COMMONS LIBRARY

BRIEFING PAPER
Number 7214, 16 October 2015

Exiting the EU: UK reform proposals, legal impact and alternatives to membership

By Vaughne Miller, Arabella Lang, Ben Smith, Dominic Webb, Daniel Harari, Matthew Keep

Inside:

1. Background
2. David Cameron's reform proposals
3. The withdrawal process
4. Alternatives to EU membership
5. Could EU rights disappear?

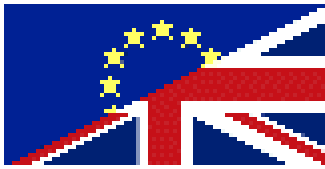
HOUSE OF LORDS

Library Note

European Union Referendum Bill (HL Bill 60 of 2015-16)

The [European Union Referendum Bill](#) is a government Bill which received first reading in the House of Commons on 8 September 2015. It received [second reading](#) in the Commons on 9 June 2015. The Bill completed its passage through the House of Commons on 7 September 2015. It makes provisions for a referendum on whether the UK should remain a member of the EU, a commitment included in the 2015 Conservative Party manifesto. The Bill provides for a referendum to be held on a date prior to the end of 2017. The electorate for the referendum would be the same as that for a general election—including Commonwealth citizens and citizens of the Republic of Ireland resident in the UK—with the addition of Members of the House of Lords and citizens of Gibraltar. The Bill also provides that elements of the regulatory framework set out in the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 would apply to this referendum. A summary of the Bill, as introduced at first reading, has been published by the House of Commons Library, entitled [European Union Referendum Bill 2015-16](#).

UK Government 2015 – 2016 : The EU Referendum Bill / Act



The United Kingdom and the European Union



BRIEFING PAPER

Number 7311, 9 November 2015

EU reform negotiations: what's going on?

By Vaughne Miller

Inside:

1. What are the Government's proposed reforms?
2. Where's the detail?
3. Technical talks begin
4. UK scrutiny of the negotiations
5. What is happening in the EU institutions?
6. The campaigns begin
7. Public Opinion



What is happening with the negotiations autumn 2015

- [Cameron targets Brussels over Brexit, Sept 2015](#)
- [Renegotiation Scorecard, Sept 2015](#)
- [UK to set out EU reform demands in November letter to EU President, Oct 2015](#)

EU Select Committee



Visions of EU reform inquiry

Inquiry status: **open - accepting written submissions**

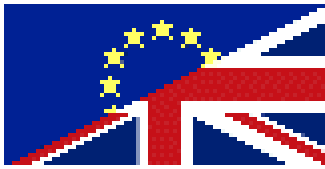
Call for evidence published.

Scope of the inquiry

The inquiry is exploring the vision for the future of the EU that the UK Government is seeking to realise through its current reform proposals, ahead of the referendum on UK membership to be held by the end of 2017. The Committee is assessing the extent to which there is consensus on the long-term direction of the EU, within the UK, the EU institutions and across the 28 EU Member States.



EU reform - UK negotiates with EU and other Member States 2015/16



The United Kingdom and the European Union



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

10 November 2015

Dear Donald,

A NEW SETTLEMENT FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM IN A REFORMED EUROPEAN UNION

Thank you for inviting me to write setting out the areas where I am seeking reforms to address the concerns of the British people over our membership of the European Union.

As you said, the purpose of this letter is not to describe the precise means, or detailed legal proposals, for bringing the reforms we seek into effect. That is a matter for the negotiation, not least as there may, in each case, be different ways of achieving the same result.

I am grateful for the technical discussions that have taken place over the last few months and, as we move to the formal stage of negotiations, I welcome this opportunity to explain why these changes are needed and how I believe they can benefit all Member States. I am also making a speech today to update the British people on the process for the negotiation and how I intend to address their concerns.

I have been encouraged in many of my conversations with my fellow Heads of Government in recent months that there is wide understanding of the concerns



**PRESS
EN**

PRESS RELEASE
898/15
07/12/2015

Letter by President Donald Tusk to the European Council on the issue of a UK in/out referendum

What is happening with the negotiations Nov 2015 – Jan 2016

- [David Cameron sends European Council President Donald Tusk further details of UK calls for EU reform, 10 November 2015](#)
- [Letter from European Council President Tusk to EU governments on the UK negotiations, Dec 2015](#)
- Find more information in [ESO](#)



EU Law Analysis

Expert insight into EU law developments

Tuesday, 10 November 2015

Cameron's Chatham House speech: Full speed ahead for the renegotiation of the UK's EU membership?

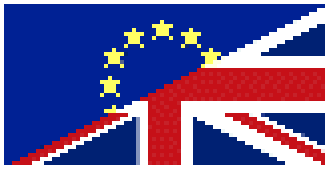


House of Commons
European Scrutiny Committee

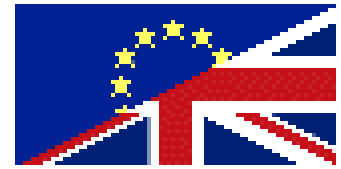
UK Government's renegotiation of EU membership: Parliamentary Sovereignty and Scrutiny



EU reform - UK negotiates with EU and other Member States 2015/16



The United Kingdom and the European Union



BLUE RUBICON

 Teneo Intelligence™

BREXIT BULLETIN

How national politics define the new UK-EU relationship

HOUSE OF LORDS

European Union Committee

3rd Report of Session 2015–16

The referendum on UK membership of the EU: assessing the reform process

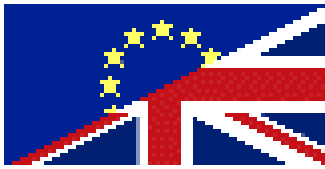
Ordered to be printed 21 July 2015 and published 28 July 2015

Referendum on membership of the European Union

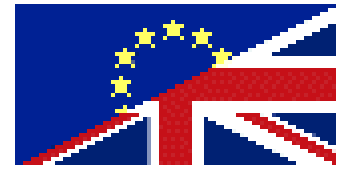
Assessment of the Electoral Commission on the proposed referendum question

September 2015

United Kingdom : Referendum on EU membership



The United Kingdom and the European Union



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER
Personal Minute

TO ALL MINISTERIAL COLLEAGUES

EU REFERENDUM

In my Statement to Parliament on Tuesday, I announced that there will be a clear government position after the conclusion of the EU negotiation and I also explained that, from that point, there will be a special arrangement to permit individual Ministers to take a different personal position from the official position of the Government. Having consulted the Cabinet Secretary, this letter sets out in more detail what this means in practice.

First, this arrangement will come into effect following a Cabinet discussion, after the negotiations have concluded with our EU partners. Until that point – when it will become clear whether a deal can be negotiated that delivers the objectives I have set out – all Ministers should continue to support the position set out in our Manifesto and say or do nothing that will undermine the Government’s negotiating position. The Government’s policy, explained in our Manifesto and discussed at Cabinet, is to negotiate a new settlement for Britain in the EU and then ask the British people in a referendum whether they want to stay in the EU on this reformed basis or not. As I have said many times, if the renegotiation is successful, the Government’s position will be in favour of Britain remaining in a reformed EU. If the renegotiation is unsuccessful, then we rule nothing out. This referendum must take place by the end of 2017. I am grateful to all colleagues for the support provided to date.

Second, this wholly exceptional arrangement will apply only to the question of whether we should remain in the EU or leave. All other EU or EU-related business, including negotiations in or with all EU institutions and other Member States, and debates and votes in Parliament here on EU business will continue to be subject to the normal rules of collective responsibility and party discipline. This also of course applies to policy discussions within government. The existing machinery of government for making policy on EU business will continue to function in the normal way. In Parliament, the rules state that Ministers speak from the Front Bench, and when they do so they support government policy.

- + [EU referendum: Prime Minister's minute to ministers, January 2016](#)
- + [Speech by David Cameron at the World Economic Forum, Davos, 21 January 2016](#)

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Speech

Davos 2016: Prime Minister's speech to the World Economic Forum

From: Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street and The Rt Hon David Cameron MP
 Delivered on: 21 January 2016 (Transcript of the speech, exactly as it was delivered)
 Location: Davos, Switzerland
 First published: 21 January 2016

David Cameron spoke at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland on securing the future of Britain in a reformed European Union.

Electoral Commission to open registration for EU Referendum campaigners

News release published: 26-01-2016

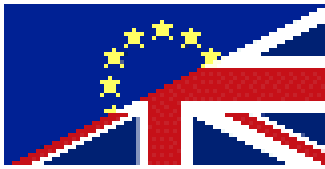


BRIEFING PAPER

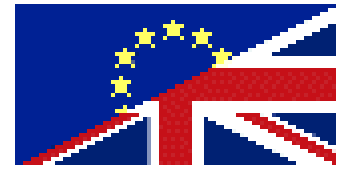
Number 7486, 27 January 2016


The EU referendum campaign

United Kingdom : Referendum on EU membership



The United Kingdom and the European Union



 **PRESS EN**
PRESS RELEASE
23/16
02/02/2016

Letter by President Donald Tusk to the Members of the European Council on his proposal for a new settlement for the United Kingdom within the European Union

Keeping the unity of the European Union is the biggest challenge for all of us and so it is the key objective of my mandate. It is in this spirit that I put forward a proposal for a new settlement of the United Kingdom within the EU. To my mind it goes really far in addressing all the concerns raised by Prime Minister Cameron. The line I did not cross, however, were the principles on which the European project is founded.

I deeply believe that our community of interests is much stronger than what divides us. To be, or not to be together, that is the question which must be answered not only by the British people in a referendum, but also by the other 27 members of the EU in the next two weeks.

This has been a difficult process and there are still challenging negotiations ahead. Nothing is agreed until everything is agreed. I am convinced that the proposal is a good basis for a compromise. It could not have been drafted without the close and good cooperation of the European Commission. In order to facilitate this process the Commission also made political declarations that are included in this package.

Let me briefly refer to all the four baskets of the proposal.

On economic governance, the draft Decision of the Heads sets out principles to ensure mutual respect between the Member States taking part in further deepening of the Economic and Monetary Union and those which do not. By doing that we can pave the way for the further integration within the euro area while safeguarding the rights and competences of non-participating Member States.

The respect for these principles is backed up by a draft Decision establishing a mechanism that while giving necessary reassurances on the concerns of non-euro area Member States, cannot constitute a veto nor delay urgent decisions. The exact conditions for triggering this mechanism remain to be further discussed.

On competitiveness, the draft Decision of the Heads, together with a more detailed European Council Declaration and a draft Commission Declaration, will set out our commitment to increase efforts to enhance competitiveness. We will regularly assess progress in simplifying legislation and reducing burden on business so that red tape is cut.

On sovereignty, the proposed Decision of the Heads recognises that in light of the United Kingdom's special situation under the Treaties, it is not committed to further political integration. It also reinforces respect for subsidiarity, and I propose that the Member States discontinue the consideration of a draft legislative act where a number of national parliaments object to it on the grounds of subsidiarity, unless the concerns raised can be accommodated. The importance of respecting the opt-out regime of Protocols 21 and 22, as well as national security responsibilities is also underlined.

On social benefits and free movement, we need to fully respect the current treaties, in particular the principles of freedom of movement and non-discrimination. Therefore the proposed solution to address the UK concerns builds on the clarification of the interpretation of current rules, including a draft Commission Declaration on a number of issues relating to better fighting abuse of free movement.

The draft Decision of the Heads notes, in particular, the Commission's intention to propose changes to EU legislation as regards the export of child benefits and the creation of a safeguard mechanism to respond to exceptional situations of inflow of workers from other Member States. A draft Commission Declaration also relates to this mechanism. This approach, as well as the exact duration of the application of such a mechanism need to be further discussed at our level.

Most of the substance of this proposal takes the form of a legally binding Decision of the Heads of State or Governments. We should also be prepared to discuss the possible incorporation of the substance of a few elements covered by the Decision into the Treaties at the time of their next revision.

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Press release
PM calls and Brussels meetings: 29 January 2015

From: Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street and The Rt Hon David Cameron MP
First published: 29 January 2016
Part of: Denmark, France, Iran, Sweden and Syria


David Cameron had calls with various European leaders last night and this morning, and held meetings in Brussels today to discuss EU reform.

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Speech
PM speech on EU reform: 2 February 2016

From: Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street and The Rt Hon David Cameron MP
Delivered on: 2 February 2016 (Transcript of the speech, exactly as it was delivered)
Location: Siemens Headquarters, Wiltshire
First published: 2 February 2016

David Cameron spoke at Siemens headquarters on EU reform, after the publication of draft negotiating text by the European Council President.

 European Council

Brussels, 8 February 2016
(OR_en)
EUCO 15/16
LIMITE
JUR 64

OPINION OF THE LEGAL COUNSEL
Subject: Draft Decision of the Heads of State or Government, meeting within the European Council, concerning a new settlement for the United Kingdom within the European Union (doc. EUCO 4/16)
- Form, legal nature, legal effects and conformity with the EU Treaties

 HOUSE OF COMMONS LIBRARY

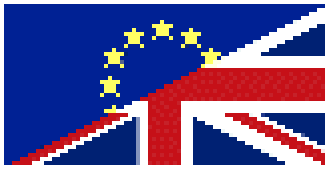
BRIEFING PAPER
Number 7497, 9 February 2016

UK's EU reform negotiations: the Tusk package
By Vaughne Miller

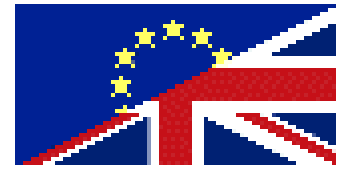
Inside:
1. Progress in negotiations
2. The Tusk package
3. Action by the UK Government and Parliament
4. Reaction to Presidency drafts
5. Referendum campaigns and opinion polls

+ UK PM David Cameron has [meetings](#) with Presidents of the European Commission and European Parliament, 29 January 2016, and [meeting](#) with President of the European Council, 31 January 2016
+ President of European Council, Donald Tusk, circulates [details](#) of a draft settlement to EU Member States, 2 February 2016

EU reform - UK negotiates with EU and other Member States 2016



The United Kingdom and the European Union



 **European Council**
Council of the European Union

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Home > Meetings > European Council, 18-19/02/2016

European Council

affairs & international relations

European Council, 18-19/02/2016

European Council | 18-19/02/2016 | Brussels | Chaired by Donald Tusk

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[Policies](#) [Publications](#) [Consultations](#) [Statistics](#) [Announcements](#)

Speech

PM's statement following European Council meeting: 19 February 2016

From: Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street and The Rt Hon David Cameron MP
Delivered on: 19 February 2016 (Transcript of the speech, exactly as it was delivered)
First published: 20 February 2016

THE CONVERSATION
Academic rigour, journalistic fair

Arts + Culture Business + Economy Education Environment + Energy Health + Medicine **Politics + Society** Science + Tech

The UK deal with the EU explained: what it says and what it means

February 20, 2016 4:11pm GMT


What did the UK achieve in its EU renegotiation?

The UK Government has now wrapped up its EU renegotiation ahead of the referendum. Open Europe lays out its take on the renegotiation and sets this in the broader context of the UK's position in the EU and the upcoming referendum.

Source: EU Referendum, EU Reform, UK Politics


The EU deal Full Facts

Home | Europe | The EU deal



What's in the EU renegotiation deal?

The Prime Minister's renegotiation deal on the UK's European Union membership is a package of changes to EU rules. It was agreed by European leaders on 19 February 2016. There's been a great deal of speculation about whether the changes in the EU deal are significant and, separately, whether the deal itself will stick. As these are first and foremost legal questions, we've asked impartial legal experts from leading universities to answer them.

 **European Council**

Brussels, 19 February 2016 (OR. en)

EUCO 1/16

CO EUR 1
CONCL 1

COVER NOTE

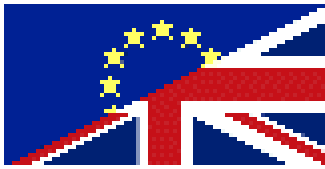
From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations
Subject: European Council meeting (18 and 19 February 2016) – Conclusions

+ EU countries **react** to the Tusk proposals for a new settlement for the UK within the EU, February 2016

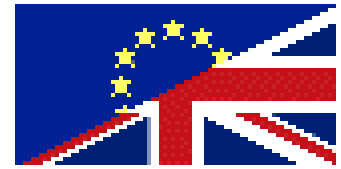
+ **European Council, Brussels, 18-19 February 2016**

Find more information in **ESO** on the lead-up, negotiations at, and implications of the decisions relating to the EU settlement with the UK at the European Council, 18-19 February 2016

UK negotiates with EU and other Member States – European Council, 18-19 February 2016



The United Kingdom and the European Union



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Speech
PM's statement following Cabinet meeting on EU settlement: 20 February 2016

From: Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street and The Rt Hon David Cameron MP
 Delivered on: 20 February 2016 (Transcript of the speech, exactly as it was delivered)
 Location: Downing Street
 First published: 20 February 2016

The PM made a statement in Downing Street today following a Cabinet meeting on Britain's new settlement with the European Union.

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Oral statement to Parliament
PM Commons statement on EU reform and referendum: 22 February 2016

From: Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street and The Rt Hon David Cameron MP
 Delivered on: 22 February 2016
 Location: House of Commons
 First published: 22 February 2016

The Prime Minister made a statement in the House of Commons on the UK's new special status in the EU and the in-out referendum on 23 June.

- + UK Prime Minister David Cameron holds special Cabinet meeting, 20 February 2016 to report back on outcome of the [European Council, 18-19 February 2016](#). 23 June 2016 is announced as the date of the EU referendum.
- + UK Govt publish a series of Policy Papers in March-April 2016
- + Find more information in [ESO](#)

HM Government

The best of both worlds:
 the United Kingdom's
 special status in a reformed
 European Union

HM Government

The process for
 withdrawing from
 the European Union

On 9/16

HM Government

HM Treasury analysis:
 the long-term economic
 impact of EU membership
 and the alternatives

On 9/16 April 2016

HM Government

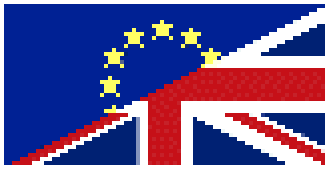
Rights and obligations
 of European Union
 membership

April 2016

HM Government

Alternatives to membership:
 possible models for the
 United Kingdom outside
 the European Union

David Cameron announces the date of the EU referendum – the campaign begins



The United Kingdom and the European Union



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Topic
EU referendum

On Thursday 23 June 2016 there will be a referendum. It's your opportunity to decide if the UK remains in the EU.

The government believes that the UK will be stronger, safer and better off by remaining as a member of a reformed European Union. On this page you'll find information about the referendum.

[EU referendum - find out more.](#)

On Thursday 23rd June 2016 the UK will vote either to remain in or leave the European Union.

Find out why the Government believes we should remain

Register to vote
Register to vote with a quick online form

EU referendum leaflet
Read online or download your copy now

Jobs and trade
Our EU membership helps strengthen the UK's economy

UK/EU Passports
UK Border
Safety and security
EU membership keeps us safer

Improving our lives

What happens if we leave?
Voting to leave the EU could result in 10 years or more of uncertainty

What is the EU?
Find out more about the EU and the Single Market

Websites from the UK Government arguing the case to remain in the EU

GOV.UK

Speech
PM speech at Vauxhall on the EU referendum: 10 March 2016

From: Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street and The Rt Hon David Cameron MP
Delivered on: 10 March 2016 (Original script, may differ from delivered version)
First published: 10 March 2016
Part of: EU referendum

The Prime Minister gave a speech setting out the economic arguments why the UK should remain in the European Union.

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Speech
Nicky Morgan: leaving the EU risks a lost generation

From: Department for Education and The Rt Hon Nicky Morgan MP
Delivered on: 29 March 2016 (Original script, may differ from delivered version)
Location: The Fashion Retail Academy, London
First published: 29 March 2016
Part of: EU referendum and Young people

GOV.UK

Press release
PM: Northern Ireland is better off in a reformed EU

From: Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street, The Rt Hon David Cameron MP
Delivered on: 17 April 2016 (Original script, may differ from delivered version)
First published: 17 April 2016
Part of: Post-Brexit industry and further relationships

The Prime Minister said that more than 60% of Northern Ireland's exports go to the EU, and around 40% of its investment comes from the EU.

GOV.UK

Speech
PM speech at PwC on economic security in the EU: 5 April 2016

From: Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street and The Rt Hon David Cameron MP
Delivered on: 5 April 2016 (Original script, may differ from delivered version)
Location: PwC, Birmingham
First published: 6 April 2016
Part of: EU referendum, Economic single market, Environment and Energy and Invest in research

The Prime Minister spoke on the UK's economic security within the EU and answered questions at PricewaterhouseCoopers in Birmingham.

GOV.UK

Speech
PM speech at O2 on the EU referendum: 23 February 2016

From: Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street and The Rt Hon David Cameron MP
Delivered on: 23 February 2016 (Original script, may differ from delivered version)
Location: O2 Headquarters, Slough
First published: 24 February 2016

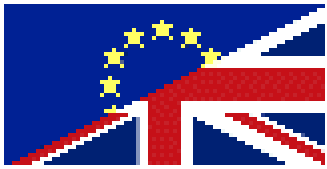
The Prime Minister spoke on why the UK should stay in a reformed EU and answered questions from staff at the O2 headquarters in Slough.

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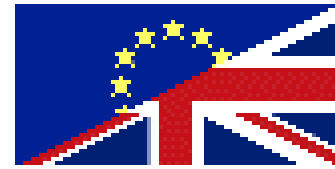
Speech
Home Secretary's speech on the UK, EU and our place in the world

From: Home Office and The Rt Hon Theresa May MP
Delivered on: 25 April 2016 (Original script, may differ from delivered version)
Location: London
First published: 25 April 2016

UK Government campaigns to 'remain' in the EU



The United Kingdom and the European Union



Lords Select Committee

Government should focus on positive vision for future EU reform

European Union Committee

9th Report of Session 2015–16

The EU referendum and EU reform

Ordered to be printed 22 March 2016 and published 30 March 2016

Published by the Authority of the House of Lords
London: The Stationery Office Limited
£price

HL Paper 122

House of Commons
European Scrutiny Committee

UK Government's renegotiation of EU membership: Parliamentary Sovereignty and Scrutiny

Fourteenth Report of Session 2015–16

HOUSE OF LORDS

Science and Technology Select Committee

2nd Report of Session 2015–16

EU membership and UK science

Ordered to be printed 12 April 2016 and published 20 April 2016

Published by the Authority of the House of Lords

HL Paper 127

House of Commons
Environmental Audit Committee

EU and UK Environmental Policy

Third Report of Session 2015–16

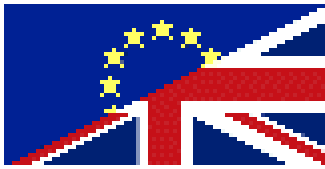
HC 537

Commons Select Committee

Committee publishes its Legal Opinions, and legal note on the outcome of the UK renegotiations



Information sources from UK Parliament: EU Committees



The United Kingdom and the European Union



HOUSE OF COMMONS LIBRARY

BRIEFING PAPER
Number 7524, 18 March 2016

EU Referendum: summary and analysis of the new Settlement for the UK in the EU

By Arabella Lang, Vaughne Miller, Daniel Harari, Steven Kennedy, Melanie Gover

Issues:
1. European Council Conclusions
2. Legal binding and irreversibility
3. The settlement
4. How will the settlement be implemented?

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Publications & records
Research publications
EU referendum 2016

Background to the UK's EU referendum

The UK's EU referendum 2016 explained

The Commons Library produces briefing papers which set out the background and stages of the UK's referendum for remaining in or leaving the European Union.

This page highlights the analysis and comment on the in-out referendum and presents an impartial view of the different arguments and opinions. It offers information on potential "Brexit" and on remaining in the EU.

EU Referendum: News from the Commons

18 March 2016

A referendum on whether the United Kingdom should remain in the European Union will take place on Thursday 23 June 2016.

This page lists recent debates in the House of Commons relating to the EU referendum.

HOUSE OF COMMONS LIBRARY

BRIEFING PAPER
Number 7570, 22 April 2016

Referendums on the European Union

By Vaughne Miller

House of Commons Library is producing many informative sources on the EU referendum and the Brexit debate

HOUSE OF COMMONS LIBRARY

BRIEFING PAPER
Number 7486, 25 February 2016

The EU referendum campaign

By Eise Uberoi, Isobel White

HOUSE OF COMMONS LIBRARY

BRIEFING PAPER
Number 07213, 12 February 2016

Exiting the EU: impact in key UK policy areas

Edited by Vaughne Miller

Issues:
1. Introduction
2. Trade relations
3. Other economic impacts of Brexit
4. Agriculture
5. Fisheries
6. Customs and Excise Policy
7. Investment
8. Trade and Customs Change
9. International development
10. Transport
11. Immigration
12. Nuclear safety
13. Energy security
14. Nuclear safety and medicines
15. Higher education
16. Nuclear safety
17. International law
18. Foreign and Commonwealth Office
19. Foreign and Commonwealth Office
20. Foreign and Commonwealth Office
21. The devolved legislatures

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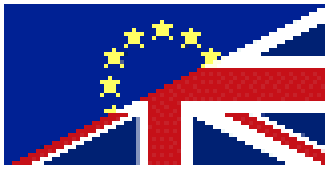
BRIEFING PAPER
Number 7551, 8 April 2016

EU Referendum: the process of leaving the EU

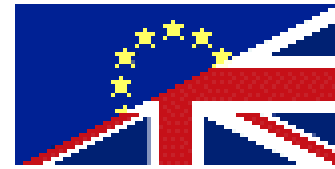
By Vaughne Miller

Issues:
1. Treaty basis for EU withdrawal
2. The withdrawal process
3. The withdrawal agreement
4. Details of EU law the UK has implemented
5. Further reading

Information sources from UK Parliament: Library



The United Kingdom and the European Union



Labour

LabourPress

Jeremy Corbyn Leader of the Labour Party
Speech to Senate House

Jeremy Corbyn Leader of the Labour Party

Speech to Senate House 14 April 2016

What is the SNP's position on the EU?

The SNP believes that membership of Europe Union is in Scotland's best interests. There are a huge number of benefits for Scotland from EU membership including that the EU is the main destination for Scotland's international exports and as citizens of the EU we are able to travel freely throughout Europe – for work, study or travel – without the need for visas. The SNP doesn't believe the EU is perfect and agree that it needs reform but the SNP wants Scotland to have a louder voice in Europe - an increased contribution to EU policy making and an opportunity to be part of discussions about reform, rather than becoming even more distant by removing ourselves altogether.

Liberal Democrats



#INtogether



Cymru yn Ewrop | **Wales in Europe**

Wales's "natural home" is in Europe

Jill Evans MEP launches Plaid Cymru's campaign to secure the UK's continued membership of the European Union

[Click here](#)

BRITAIN IN EUROPE:



Greens FOR A BETTER EUROPE

FAIRER, SAFER, GREENER

#GREENEU

SAY NO



TO THE EU and EURO

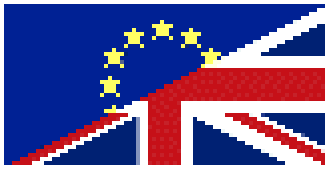
PROTECT our HERITAGE

CONTROL our BORDERS

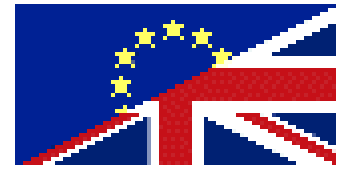
BELIEVE in BRITAIN

Information sources from the UK political parties

[Splinter groups are listed on the Remain and Leave pages]



The United Kingdom and the European Union



Vote Leave, take control

BRITAIN STRONGER IN EUROPE

The Electoral Commission
The independent elections watchdog and regulator of party and election finance

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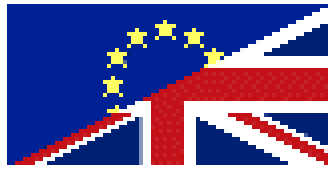
EU referendum national count event

Home -- Journalist --
Electoral Commission designates 'Vote Leave Ltd' and 'The In Campaign Ltd' as lead campaigners at EU Referendum

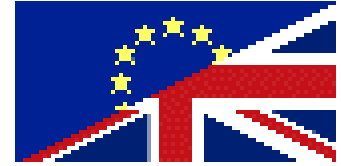
Electoral Commission designates 'Vote Leave Ltd' and 'The In Campaign Ltd' as lead campaigners at EU Referendum

News release published: 13-04-2016

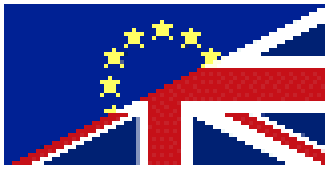
Information sources from the 'lead' campaign groups



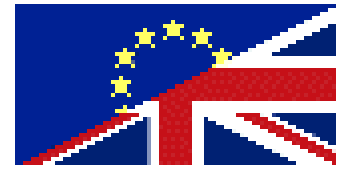
The United Kingdom and the European Union



Campaigning to remain in the EU...



The United Kingdom and the European Union



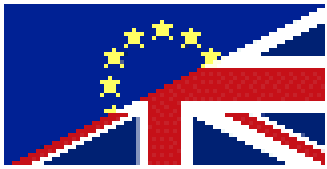
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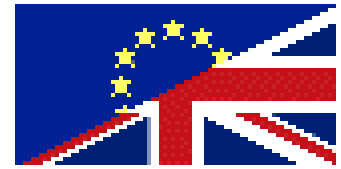
IN
FACTS



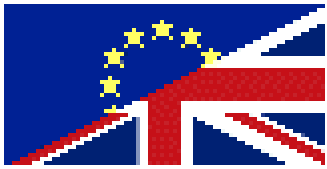
Campaigning to remain in the EU...



The United Kingdom and the European Union



Campaigning to leave the EU...



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LAWYERS
— *for* —
BRITAIN

BeLeave 

WOMEN
— *for* —
BRITAIN

FARMERS
— *for* —
BRITAIN

OUT & PROUD

MUSLIMS
— *for* —
BRITAIN

CHRISTIANS
— *for* —
BRITAIN

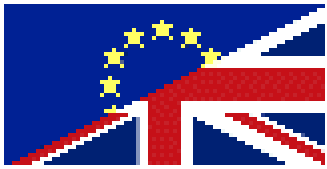
VETERANS
— *for* —
BRITAIN

BANGLADESH
— *for* —
BRITAIN

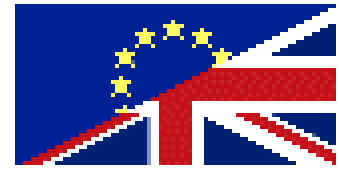


KIWIS
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Campaigning to leave the EU...



The United Kingdom and the European Union



June 2014

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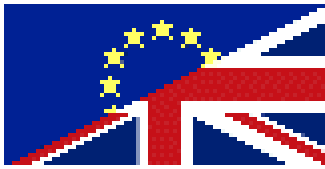
"Would I be unhappy if we came out? Yes. Do I think it would be bad for Britain? Yes."

~: Sir Stuart Rose, Chairman of Ocado who led Marks and Spencer's for seven years



 Senior European Experts

Stakeholders and interests : The UK should stay in the EU



The United Kingdom and the European Union



Business for New Europe

Putting the UK at the centre of an open and competitive Europe



Universities' impact on the UK economy and society: five reasons why European Union membership matters

EU membership is key to the global success of British universities and their contribution to the UK economy and society.

UK universities' global success depends on sharing knowledge within the EU, and with the rest of the world. The EU is the largest knowledge economy in the world, with over £400 billion in high-tech exports in 2012 alone compared to €95 billion for the United States.

Being part of the EU enables the UK to enhance its visibility, influence and attractiveness in the increasingly competitive global marketplace for research contracts, international students and staff.

The graphene research project at the University of Manchester received EU start-up funding in 2007. The researchers subsequently won a Nobel Prize in 2010 and secured further funding for graphene research and development from the UK government. It is estimated that graphene's global market will be worth more than £256m by 2024.

EU partnerships enhance the impact and competitiveness of the UK's world-leading research.

The EU allows British universities' researchers to achieve more through combining their resources, talent, infrastructure and data in large-scale transnational research projects.

Through its networks and ready-made frameworks, the EU makes it quicker and easier for European researchers to connect and work together.

Internationally co-authored work has greater impact than work done in a single country or by one university alone, and 65% of the UK's top 20 research partners are other EU countries.

16 countries, including 11 from the EU and the universities of Oxford, Stirling and the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, participated in the EU-funded Ebola+ research programme. It is part of the Innovative Medicines Initiative to tackle diseases such as Alzheimer's, cancer and obesity. The Initiative was funded by the EU, with £1.93bn from the FP7 and Horizon 2020 programmes since 2008.

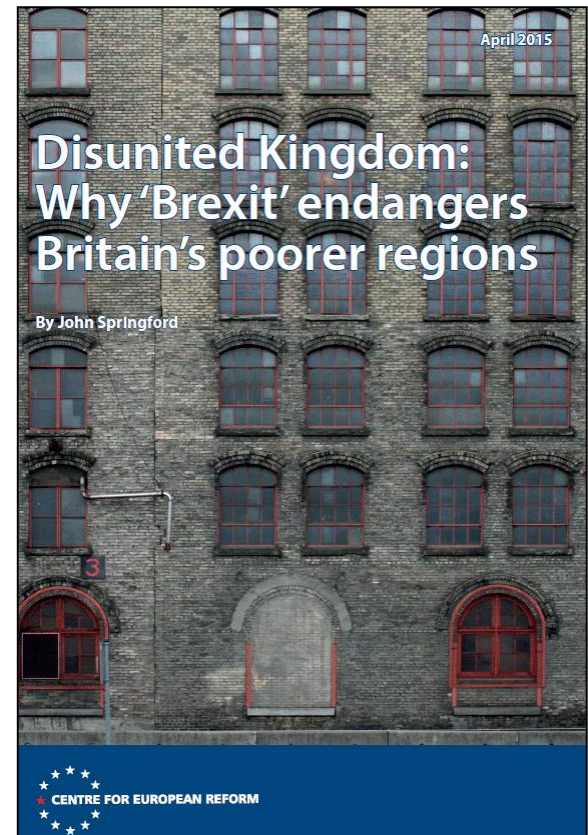
Free movement of students and staff within the EU benefits the UK economy and universities.

In 2012-13 there were 125,290 EU students studying in the UK - 6% of all students studying at UK universities - generating £2.27 billion for the UK economy and 19,000 jobs. After they graduate, many will go on to positions of power in their home countries, with positive effects for the UK's soft power and trading relationships.

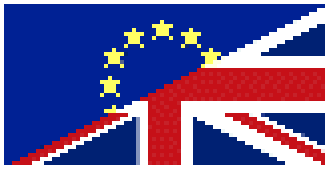
The Erasmus exchange programme is the single largest source of support for UK students wishing to study or work abroad. Erasmus students do better academically, are more likely to start their own companies and are 50% less likely to experience long-term unemployment than those who have not studied or trained abroad.

The EU also enables the internationalisation of the higher education workforce. 14% of academic staff in UK universities are from the EU, contributing to the talent pool and cultural diversity of UK education.

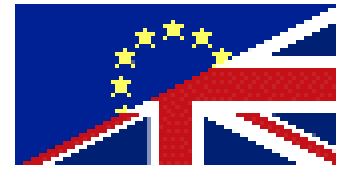
The EU's €11 billion Erasmus+ programme promotes student and staff exchange in Europe and beyond as well as the development of joint programmes, joint research, university-business cooperation and international capacity building.



Stakeholders and interests : The UK should stay in the EU



The United Kingdom and the European Union



Leaving EU poses “very significant risks” to UK’s future TheCityUK reports provide critical analysis of the Economic case for UK’s EU membership and Legal implications of alternatives

Published 27/04/2014

Two new reports commissioned by TheCityUK show that leaving the EU poses very significant risks to the UK’s future, undermining economic well-being and the ability of business to grow and compete in world markets. The research also reveals that the EU has a positive impact on driving UK trade, high productivity and growth.

MAYOR OF LONDON

THE EUROPE REPORT: A WIN-WIN SITUATION

AUGUST 2014

POLITICO

City of London skyline | Dan Kitwood/Getty

Brexit and the City

Take the City out of Europe and there won't be much left of its current global luster, warn London-based bankers and financiers.

By PIERRE BRIANÇON | 10/6/15, 5:30 AM CET | Updated 10/6/15, 6:47 AM CET

LONDON — It's a strange world when you can't trust a conservative UK government to defend the global interests of the City of London.

And that's why the financial industry isn't bothering to wait for talks between Prime Minister David Cameron and his European partners to state clearly on which side it will stand on a referendum on the UK's European Union membership: a resounding, unqualified “yes” for staying in, whatever the outcome of London's attempt to reform the way Europe works.

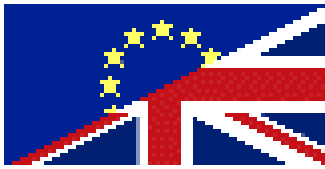
May 2014

The consequences of Brexit for the City of London

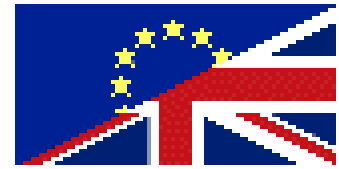
By John Springford and Philip Whyte

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN REFORM

Stakeholders and interests : The City of London



The United Kingdom and the European Union



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The European Union is one of the world's major trading and political entities, and as such plays a major role in the lives of working people. EU legislation is central to UK labour laws, equality and health and safety. The TUC pursues the interests of working people through the European Trade Union Confederation (see the ETUC website for more trade union policies on Europe), through the social dialogue with European employers, through the Economic and Social Committee, and through representations to the institutions of the EU – the European Parliament, the European Commission, the Council of Ministers and the British government. You can read about what the TUC has been doing in Europe in the annual General Council Report to Congress.

The TUC has an office in Brussels and a European Network that brings together the European officers of affiliated trade unions. In particular, the TUC wants to see the European trade union movement develop an organising strategy to address lobbying membership.

CBI
THE VOICE OF BUSINESS

CHOOSING OUR FUTURE
WHY THE EUROPEAN UNION IS GOOD FOR BUSINESS,
BUT HOW IT SHOULD BE BETTER

A road sign graphic showing a white triangle with a red border and a black cross in the center, set against a blue background.

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GE2015: The IoD's Key Priorities for EU Reform

Allie Renison, Head of Europe and Trade Policy

Introduction

The European Union is certain to remain an area of considerable political and economic importance throughout the next Parliament. The rise of UKIP and continuing question around an in/out referendum will ensure this. Furthermore, the UK's economic prospects have to be seen against a backdrop of the continuing weaknesses and uncertainty in the Eurozone. For IoD members, reforming the EU's output and policymaking process now is the top priority.

The IoD's recommended basic principles for EU reform:

1. Strengthen the Better Regulation Agenda in Europe to create the right conditions for business and competitiveness to flourish so jobs and growth can be achieved
2. Maximise engagement on EU policy both at home and abroad
3. Put the Single Market at the top of the EU's Work Programme
4. Ensure policy and institutional change are on an even footing

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UK EU renegotiation strategy

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Implications for the
UK economy**

PwC
March 2016

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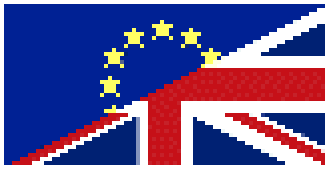
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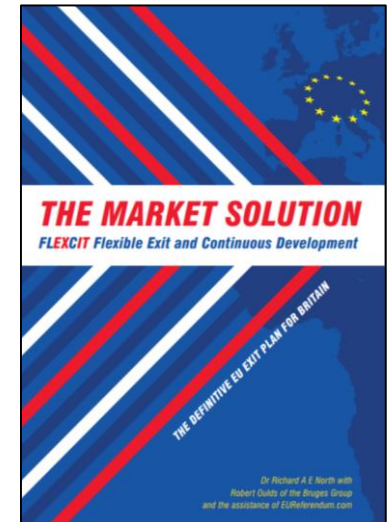
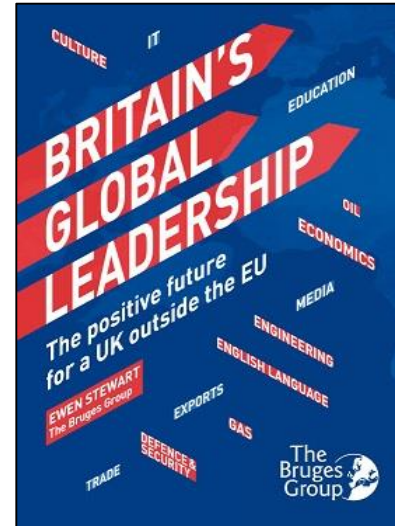
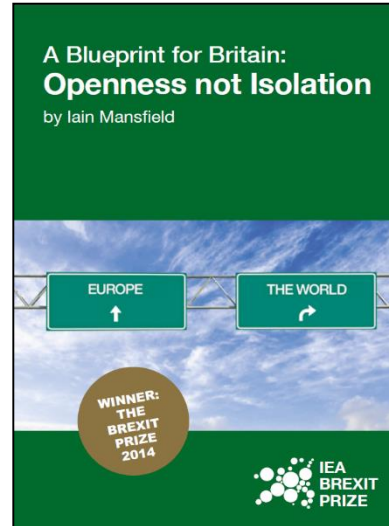
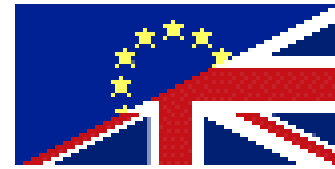
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10 Aug 2015 03:20 | Written by Jon Barker | Category: Features | Hits: 128

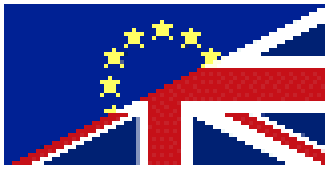
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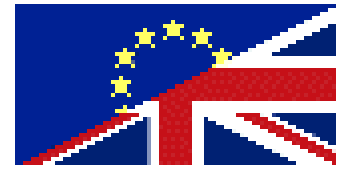
The United Kingdom and the European Union



Stakeholders and interests : The UK should leave the EU




The United Kingdom and the European Union



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Nigel Lawson on the Case for Brexit

The former chancellor outlined the political and economic reasons why he believes national sovereignty is incompatible with continued UK membership of the European Union.

The EU Threat to Democracy and Liberty

Philip Vander Elst
The Bruges Group



The Bruges Group

TACKLING THE EU EMPIRE

Basic critical facts on the EU/Eurozone

A handbook for Europe's democrats, whether on the political Right, Left or Centre



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BREXIT



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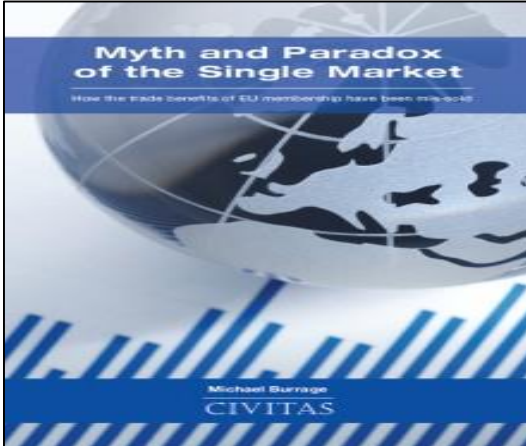
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Myth and Paradox of the Single Market

How the trade benefits of EU membership have been mis-sold



Michael Burridge
CIVITAS

BREXIT

Issue 10 | February 2016



"This thin gruel has been further watered down" – The Mogg savages Cameron

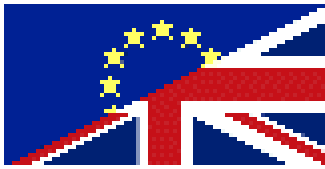


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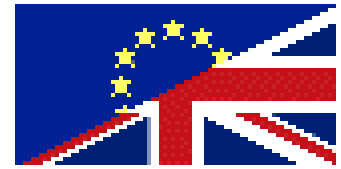
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Stakeholders and interests : The UK should leave the EU



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Expert insight into EU law developments

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Sunday, 29 November 2015

The EU or the Commonwealth: a dilemma for the UK – or a false choice?



Steve Peers

The United Kingdom has its finger in many pies: the EU, NATO, the United Nations Security Council and the Commonwealth, to name just a few. Of these, the Commonwealth – which has just finished its latest summit meeting – obviously has the closest specific link to British culture and history, since it's mainly comprised of our former colonies. (A few Commonwealth members are not former colonies, and some obscure ex-colonies like the USA chose not to join. For a full list of members, see here).

The UK in a Changing Europe

11 December 2015

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Key characteristics of EU migrant citizens in the UK

In the earlier years of the European Union, the number of citizens of EU Member States exercising their right to work and live in another Member State remained low. However, in the last couple of decades an improved legal framework for EU migrant citizens, improved access to higher education, educational mobility programmes, and starkly uneven economic and employment opportunities have facilitated an increase in intra-EU migration. Overall numbers of EU citizens moving from their country of origin to another Member State nonetheless remain relatively small.

In January 2014, the UK had one of the highest overall numbers of EU migrant citizens, as a percentage of the national population (4.1%), however, the UK's population of EU migrant citizens ranks behind Luxembourg (39%), Cyprus (12.1%), Ireland (8.1%), Belgium (7.4%), Austria (6.1%), and Spain (4.3%) [Eurostat data, January 2014](#)

Source: Eurostat
%: provisional

Legend: ■ Citizens of non-member countries ■ Citizens of other EU Member States

Figures produced by the UK's Office for National Statistics (ONS) estimate that by the end of 2014 there were just over 3 million EU migrant citizens living in the UK, of which just over 50% originate from the 'new' EU Member States, with the remainder coming from those states

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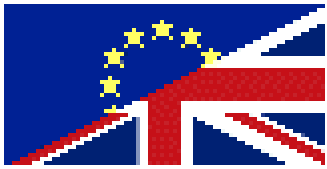
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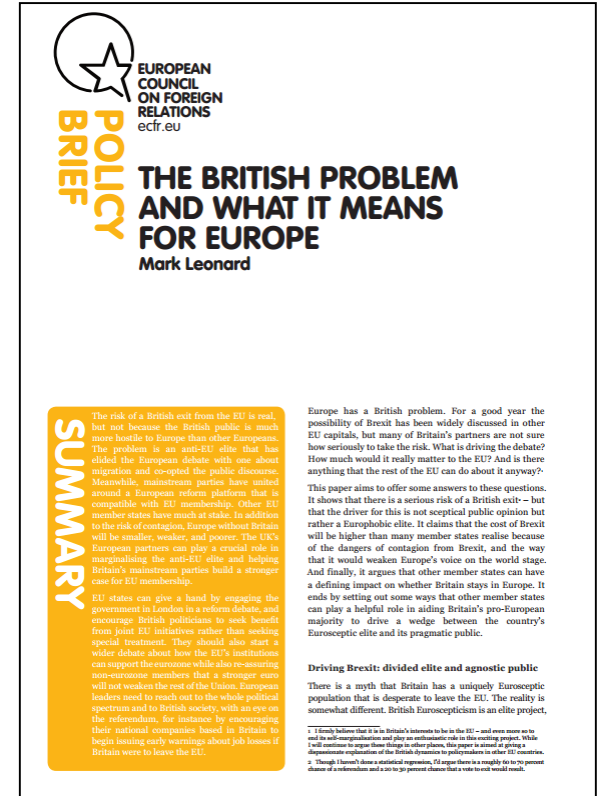
Swati Dhingra, Gianmarco Ottaviano and Thomas Sampson

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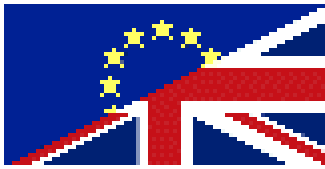
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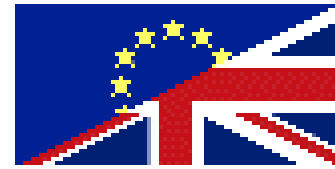
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Stakeholders and interests : The debate continues ...



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THE EUROPE REPORT: A WIN-WIN SITUATION

AUGUST 2014

Deutsche Bank
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EU Monitor
European Integration

September 15, 2014

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DB Research Management
Ralf Hoffmann

A future in the EU?

Reconciling the 'Brexit' debate with a more modern EU

The future of the British EU membership has become one of the most pressing concerns for the EU. Although member states will try – within limits – to accommodate British demands, Prime Minister Cameron's ambivalent strategy leaves many open questions.

The EU-British relationship has always been one of special character but a number of recent developments have led to a 'Brexit' gaining momentum. The UK's veto on the Fiscal Compact, Cameron's promise to hold a referendum on EU membership and the success of the eurosceptic UKIP party in the European elections, have further accrued tensions. With growing euroscepticism in the UK but also elsewhere in Europe, the political reality requires a targeted and joint European action.

Some of the British demands are legitimate calls for an EU reform. There is broad agreement on the necessity of an EU agenda for growth, competitiveness and fairness. Completing the Single Market and opening the EU to global competition are British priorities which overlap with the European roadmap anyway. Common ground among member states also exists on the necessity of cutting "EU red tape" and of reassessing EU competences.

Yet a broader tug-of-war will emerge around those British reform demands which target the EU's basic principles at its core. There will be little room for manoeuvre in policy areas which destabilise the institutional interplay and fundamental principles such as the free movement of people.

Only the UK itself will be able to rationalise the domestic debate on EU membership. Although EU member states are favourable to some reform demands, possible concessions will not suffice to appease British eurosceptic hardliners. For a constructive EU reform, the UK government needs to detail its reform suggestions and engage in a more pan-European rhetoric.

Economically, Britain and the EU are inextricably linked. Realistic estimates predict losses in the range of 1 to 3% of British GDP in case of a Brexit. Likewise, the Single Market would shrink by 15%. Thus, it would be in the EU member states' own interest to demonstrate political will to address the British concerns. The German government repeatedly pointed to the valuable British influence in the EU. Despite Britain being a difficult partner, they share common values and remain indispensable partners.

POLICY PAPER 129 30 MARCH 2015

CAMERON: TAKING A GAMBLE ON EUROPE

Alain Dauvergne | Adviser at the Jacques Delors Institute



SUMMARY

In an address given on 23 January 2013, David Cameron undertook to organise a referendum by the end of 2017 to decide whether the United Kingdom should remain within or withdraw from the European Union, should he remain the British Prime Minister after the general election on 7 May 2015.

Due to this public commitment, the general election of 7 May 2015 will take on a scale that, going beyond the importance of domestic politics, will directly affect the European Union (EU) and all of the United Kingdom's twenty-seven partners.

Through this promise, the Prime Minister mainly strove to stop or slow the rise of UKIP (United Kingdom Independence Party) which:

- champions a UK exit from the EU,
- has recorded steadily rising electoral results,
- and which polls credit with some 16% of voting intentions.

On the assumption that a referendum is held, Cameron intends to campaign to keep the UK within the EU, provided that he can first obtain a modification to the European treaties which would confer a special status on the United Kingdom. The negotiations that he intends to launch in this respect will focus in particular on:

- the free movement of people in Europe, and specifically migrants' entitlement to benefits,
- relations between Member States which have not adopted the Euro and members of the Euro area,
- and the removal of the objective stated in the treaties of an "ever closer union between the peoples of Europe".

CAMERON INTENDS TO CAMPAIGN TO KEEP THE UK WITHIN THE EU PROVIDED THAT HE CAN FIRST OBTAIN A SPECIAL STATUS*

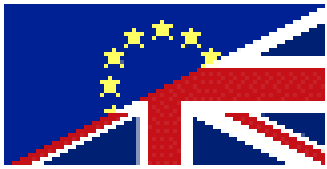
While he may hope to find some allies on some of the points he raises, the negotiation will be difficult, even perilous for Cameron. By his own admission, the changes that he calls for would require a modification of the existing treaties. To do this, he would need the unanimous agreement of all twenty-eight Member States. A seemingly impossible challenge.

A Conservative victory on 7 May 2015 is not guaranteed. Far from it. The Labour party is currently neck and neck with the Conservatives in the polls, even slightly ahead. In addition, UKIP's progression, which takes voters away from both major parties, is likely to make the difference.

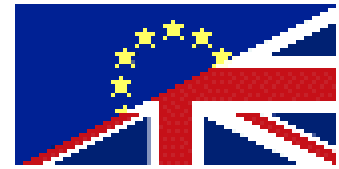
Should Labour win, a referendum will not be held: Labour leader Ed Miliband has said that he has no intention to hold one, unless there were further transfers of power within the Union. Cameron, however, will not be able to back out should he stay at 10 Downing Street. Should he try, UKIP would do its utmost to prevent him. Yet the stakes are high in the political gamble that he is preparing to take: while they want the UK to remain within the Union, his partners are not willing to make major concessions. Cameron also faces explicit misgivings from Washington.

Brexit – a contraction of British exit – is not a foregone conclusion. Yet it is a possibility. This is a crucial issue for Europe.

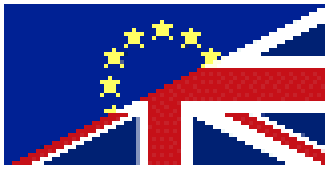
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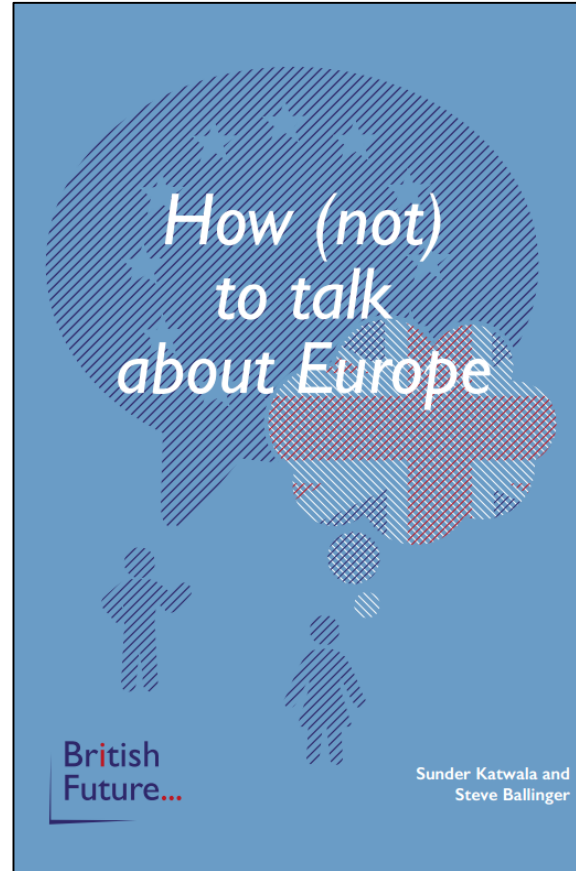
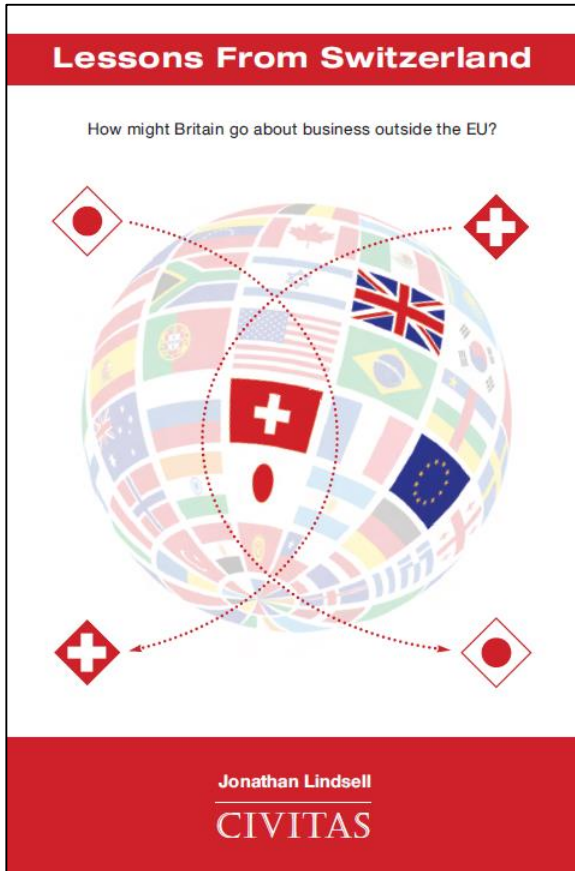
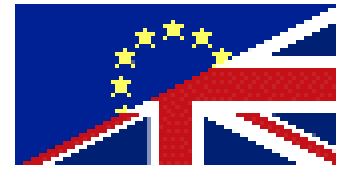
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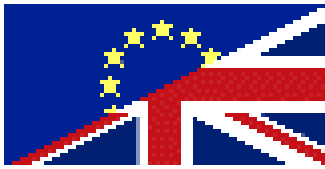
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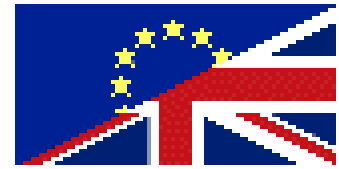
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Stakeholders and interests : The debate continues ...



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#EUWargames – Open Europe’s simulated UK-EU negotiations make headlines across Europe

Tens of journalists from across Europe attended the ‘EU Wargames’, the simulated UK-EU negotiations hosted by Open Europe yesterday. Here is a first round-up of the impressive coverage the event has drawn.

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January 2016

**If the UK votes to leave
The seven alternatives to
EU membership**

By Jean-Claude Paris




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Phedon Nicolaides, Roxana Nedelescu,
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**ASSESSING
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By Johan Springford



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**The consequences of Brexit for
UK trade and living standards**

#CEPREXIT

Swati Dhingra, Gianmarco Ottaviano,
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**The UK in a
Changing Europe**

Who pays for the EU and how much does it cost the UK?

Disentangling fact from fiction in the EU Budget

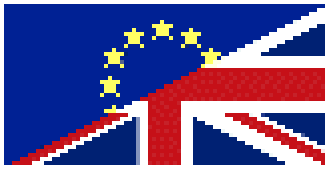
Iain Begg, London School of Economics

27 January 2016

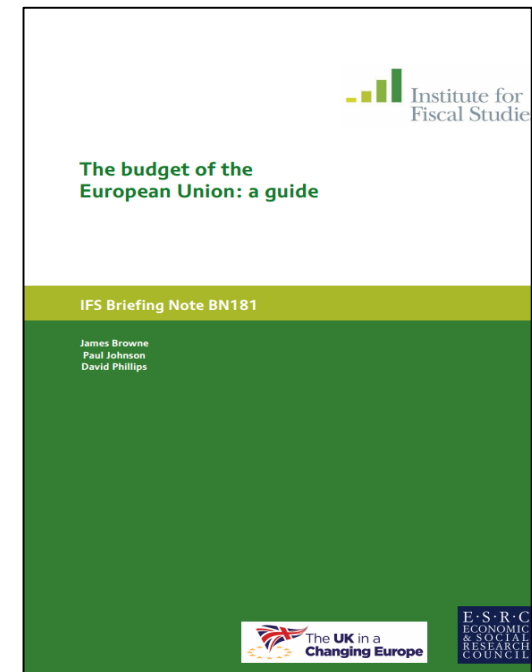
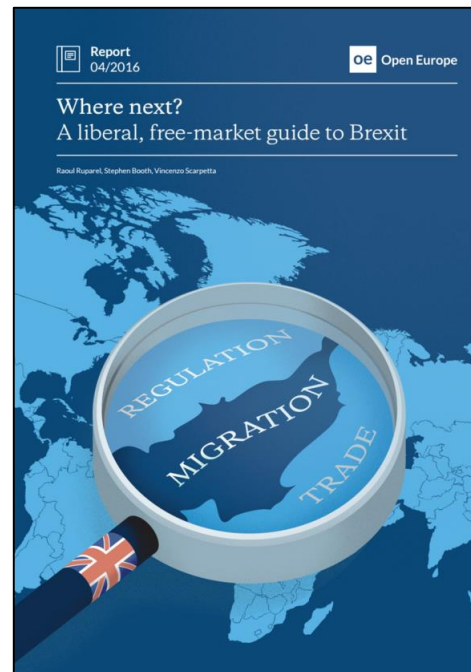
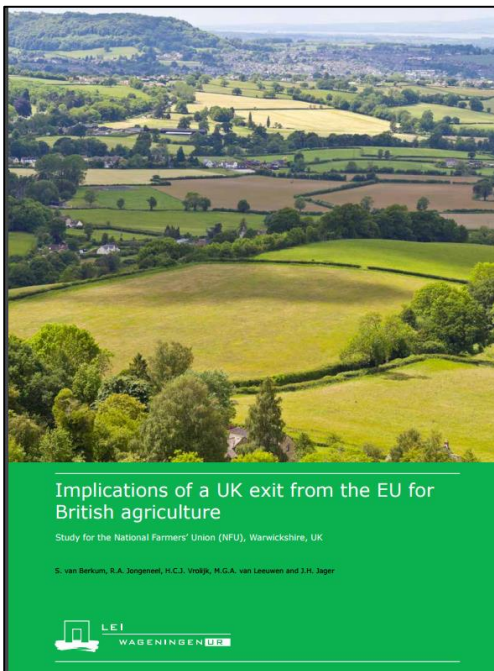
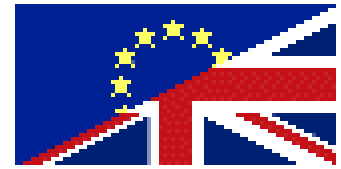
The EU budget is large, complex and politically highly charged, but it is also prone to be poorly explained and understood in much of the debate on the UK and Europe. A key reason for this is that there are many ways of presenting key measures, such as how much it costs or who gains from it, allowing protagonists on different sides of the debate to seize on particular indicators to support their case. Often, however, an opposite case can be constructed just as convincingly by using a different mix of figures, leading to confusion about the true position.

The aim of this briefing paper is both to present the facts about the revenue side of the EU budget from a UK perspective and to dispel some of the myths about it.

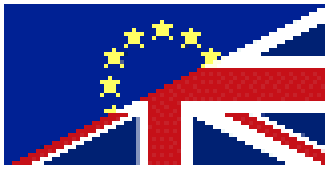
Stakeholders and interests : The debate continues ...



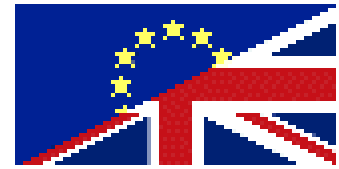
The United Kingdom and the European Union



Stakeholders and interests : The debate continues ...

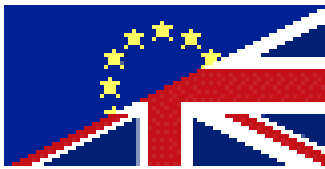


The United Kingdom and the European Union

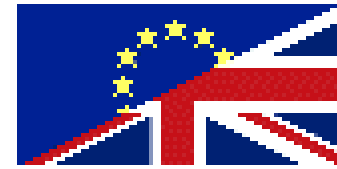


Find more information in [ESO](#) on this topic

The origin of UK law – what % from the EU?



The United Kingdom and the European Union




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Million Ideas
 Business, economy and transport
 Health, care and social

International Affairs
 What is Plaid's international vision?

7. Wales and Europe

The European Union has a major impact on the lives of people in Wales and plays an important role in our nation's prosperity.

The EU makes decisions and passes laws that affect Welsh policy interests such as business and trade, agriculture and rural development, regional development, transport and the environment.

Membership of the EU brings significant benefits to Wales. EU Structural Funds are worth around €2.4bn to Wales over the period 2014-2020. This package, together with match funding, will drive a total investment of approximately €3.7bn and will help us deliver growth and jobs. This partnership also gives us access to the EU Research and Innovation programme with nearly €80bn of funding available between 2014 - 2020.

The EU remains Wales' largest trading partner with a market of more than 500 million people, the world's largest economy in GDP terms. Access to the Single Market also forms an essential part of the Welsh offer to foreign investment.

More than 500 firms in Wales export over £5bn annually to other EU Member States and some 150,000 jobs in Wales depend on that trade. In addition, more than 450 firms from other Member States are located in Wales, employing over 50,000 people.

The Welsh Government's office in Brussels promotes and protects Welsh interests at the heart of the EU, and provides intelligence and interpretation on EU affairs where Wales has an interest.

The office also acts as a platform for networking, growing our influence and raising the profile of Wales in the European Union.

Welsh Ministers participate in the Council of Ministers and we utilise all relevant EU bodies to pursue our objectives.

In order to promote and protect Welsh interests, we identify forthcoming EU policy initiatives with a potentially positive impact on Wales and engage in those areas while also working to

Wales and the European Union: The Welsh Government's EU Strategy 2012

Wales in the World: The Welsh Government's International Agenda 17

mitigate measures that could have adverse consequences for Wales.

Among EU programmes, our priorities are:

- the Single Market to promote Trade and Investment;
- the Europe 2020 Strategy to stimulate Jobs and Growth;
- Structural Funds;
- Erasmus+;
- the Connecting Europe Facility;
- Horizon 2020: Support for Research, Development, Innovation and Science.

Areas of direct relevance to Wales include Agriculture and Fisheries, Education and Skills, Energy, Climate Change, Environment and Health.

We will maximise the benefits of EU membership for the people of Wales through the objectives set out in our EU Strategy⁴.

Welsh European Funds

Our Welsh European Funding Office (WEFO) engages directly with the European Commission over the negotiation, implementation and delivery of the EU Structural Funds Programmes in Wales, wider Cohesion Policy issues and directly managed EU programmes such as Horizon 2020.



Meeting EU Commissioner Johannes Hahn

The Telegraph

HOME > NEWS > NEWS TOPICS > EU REFERENDUM

Scottish and Welsh nationalists pledge to stop the English leaving EU

Plaid Cymru leader Leanne Wood: 'The votes in each of the countries should be added up separately and we should only pull out of the EU if all four countries want to do that'

CAPX

5 November 2015

Brexit should not be decided by the ceaseless complaints of the Scots

By Iain Martin | @iainmartin1

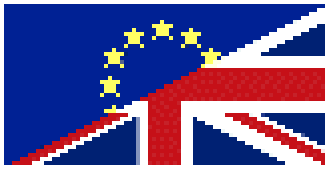
The UK in a Changing Europe

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Professor John Curtice
 26 October 2015

How the EU divides Scotland

The BREXIT Debate : Wales and Scotland



The United Kingdom and the European Union



THE CONVERSATION

Politics + Society

Divided kingdom: how England could force a Brexit, even if others vote to stay

The UK in a Changing Europe

Analysis Facts and figures Events Explainers Research papers

Author: Kirsty Hughes

Will Scotland go for a second referendum after Brexit?

The Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

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First Minister's response to agreement at the European Council

EU referendum

Northern Ireland and Welsh leaders lobby PM over EU referendum vote

First ministers in Belfast and Cardiff follow call by Nicola Sturgeon not to hold vote in June over fears it could distract from assembly elections

Frances Perraudin

The UK in a Changing Europe

Various

5 January 2016

Changing UK in a changing Europe

The UK's EU renegotiation: The devolution factor

SNP OUR VISION STAY INFORMED GET ACTIVE GROUPS ABOUT DONATE SHOP

29/01/16

All of us need to start thinking about the EU referendum

By Nicola Sturgeon

openDemocracy free thinking for the world

openDemocracy oD-UK oDR oD 50.50 Transf

Can Europe make it?

3 scenarios for the outcome of the UK's EU referendum

KIRSTY HUGHES 4 December 2015

It is quite possible that England will vote differently to all three other constituent parts of the UK. And certain that the politics won't end with the result.

About the author
Kirsty Hughes is a writer and commentator on European and

www.parliament.uk

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You are here: Parliament home page > Parliamentary business > Committees > All committees A-Z > Commons Select > Northern Ireland > Inquiries > Parliament 2015 > Northern Ireland and the EU Referendum

Northern Ireland Affairs Committee

Northern Ireland and the EU Referendum inquiry

Inquiry status: **open - accepting written submissions**

Inquiry launched Monday 18 January 2016

Scope of the inquiry

The Northern Ireland Affairs Committee launches a wide-ranging inquiry into the issues affecting Northern Ireland in respect of the

theguardian

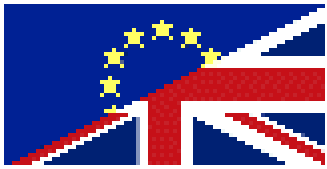
EU referendum

Sinn Féin calls for vote on Irish reunification if UK backs Brexit

Martin McGuinness says there is a 'democratic imperative' for Irish electorate to vote on issue if Britain leaves the EU after June's referendum

Henry McDonald Ireland correspondent

England – Scotland – Wales – Northern Ireland



The United Kingdom and the European Union



DGAPanalyse


Prof. Dr. Eberhard Sandschneider (Hrsg.)
Otto Wolff-Direktor des Forschungsinstituts der DGAP e.V.

September 2014, N° 18

The United Kingdom and the European Union:

What would a "Brexit" mean for the EU and other States around the World?

Edited by Almut Möller and Tim Oliver
With a foreword by Alexander Stubb

 Deutsche Gesellschaft für Auswärtige Politik e.V.

Briefing 11/2015 


EU reform heat-map:
Where do EU countries stand on the UK's EU reform demands?



Judy Asks: Will Britain Stay in the EU?

Posted by: Judy Dempsey | FEBRUARY 17, 2016

A selection of experts answer a new question from Judy Dempsey on the foreign and security policy challenges shaping Europe's role in the world.



TITHE AN OIREACHTAS

AN COMHOISTE UN GHNÓTHÁI AN AONTAIS EORPAIGH

CAIDREAMH IDIR AN RÍOCHT AONTAITHE AGUS AN TÁONTAS EORPACH SA TODHCHAÍ: NA CIALLACHAIS A GHABHANN LEIS D'ÉIRINN.

MÉITHEAMH 2015

HOUSES OF THE OIREACHTAS

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

UK/EU FUTURE RELATIONSHIP: IMPLICATIONS FOR IRELAND

JUNE 2015

BRITAIN IN EUROPE

RENEGOTIATION SCORECARD



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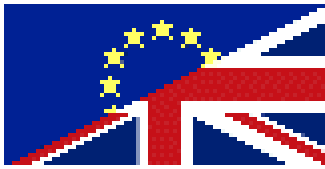
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The international perspective

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The United Kingdom and the European Union



BertelsmannStiftung TOPICS OUR PROJECTS ABOUT US PUBLICATIONS

TOPICS / BREXIT could be expensive – especially for the United Kingdom...



27.04.2015, STUDY

BREXIT could be expensive – especially for the United Kingdom...

Exiting the EU could cost the United Kingdom more than €300 billion. The remaining EU member states would only experience minor economic losses from an exit. But elections in the British House of Commons could set a course for a bitter economic and above all political setback for the entire EU.

FONDATION ROBERT SCHUMAN POLICY PAPER

European issues n°355 5th May 2015

SHOULD THE UK WITHDRAW FROM THE EU: LEGAL ASPECTS AND EFFECTS OF POSSIBLE OPTIONS

Jean-Claude PIRIS

Abstract :
The possibility that the United Kingdom (UK) might withdraw from the European Union (EU) does still look unreal to many people [1]. It has however become less unrealistic [2]. This is the case since the British Prime Minister, David Cameron, announced the holding of a referendum on the UK's membership of the EU in 2017, should his political party remain in power after the 7 May 2015 general elections.

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NEWS

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World Africa Asia Australia Europe Latin America Middle East



US President Obama urges UK not to leave EU

7 June 2015 Last updated at 22:51 BST

Barack Obama has pressed David Cameron to maintain Britain's commitment to meeting the Nato target of spending 2% of GDP on defence.

CAPX

10 June 2015

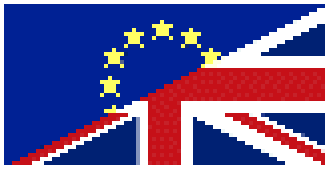
Barack Obama is wrong about Brexit

By Nile Gardner | @NileGardner

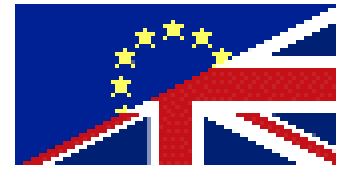


The international perspective

[More think tank articles on Brexit](#)



The United Kingdom and the European Union



European views on the UK's renegotiation, Sept-Oct 2015

- [France, the Netherlands, Slovenia and Latvia](#)
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Briefing What Think Tanks are thinking 19 February 2016

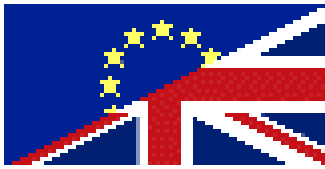


The United Kingdom and the European Union

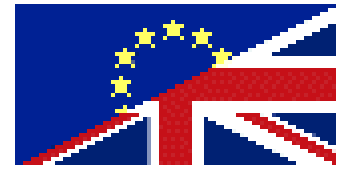
European Union leaders meet on 18-19 February to discuss Prime Minister David Cameron's renegotiation of the United Kingdom's EU membership, ahead of an in-or-out referendum on the outcome.

This note provides links to recent **commentaries, studies, reports and books** from major think tanks on Britain's relations with the EU and renegotiation of the terms of the country's membership.





The United Kingdom and the European Union



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Views on the UK's renegotiation: Russia, Ukraine and Turkey

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Ignacio Molina, del 7think ta
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España es el país de la UE q
El Gobierno cierra un acuerd

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Beijing drops hint it would like UK to stay in EU

the guardian

US warns Britain: If you leave EU you face barriers to trading with America

Trade representative Michael Froman says UK would face same tariffs and barriers as China, Brazil or India in the event of Brexit

THE CONVERSATION

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What might a 'Brexit' mean for the Anglosphere — and Australia?

News

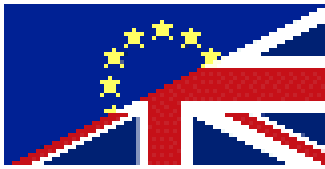
As your friend, let me say that the EU makes Britain even greater

BARACK OBAMA
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

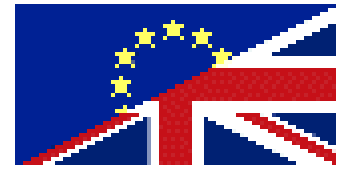
21 APRIL 2016 • 10:30PM

[US, Obama and BREXIT](#)

The international perspective – Non-EU countries



The United Kingdom and the European Union



CEPS SPECIAL REPORT



Thinking ahead for Europe

The EU deal to avoid Brexit: Take it or leave

Stefani Weiss and Steven Blockmans

No. 131 / February 2016

Abstract

Beyond the drama of the European Council summit of 18-19 February 2016, what became clear was the fundamental desire on the part of the leaders of all 28 EU member states to agree a deal on the British government's demands for a renegotiated settlement on the UK's relationship within the European Union. The deal has provided David Cameron with the political capital he needed to call a date for the in/out referendum and to lead a campaign for the UK to stay in the EU. Yet, for all the technical reforms packed into it, the deal is neither a crowd pleaser nor a vote winner. It does, however, mark a watershed acknowledgement that EU integration is not a one-directional process of 'ever closer union'. Different paths of integration are now open to member states that do not compel them towards a common destination. This deal will effectively lead to a legally binding recognition that the UK is not committed to further political integration in the EU.

In this Special Report, Stefani Weiss and Steven Blockmans analyse the substance of the "Decision of the Heads of State or Government, meeting within the European Council, concerning a New Settlement for the United Kingdom within the European Union" and shed light on its legal character. They do so by contextualising this EU deal to avoid Brexit, and draw on the conclusions reached in a simulation of European Council negotiations between representatives of think tanks in the European Policy Institutes Network (EPIN), conducted by CEPS and the Bertelsmann Stiftung in October 2015.



Post-Summit Commentary

22 February 2016

Brexit averted through EU reform?

Fabian Zuleeg

After some drama, the EU Summit produced the expected result: an agreement on the UK-EU relationship that broadly reflects the demands Prime Minister Cameron set out in his letter to President Tusk in November 2015. This reveals that no other EU leader wants to see the UK leave, given the political and economic costs this implies for the EU as a whole, especially in such a crises-dominated period.

As widely expected, David Cameron has now set the date for the in-out referendum for the 23rd of June of this year. The reactions in the UK were predictable. The opponents of EU membership claim that the deal does not restore sovereignty to the UK and does not do enough to reduce migration numbers. The Conservative Party is split, with a significant part campaigning for a Brexit, including six Cabinet members and Boris Johnson, the Mayor of London. The media has been highly critical of the deal struck in Brussels, while most of the political establishment and big businesses is, more or less reluctantly, lining up behind the campaign to remain in the EU.

A domestic affair

With this deal, the rest of the EU did what it could to encourage a positive outcome of the referendum. Unless the deal unravels in some way, which is unlikely in this short timeframe, the focus of the debate will now be exclusively on the UK itself. The deal is unlikely to have a lot of resonance with the general public, with claims and counter-claims over its significance and impact cancelling each other out, but it provides the Yes campaign with the hook to argue that this is about staying in a reformed EU.

The debate in the UK will, most likely, focus on migration and economics. While opponents of EU membership will argue that only a Brexit can restore sovereignty and thus control over the UK's borders, the proponents of EU membership will focus on the inherent uncertainty of leaving the EU and the risk this might pose for growth and jobs.

Neither campaigns are likely to look at the fundamental question: in today's world, how do you deal with the kind of cross-border challenges that cannot be addressed at the national level? While the EU is certainly not perfect, it provides the only credible instrument for European countries. In other words, what is the alternative to EU membership?

An uncertain outcome

Referenda are difficult to predict, with momentum, internal – including the popularity of the Prime Minister – and external factors, such as migrant flows or the overall state of the EU, likely to have a significant effect. It will probably be a close-run affair, with no decisive majority emerging for either side. Much will hinge on participation: the silent majority is likely to be risk-averse, so if they vote, they are more likely to back the remain campaign.

There are going to be big regional differences, with Scotland likely to vote decisively to stay in, raising the spectrum of a new independence referendum if the overall vote backs Brexit. Much of Southern England is likely to be opposed to EU membership, with the exception of London, where participation is likely to be crucial. In the Midlands and the North of England, EU membership itself is not likely to be decisive, but migration could well be.

Brexit: Strategic Consequences for Europe

A Scenario Study

Clingendael Report

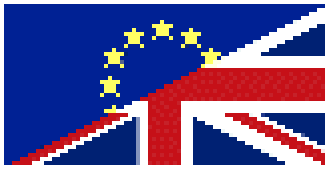
Peter van Ham



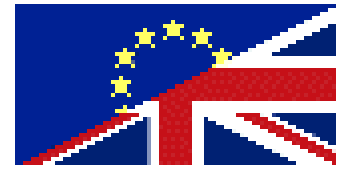
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The United Kingdom and the European Union



European Commission | **EUROBAROMETER**

Standard EB 83	EU28	Number of interviews: 27.758	Fieldwork: 16/05-27/05/2015
	UK	Number of interviews: 1.306	Fieldwork: 16/05-26/05/2015

Methodology: face-to-face

1. LIFE IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

The YouGov view: Leave is ahead but fundamentals favour Remain



What does the British public think about Europe?

Spotlight on public opinion on the EU.

Home > What does the British public think about Europe?

By Amy Sippitt
March 26, 2014 • 5:50 pm

- A majority of people think Britain's future is best served within the EU or within the EU while trying to reduce its powers.
- When asked about votes in an EU referendum, results fluctuate. The last few years have shown a general trend towards wanting to leave the EU but the gap between those wanting in or out has narrowed.

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Polling on new EU Referendum question



shows "leave" lead for first time since November 2014

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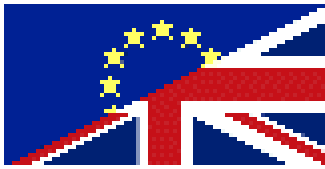
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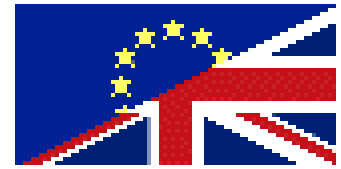
Poll Tracker

This graph tracks YouGov polls on the question: "If there was a referendum on Britain's membership of the European Union, how would you vote?"

Public opinion



The United Kingdom and the European Union



What UK
Thinks **EU**

Non-partisan information on UK attitudes to the EU and the EU Referendum

Created by:
NatCen
Social Research

In partnership with:
 The UK in a Changing Europe

Mixed feelings:
Britons' conflicted attitudes to the EU before the referendum
Sofia Vasilepoulou

policy network paper

Britain and Europe
Are we all Eurosceptics now?

The rise of Brexit: European scepticism. Early BREXIT during this period has seen the Conservatives promise a referendum on Britain's membership of the EU if the party wins the 2017 election. This paper examines British attitudes towards Britain's relationship with the EU since British Social Attitudes started in 1983, and assesses whether Britain really is more Eurosceptic now than ever before.

Widespread Euroscepticism

- Although not at record levels, Euroscepticism has been widespread in recent years.
- Faced with the simple choice between staying or withdrawing, 35% now say they want Britain to withdraw from the EU, more than at any time since 1983.
- When presented with a wider range of options, voters' most popular choice, backed by 38%, is to stay in the EU but to try and reduce its powers.
- Even 43% of those who feel European now say they want the EU's powers reduced.

Not everything European is unpopular

EU rules that give rights and protections to British workers are relatively popular.

- Sixty nine per cent feel it is 'very' or 'quite' important that people in Britain are free to get jobs in other European countries.
- The proportion who oppose giving British workers the same protection as other EU workers against working long hours has fallen from 46% in 1997 to 28% now.

Immigration matters

Opposition to membership of the EU is particularly high among those who are concerned about immigration.

- Around half of those who think immigration is bad for the economy want to leave the EU compared with around one in ten of those who think it has been good for Britain's economic fortunes.
- Support for leaving the EU varied similarly between those who think immigration undermines vs enriches Britain's cultural life.

The UK in a Changing Europe

Do British voters actually want to leave the EU?

Author: Prof Matthew Goodwin

Date: 19 February 2016

Theme: Public opinion

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The generation gap: How young voters view the UK's referendum

Opinion polls on the UK's upcoming referendum have consistently shown a clear generational divide, with younger voters more likely to support staying in the EU than older citizens. Using recent survey data, **James Sloam** assesses the factors underpinning this split, noting that if young people have such a distinct position on the EU, it is important that their voice is heard in the campaign.

Survation. @Survation

Survation's Second Telephone Poll on the EU Referendum Shows Lead For "Remain" Holding Steady: survation.com/9282-2/

With 90 Days Until Polling Day, Survat...
Our second telephone poll since the UK...
survation.com

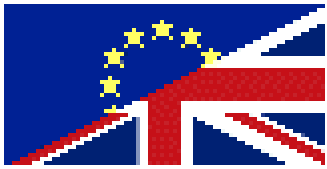
YouGov UK TAKE PART SEE RESULTS FIND SOLUTIONS

Update: Remain lead at one in EU referendum

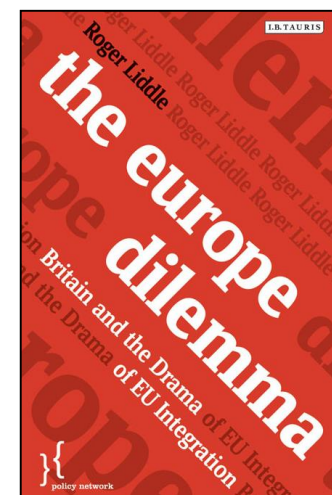
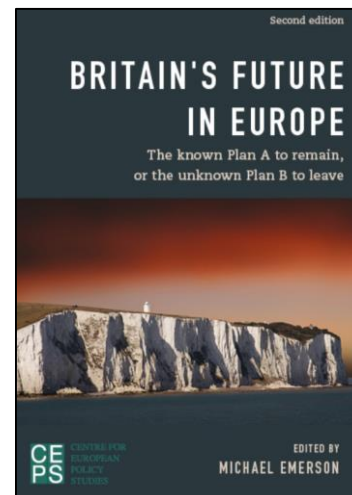
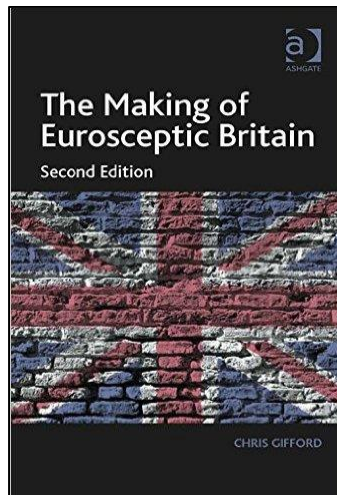
Remain has a one point lead over Leave in our latest EU referendum polling – with no movement among don't knows and wouldn't votes

By Will Dahlgreen @willdahlgreen
in Europe, Politics
On April 6, 2016, 11:09 a.m.

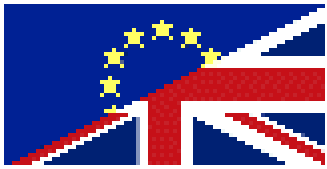
Public opinion



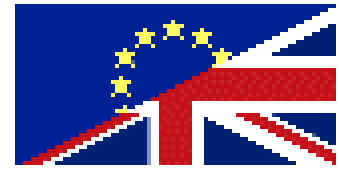
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Books



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EU Law Analysis

Expert insight into EU law developments

Wednesday, 10 February 2016

The draft UK/EU renegotiation deal: is it 'legally binding and irreversible'?



The Brexit Blog

Analysing UK-EU relations

Social Europe

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Why The European Union Will Benefit From Brexit

by Paul De Grauwe on 24 February 2016 @pdegrauwe



Universities UK blog The voice of universities

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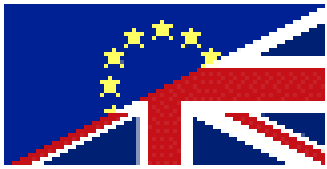
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Higher education in 2016

What role could universities play in the EU referendum debate?



BREXIT - Blogs



The United Kingdom and the European Union



The Telegraph

theguardian



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**FRANCE
24**



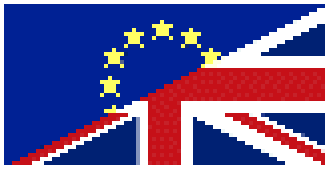
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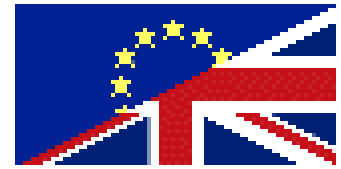
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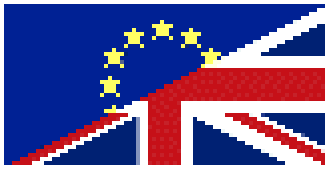
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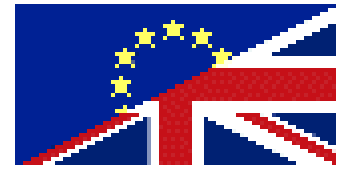
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The Commons Library produces briefing papers which set out the background and stages of the UK's referendum for remaining in or leaving the European Union.

This page highlights the analysis and comment on the in-out referendum and presents an impartial view of the different arguments and opinions. It offers information on potential "break" and on remaining in the EU.

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BRIEFING PAPER

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