

The BREXIT Debate

The United Kingdom and the European Union



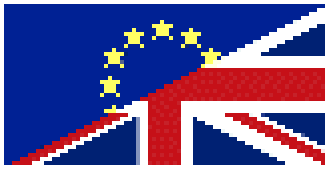
The BREXIT Debate

The United Kingdom and the European Union

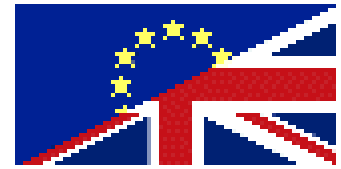
The Cardiff EDC can help you find information from all points of view on this important topic

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The United Kingdom and the European Union



The EU deal

Full Fact



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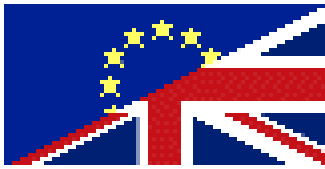
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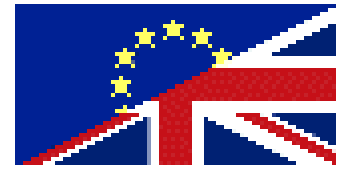
Recent

*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 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

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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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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

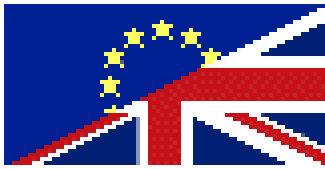
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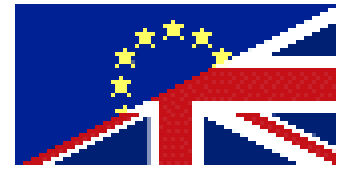
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The British people now have a very clear choice: if you want a referendum on whether Britain should stay in the EU or leave, only the Conservative Party will guarantee to hold one.

The BREXIT Debate: The Government's position



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İran ile nükleer müzakerelerinde ön anlaşma için son gün
Erdođanı Slovenya ile üçüncü ülkelerde ortak yabam istiyoruz
Karadađ, AB'ye katılım müzakerelerinde ilerliyor
İtalya zeytin ağaçlarının mücadelesini veriyor

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House of Lords report finds allegations of EU interference unfounded

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Published: 31/03/2015 - 07:37 | Updated: 31/03/2015 - 08:43

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.

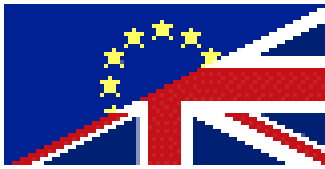
Individual UK government departments were tasked to lead the examination of competences falling within their own areas of responsibility, with the overall review being managed jointly by the [Foreign and Commonwealth Office](#) (FCO) and [Cabinet Office](#). It was made clear from the outset that the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

EPRS | European Parliamentary Research Service
Author: David Eatock
Members' Research Service
PE 573/915

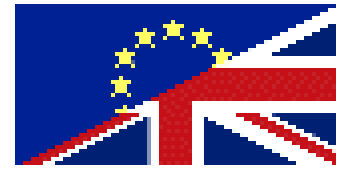
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Find more information via [ESO](#) on the Review of the Balance of Competences

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 26, 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 (Referendum) Bill 2013-14: Progress of the bill to 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>

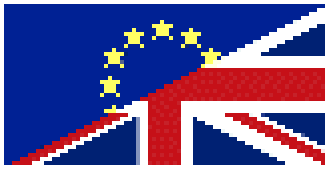
Related URL:

- 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: Euromove, 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

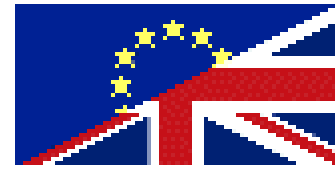
Keywords: United Kingdom and the European Union - Call for Referendum - Brexit - Repatriation of powers / Renegotiation - National sovereignty - European Union (Referendum) Bill 2013-14 - Referendum on Europe / EU - David Cameron

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

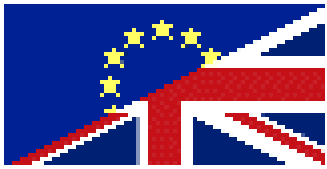
The UK Government has stated that membership of the European Union is in the national interest, but the Prime Minister David Cameron would like to reform the EU and renegotiate the UK's relationship with it, before holding an in/out referendum in 2017 if a Conservative government is elected in May 2015. 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:

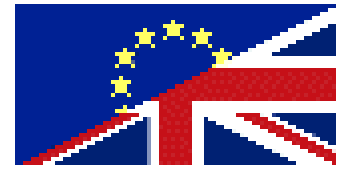
- Powers flowing away from Brussels, not always to it;
- National parliaments able to work together to block unwanted EU legislation;
- Businesses liberated from red tape;
- UK police forces and justice systems able to protect British citizens, without interference from the European institutions;
- Free 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

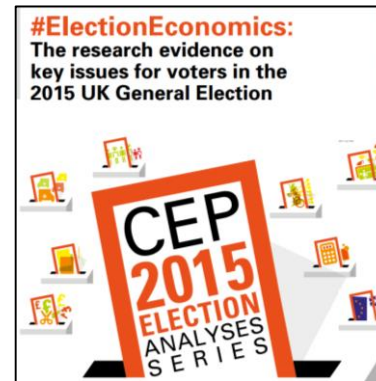
Is Brexit inevitable? The UK's EU membership after the General Election



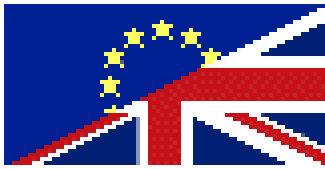
oe **Responds**

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

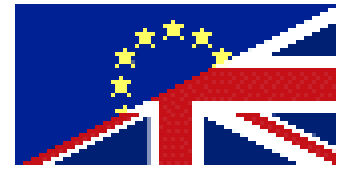
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UK general election May 2015 ... and aftermath



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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 provision 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*.

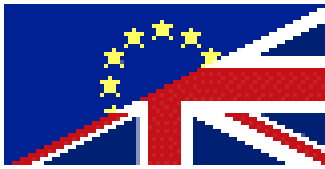
During the passage of the Bill through the House of Commons, a number of amendments were debated during committee of the whole House on 16 and 18 June. These included: to apply 'purdah' restrictions on the civil service during the campaign; to extend the voting age to include 16 and 17 year olds; to extend the franchise to include all resident EU citizens in the UK; and that the date chosen for the referendum should not be the same day as other elections.

At report stage in the House of Commons on 7 September 2015, the Bill was changed with the Commons accepting a government amendment that the referendum would not be held on the same date as May elections in either 2016 or 2017. A government amendment to change the wording of the referendum question, following the recommendation of the Electoral Commission, was also passed. On the issue of the role of the civil service during the campaign, the Government passed an amendment that re-applied section 125 of the 2000 Act—the 'purdah' restrictions—while allowing the Secretary of State the power to introduce regulations to modify it. The Bill as originally drafted excluded the application of section 125 altogether. The Government was defeated on an amendment that sought to define which government publications would be prohibited under section 125 during the campaign. A summary of all the Commons stages of the Bill has been published by the House of Commons Library, entitled *European Union Referendum Bill 2015-16: Progress of the Bill*.

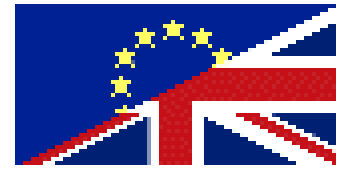
This Library Note provides background reading to the Bill and is published in advance of second reading in the House of Lords on 13 October 2015. It provides summaries of previous debates in Parliament on some of the issues raised, sets out the role of the Electoral Commission, extending the voting age for the referendum to 16 and 17 year olds; and the role of government bodies and other organisations during referendum campaigns.

Edward Scott
8 October 2015
LJN 2015/033

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



The United Kingdom and the European Union



 HOUSE OF COMMONS LIBRARY

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.

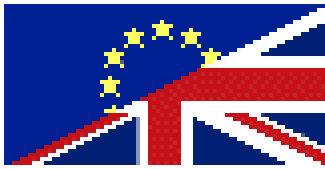
Scope of the inquiry

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.

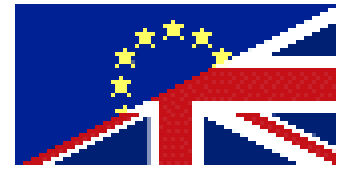


■ Call for evidence [Send a written submission](#)

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



The United Kingdom and the European Union



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](#)



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 that I have raised, and of the case for reforms that would benefit the European Union as a whole. I particularly appreciate your own personal support throughout.

The European Union has a long history of respecting the differences of its many Member States and of working to overcome challenges in a way that works for the whole European Union. For example, with the protocols and other instruments agreed for Denmark and Ireland, the EU was able to arrive at a settlement, which worked for each country and did not disadvantage other Member States.



House of Commons
European Scrutiny Committee

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

Fourteenth Report of Session 2015–16



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

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?

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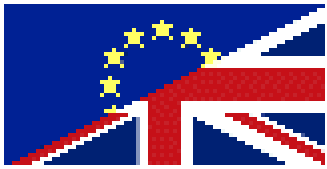
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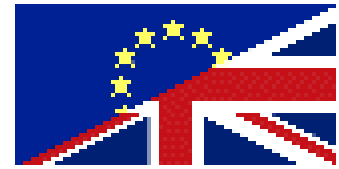
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Statement on Europe: Renegotiation: 10 November 2015

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



The United Kingdom and the European Union



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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

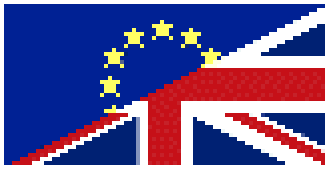
Ordered to be printed 21 July 2015 and published 28 July 2015

Referendum on membership of the European Union

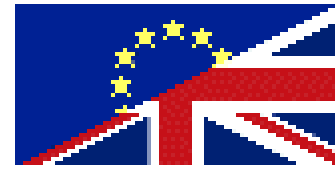
Assessment of the Electoral Commission on the proposed referendum question

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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BRIEFING PAPER

Number 7486, 27 January 2016

The EU referendum campaign

By Elise Uberoi
Isobel White

Electoral Commission to open registration for EU Referendum campaigners

News release published: 26-01-2016

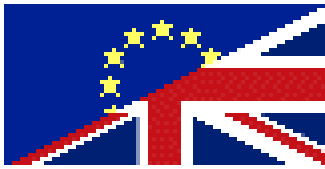
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Speech
Davos 2016: Prime Minister's speech to the World Economic Forum

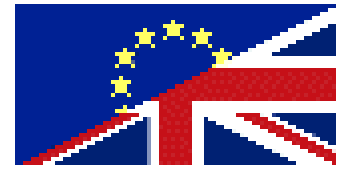
From: Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street and The Rt Hon David Cameron MP
 Delivered on: 21 January 2016 (Transcript of the speech, exactly as it was delivered)
 Location: Davos, Switzerland
 First published: 21 January 2016

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

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 clarification 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 2015
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

LIMITÉ

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

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BRIEFING PAPER
Number 7497, 9 February 2016

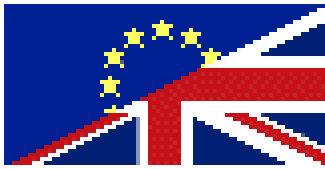
UK's EU reform negotiations: the Tusk package

By Vaughn Miller

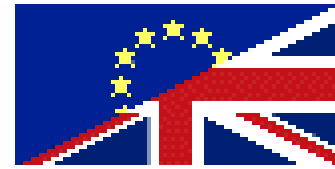
1. Introduction to negotiations
2. Timeline of negotiations
3. Action by the UK Government and Parliament
4. Next steps
5. Potential for parliamentary debate and legislative process

+ 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



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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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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 Prime Minister made a statement following the meeting of the European Council where he negotiated a deal to give the UK special status in the EU.

THE CONVERSATION
Academic rigour, journalistic fair

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

February 20, 2016 4:11pm GMT

The EU deal

Full Fact

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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.

De Response

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.

Brexit | EU Referendum | EU Reform | UK Politics

European Council

Brussels, 19 February 2016
(OR_en)

EUCO 1/16

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CONCL 1

COVER NOTE

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

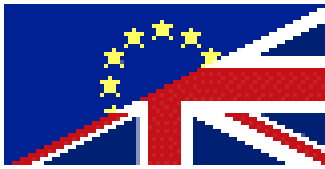
Delegations will find attached the conclusions adopted by the European Council at the above meeting.

+ EU countries [react](#) to the Tusk proposals for a new settlement for the UK within the EU, February 2016

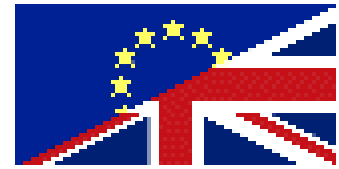
+ [European Council, Brussels, 18-19 February 2016](#)

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.

The Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

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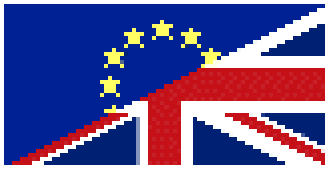
You are here: | Newsroom | News | First Minister's response to agreement at the European Council

First Minister's response to agreement at the European Council

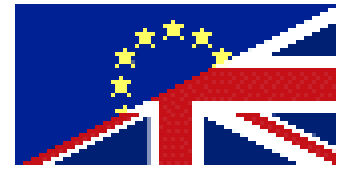
20/02/2016 06:01

+ 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](#). He announces 23 June 2016 as the date of the EU referendum
Find more information in [ESO](#) on the announcement of the EU referendum and the start of the campaigning by the Remain / Leave groups

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



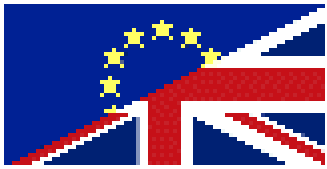
The United Kingdom and the European Union



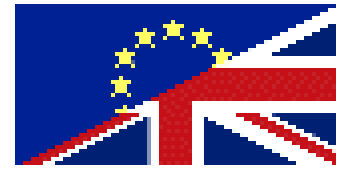
BRITAIN STRONGER IN EUROPE



Campaigning to remain in the EU...

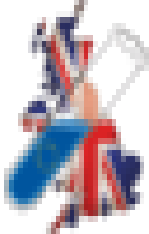


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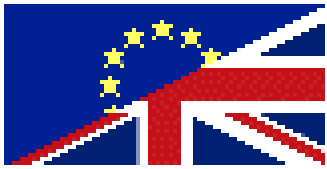
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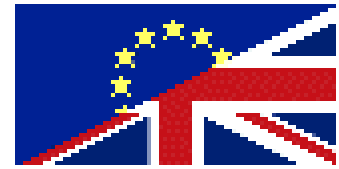
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Campaigning to remain in the EU...



The United Kingdom and the European Union



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The final report of the CER commission on the UK and the EU single market

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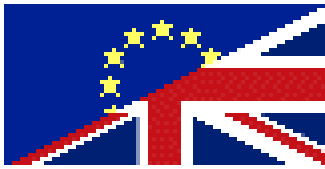
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"Would I be unhappy if we came out? Yes. Do I think it would be bad for Britain? Yes."

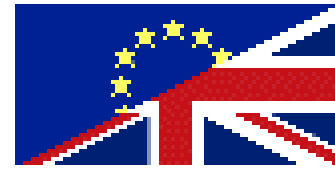
- Sir Stuart Rose, Chairman of Ocado who led Marks and Spencer's for seven years

Senior European Experts

Stakeholders and interests : The UK should stay in the EU



The United Kingdom and the European Union



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.

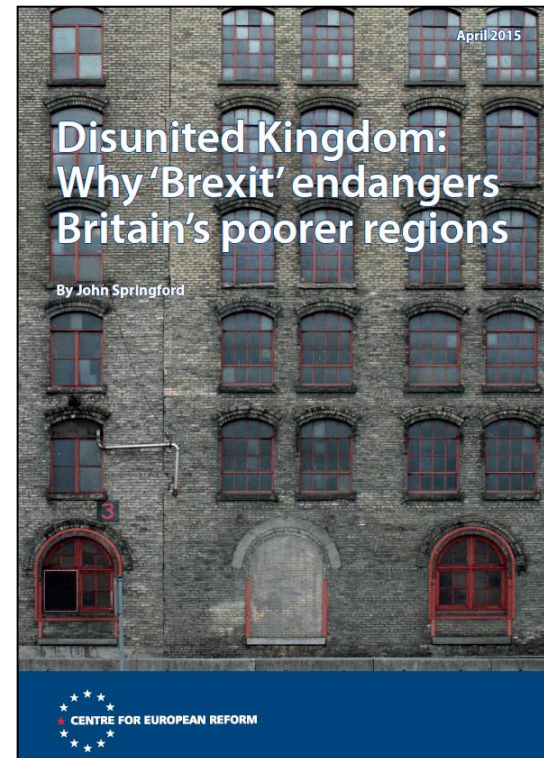
Free movement of students and staff within the EU benefits the UK economy and universities.

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.

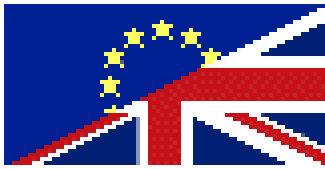
The Erasmus exchange programme is the single largest source of support for UK students wishing to study or work abroad. Erasmus students do better academically, are more likely to start their own companies and are 50% less likely to experience long-term unemployment than those who have not studied or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

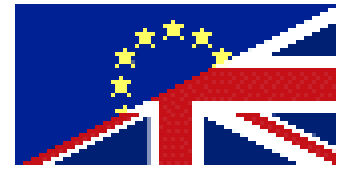
The EU's £11 billion Erasmus+ programme promotes student and staff exchange in Europe and beyond as well as the development of joint programmes, joint research, university-business cooperation and international capacity building.



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



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.

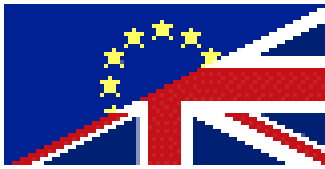


May 2014

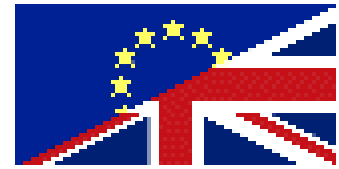
The consequences of Brexit for the City of London
By John Springford and Philip Whyte

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN REFORM

Stakeholders and interests : The City of London



The United Kingdom and the European Union



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EC Social Agenda

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 representatives 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 falling membership.

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CHOOSING OUR FUTURE

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

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GE2015: The IoD's Key Priorities for EU Reform

Allie Renison, Head of Europe and Trade Policy

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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

Renault KADJAR

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'Brexit' Vow From Britain's Biggest Union As Labour's EU Confusion Grows

The Huffington Post UK | By Owen Bennett and Paul Wray

Posted: 15/06/2015 09:01 BST | Updated: 15/06/2015 09:59 BST

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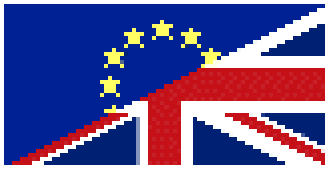
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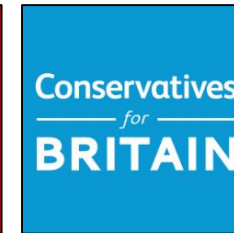
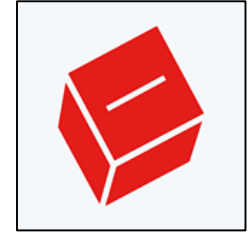
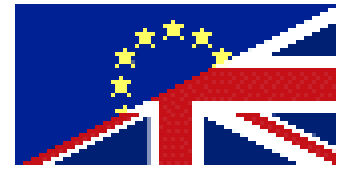
BRITAIN AND THE EU: SMES SPEAK OUT ON BREXIT

10 Aug 2015 03:20 | Written by Jon Barker | Category: Features | Hits: 128 | [Print](#) | [Email](#)

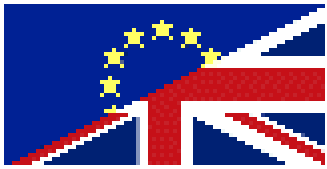
Stakeholders and interests : Business and Labour



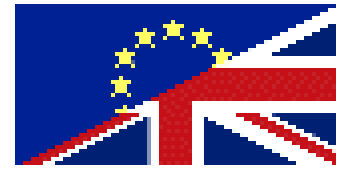
The United Kingdom and the European Union



Campaigning to leave the EU...



The United Kingdom and the European Union



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Where's The Insider Advantage?

A comparative study of UK exports
to EU and non-EU nations
between 1960 and 2012

Michael Burrage

May 2014
Civitas: Institute for the Study of Civil Society

A Blueprint for Britain: Openness not Isolation

by Iain Mansfield

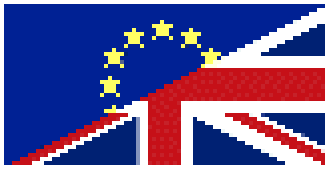


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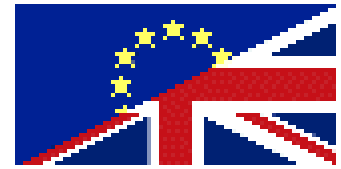
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Stakeholders and interests : The UK should leave the EU



The United Kingdom and the European Union



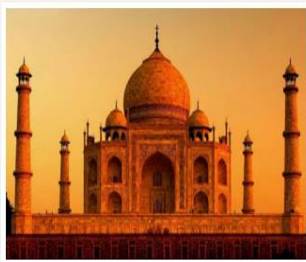
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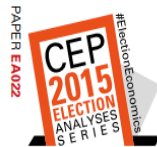
Sunday, 29 November 2015

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).



CENTRE for ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE



A series of background briefings on the policy issues in the May 2015 UK General Election

Should We Stay or Should We Go? The economic consequences of leaving the EU

Swati Dhingra, Gianmarco Ottaviano and Thomas Sampson



#ElectionEconomics

The UK in a Changing Europe

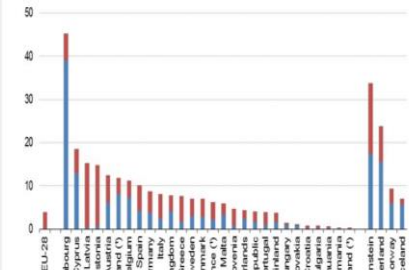
ABOUT US EXPERTS BLOG EVENTS EXPLAINERS IN THE NEWS FAQs CONTACT

11 December 2015

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.

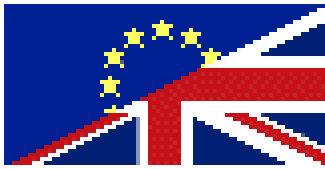
In January 2014, the UK had one of the highest overall numbers of EU migrant citizens; as a percentage of the national population (4.1%), however, the UK's population of EU migrant citizens ranks behind Luxembourg (39%), Cyprus (12.1%), Ireland (8.1%), Belgium (7.4%), Austria (6.1%), and Spain (4.3%)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



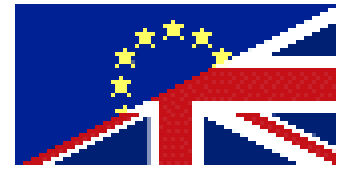
Source: Eurostat

⚡: provisional

The BREXIT Debate : Academic perspectives



The United Kingdom and the European Union



EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS
ecfr.eu

POLICY BRIEF

THE BRITISH PROBLEM AND WHAT IT MEANS FOR EUROPE
Mark Leonard

SUMMARY

The risk of a British exit from the EU is real, but not because the British public is much more hostile to Europe than other Europeans. The problem is an anti-EU elite that has elided the European debate with one about migration and co-opted the public discourse. Meanwhile, mainstream parties have united around a European reform platform that is compatible with EU membership. Other EU member states have much at stake. In addition to the risk of contagion, Europe without Britain will be smaller, weaker, and poorer. The UK's European partners can play a crucial role in marginalising the anti-EU elite and helping Britain's mainstream parties build a stronger case for EU membership.

EU states can give a hand by engaging the government in London in a reform debate, and encourage British politicians to seek benefit from joint EU initiatives rather than seeking special treatment. They should also start a wider debate about how the EU's institutions can support the common while also re-summing non-economic members that a stronger euro will not weaken the rest of the Union. European leaders need to reach out to the whole political spectrum and to British society, with an eye on the referendum, for instance by encouraging their national companies based in Britain to begin issuing early warnings about job losses if Britain were to leave the EU.

Europe has a British problem. For a good year the possibility of Brexit has been widely discussed in other EU capitals, but many of Britain's partners are not sure how seriously to take the risk. What is driving the debate? How much would it really matter to the EU? And is there anything that the rest of the EU can do about it anyway?

This paper aims to offer some answers to these questions. It shows that there is a serious risk of a British exit – but that the driver for this is not sceptical public opinion but rather a Europhobic elite. It claims that the cost of Brexit will be higher than many member states realise because of the dangers of contagion from Brexit, and the way that it would weaken Europe's voice on the world stage. And finally, it argues that other member states can have a defining impact on whether Britain stays in Europe. It ends by setting out some ways that other member states can play a helpful role in aiding Britain's pro-European majority to drive a wedge between the country's Eurosceptic elite and its pragmatic public.

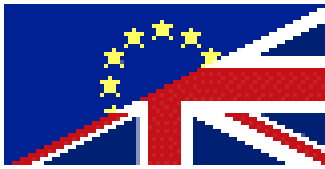
Driving Brexit: divided elite and agnostic public

There is a myth that Britain has a uniquely Eurosceptic population that is desperate to leave the EU. The reality is somewhat different. British Euroscepticism is an elite project,

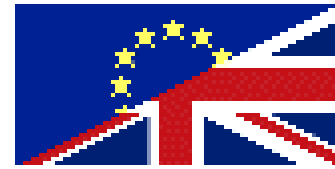
1. I firmly believe that it is in Britain's interests to be in the EU – and even more so to end its self-segregation and play an authentic role in this exciting project. While I will continue to urge those Britain in other places, this paper is aimed at giving a dispassionate explanation of the British dynamic to policymakers in other EU countries.

2. Though I haven't done a statistical regression, I'd expect there to be roughly 50 to 70 percent chance of a referendum and a 50 to 30 percent chance that a vote to exit would result.

Stakeholders and interests : The debate continues ...



The United Kingdom and the European Union



MAYOR OF LONDON

THE EUROPE REPORT: A WIN-WIN SITUATION

AUGUST 2014

Deutsche Bank
Research

EU Monitor
European Integration

A future in the EU?

Reconciling the 'Brexit' debate with a more modern EU

September 15, 2014

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DB Research Management
Ralf Hoffmann

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”

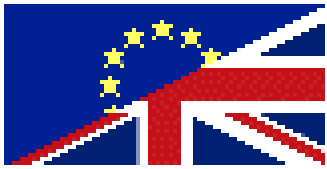
While he may hope to find some allies on some of the points he raises, the negotiation will be difficult, even perilous for Cameron. By his own admission, the changes that he calls for would require a modification of the existing treaties. To do this, he would need the unanimous agreement of all twenty-eight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

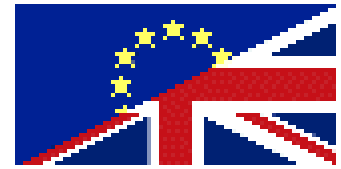
Should Labour win, a referendum will not be held: Labour leader Ed Milliband has said that he has no intention to hold one, unless there were further transfers of power within the Union. Cameron, however, will not be able to back out should he stay at 10 Downing Street. Should he try, UKIP would do its 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.

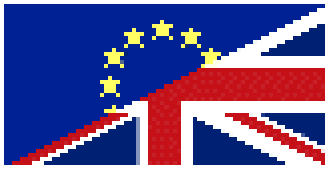
Stakeholders and interests : The debate continues ...



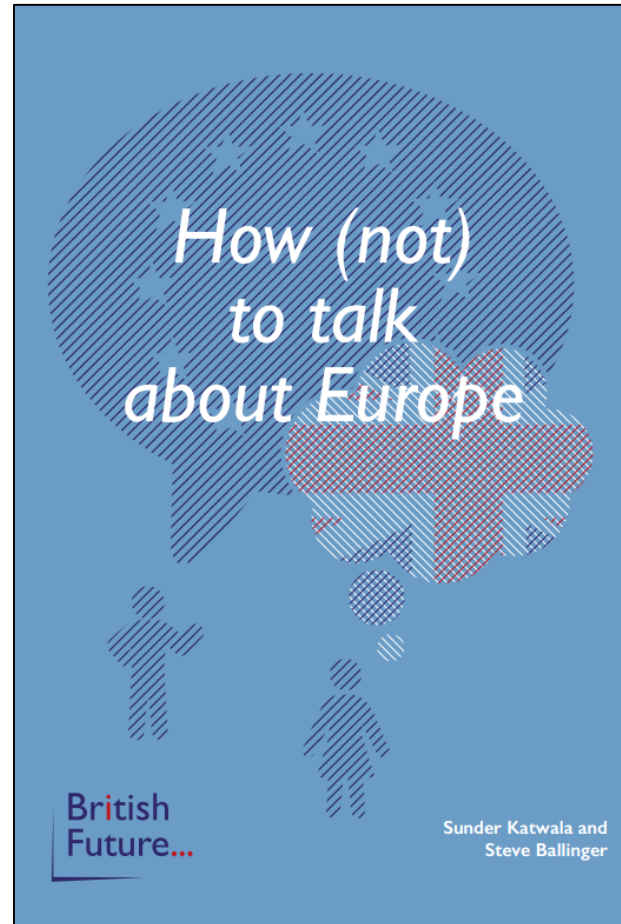
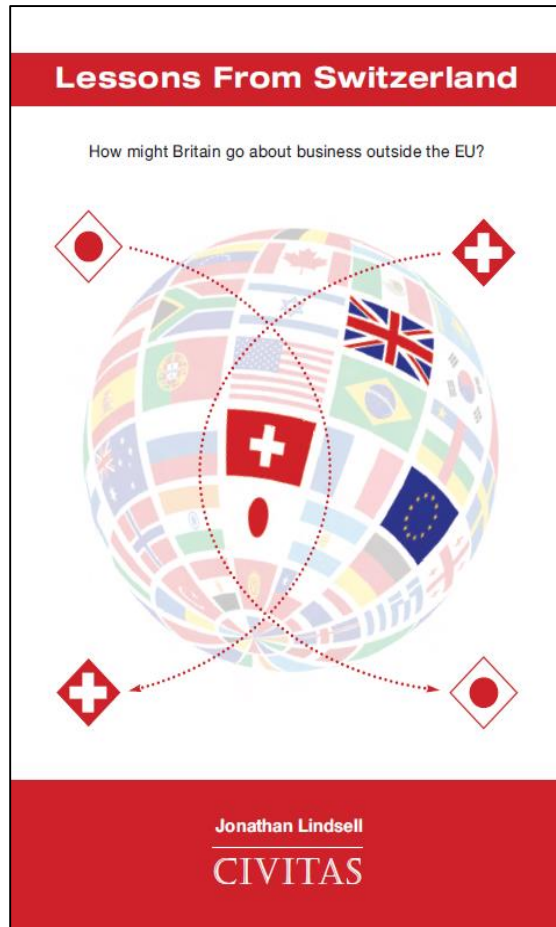
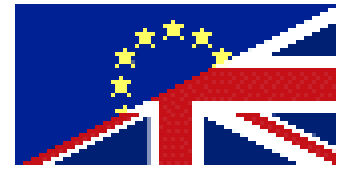
The United Kingdom and the European Union



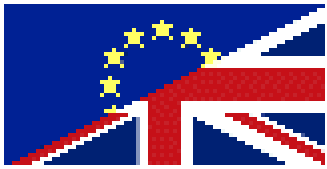
Stakeholders and interests : The debate continues ...



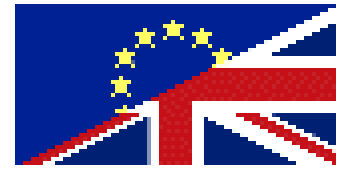
The United Kingdom and the European Union



Stakeholders and interests : The debate continues ...



The United Kingdom and the European Union



#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.

From Euronews to Politico

Impact K&S Press

January 2016

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

By Jean-Claude Paris

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN REFORM

CENTRE FOR ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE LSE THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

#CEPREXIT

Life after BREXIT: What are the UK's options outside the European Union?

Swati Dhingra and Thomas Sampson

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BRIEFING PAPER
Number 07213, 12 February 2016

Exiting the EU: impact in key UK policy areas

Edited by Vaughne Miller

Contents:
1. Introduction
2. Trade relations
3. Other economic aspects of Brexit
4. Agriculture
5. Fisheries
6. Customs and Excise
7. Investment
8. Energy and Climate Change
9. International development
10. Transport
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19. Consumer policy
20. Budget and deficit policies
21. The devolved regions

February 2016

Brexit and EU regulation: A bonfire of the varietals?

By John Springfield

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN REFORM

College of Europe
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The New Deal with the United Kingdom: the Downside of Flexibility

Phedon Nicolaides, Roxana Nedelescu, Joanna Hornik, Gibran Watfe

DEPARTMENT OF EUROPEAN ECONOMIC STUDIES

Bruges European Economic Policy Briefings 38 / 2016

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

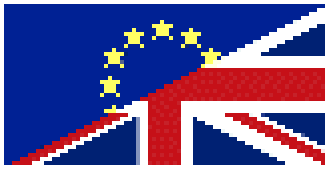
Iain Begg, London School of Economics

27 January 2016

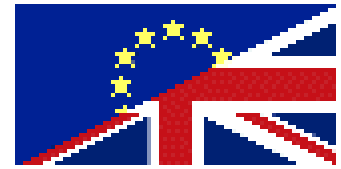
The EU budget is large, complex and politically highly charged, but it is also prone to be poorly explained and understood in much of the debate on the UK and Europe. A key reason for this is that there are many ways of presenting key measures, such as how much it costs or who gains from it, allowing 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



 **EU obligations: UK implementing legislation since 1993**

Standard Note: SN/IA/7092
 Last updated: 29 January 2015
 Author: Vaughne Miller
 Section: International Affairs and Defence Section

How much UK law implements EU obligations?

This note provides figures for Acts of Parliament and Statutory Instruments from 1993 to 2014 which implement or refer to UK obligations under EU law.

Calculations based on information from the UK parliamentary search database and legislation.gov.uk give the following figures for EU-related Acts and SIs for the period 1993-2014:

- 34,105 UK Acts and SIs
- 4,514 EU-related UK Acts and SIs
- Average of 13.2% of UK instruments are EU-related

This note updates some figures in Research Paper 62/10, *How much legislation comes from Europe?* 13 October 2010.

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UK WORLD SHOWS & TV EDITORIAL NATURE POLITICS HISTORY ARTS & CULTURE SCOTLAND SPORT

Two out of three British laws were made in Brussels

THE remorseless grip of Brussels is laid bare today as a new report claims 65 per cent of UK law was made or influenced by the EU.

By MARTIN BISHOP

Published: 09:07, Mon, March 2, 2015

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Rather daft

Photo: The Express

BUSINESS FOR BRITAIN

7% or 75%?

The EU's influence over British law: the definitive answer

Tim Philpott

Business for New Europe

Putting the UK

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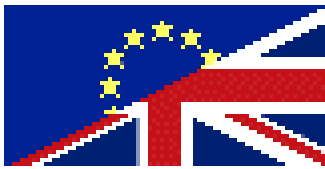
Wednesday, March 18th, 2015

BNE Blog

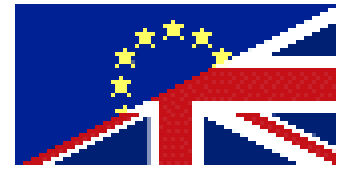
How much UK law is made at European level?

Find more information in [ESO](http://www.eso.org.uk) on this topic

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



The United Kingdom and the European Union



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GROWING IDEAS FOR OUR SHARED FUTURE
 METHRIN SYMADAU ER LLES DYFOODOL PAWB

**EU membership:
 Benefits and challenges for
 Wales**

A research report for Jill Evans MEP

Lila Haines
 With Anna Nicholl

July 2015

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

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

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

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 Strategy*.

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

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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

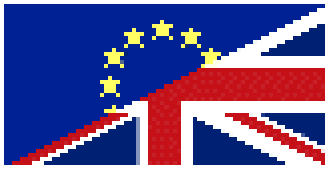
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Professor John Curcio

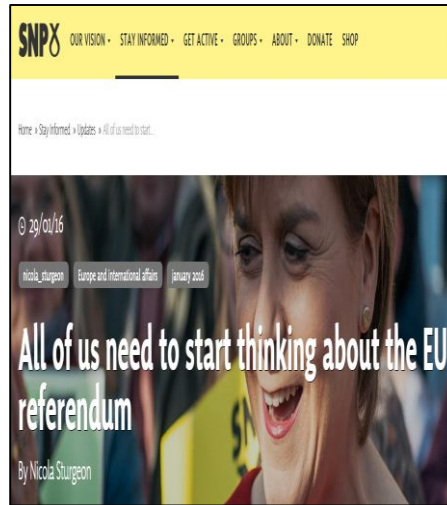
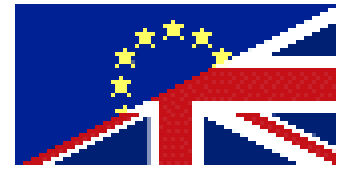
26 October 2015

How the EU divides Scotland

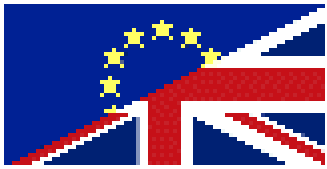
The BREXIT Debate : Wales and Scotland



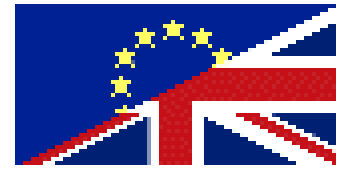
The United Kingdom and the European Union



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 Nr. 10

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.




Judy Asks: Will Britain Stay in the EU?

Posted by: [Judy Dempsey](#) | 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.
 FEBRUARY 17, 2016

BRITAIN IN EUROPE
RENEGOTIATION
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AN COMHCHOISTE UM GHNÓTHAÍ AN AONTAIS EORPAIGH
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TODHCHÁI: NA CIALLACHAIS A GHABHANN LEIS D'ÉIRINN.
MEITHEAMH 2015

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UK/EU FUTURE RELATIONSHIP: IMPLICATIONS FOR IRELAND
JUNE 2015

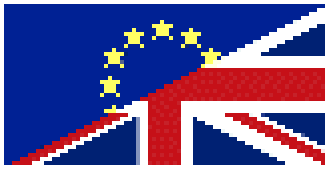
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 11/2015  Open Europe

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

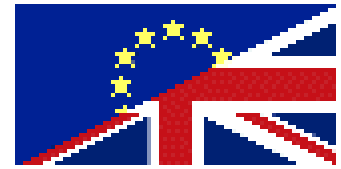
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The United Kingdom and the European Union



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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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World Africa Asia Australia Europe Latin America



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.

In talks at the G7 summit in Germany, the US President also said he was "looking forward" to Britain remaining in the European Union.

CAPX

10 June 2015

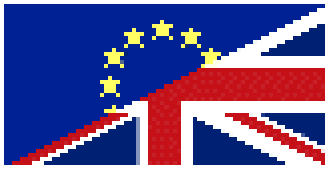
Barack Obama is wrong about Brexit

By Nile Gardiner | @NileGardiner

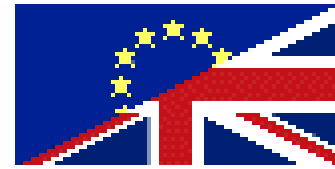
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European views on the UK's renegotiation, Sept-Oct 2015

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Briefing

What Think Tanks are thinking

19 February 2016



The United Kingdom and the European Union

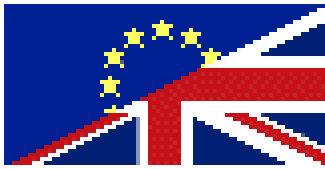
European Union leaders meet on 18-19 February to discuss Prime Minister David Cameron's renegotiation of the United Kingdom's EU membership, ahead of an in-or-out referendum on the outcome.

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.

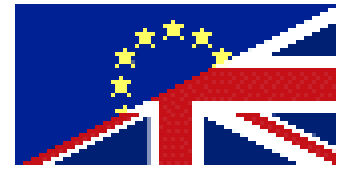

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The United Kingdom and the European Union

BREXIT IN FOCUS

Six ways it will fundamentally change the EU


Summary

June 2015

Roland Freudenstein
Dr. Eoin Drea
Aggelos Aggelou

The debate surrounding a potential BREXIT has largely focused on the costs and disadvantages for Britain of making such a move. However, Britain leaving the EU would also alter the strengths and profile of the European Union. Britain is the EU's second largest economy, a significant net contributor to the EU budget, hosts Europe's only global financial centre and is an important driver of single market reform on the European stage.¹ In her absence, the EU will lose a key proponent of the market economy and free trade as drivers of economic growth and prosperity. In this context, while BREXIT would be a catastrophe for Britain, it would also, as this INFOCUS identifies, fundamentally change the profile and focus of the EU.

The ongoing debate over BREXIT symbolises Britain's detachment from Brussels based European affairs, a process hastened by the economic crisis of recent years. From a London perspective, long term doubts over the viability of the Euro have been reinforced by the depth of Britain's economic recovery (relative to the Euro zone) and by the EU's rule based approach to furthering economic governance. This detachment is physically apparent across the EU's institutions. Although currently accounting for over 12% of the EU's total population the proportion of British nationals employed in policy influencing roles in the European Commission has declined to just 5.3% in 2014.



Commentary

8 May 2015

UK in-out referendum firmly on the agenda

Fabian Zuleeg

The results of the UK General Election are in and, in part, it is in line with the polls – but only in part: the Liberal-Democrats are decimated, the Scottish National Party (SNP) has decisively won Scotland and UKIP, despite making large gains in the share of votes, has only gained a small number of seats.

What was more than unexpected is that the Conservatives and the SNP did far better than predicted, the Liberals had a truly catastrophic night and Labour did far worse than expected, not picking up seats in England to compensate for the heavy losses in Scotland. Consequently, the Conservatives will continue in government, with David Cameron as Prime Minister.

A referendum on EU membership ...

But what does all of this mean from the European perspective? A UK referendum on EU membership is now almost certain, and there's even a question whether it will come earlier than 2017. The lack of contingency planning and preparation for such an eventuality is now going to be a major issue for the EU. There is no credible set of reforms that could be agreed upon and, at least partially, be implemented by 2017, or even earlier. While the opinion polls currently suggest a majority in the UK wanting to stay in the EU, a substantial reform package would certainly help to convince the UK electorate. But the EU must have a real discussion on what price the rest of the EU is willing to 'pay' to keep the UK in.

... leading to Brexit?

The campaigning for an in-out referendum will start immediately. Some of it is predictable. Most of (big) business is going to campaign heavily for staying in the EU, highlighting the cost of economic uncertainty. While most of the broadsheets are broadly Eurosceptic, they are unlikely to campaign strongly for a Brexit. The role of the smaller parties is also clear: Lib-Dems and SNP will campaign intensely to stay in the EU (not least because a different result in an EU referendum in Scotland than in the rest of the UK will immediately reopen the Scottish independence question), with UKIP demanding an immediate exit.

But the real question is how the two big parties will campaign. This is far from certain. Within the Conservatives, Cameron's more pragmatic stance on the EU has been strengthened. But with the threat of UKIP somewhat diminished - even though they still had a significant win in terms of votes - Tory backbenchers might flex their muscles, demanding an ambitious reform package to be convinced of EU membership, which is unlikely to materialise.


But the problems are not only limited to the Conservatives. Labour faces an even greater challenge. With the (almost) complete loss of its Scottish base, it needs to defend the North of England while making gains in the Midlands and in the South. Having seen votes moving to UKIP in the North, likely related to the migration/EU mobility argument, and knowing that the South tends to be more Eurosceptic, it is likely that Labour will move towards supporting an EU referendum, and in a referendum, being, at best, lukewarm about staying in.

Can it be won?

But a referendum on EU membership is far from lost from a pro-EU perspective. Opinion polls suggest that there is now a majority in the UK in favour of staying in the EU. The economic argument is likely to be key, with many suggesting that a Brexit would imply losses of investment, which would be painful for UK jobs and growth. While there are many risks, on

BRITAIN'S FUTURE IN EUROPE

Reform, renegotiation, repatriation or secession?



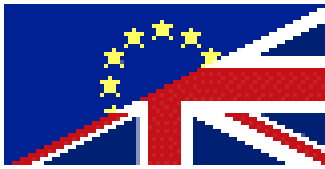
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EDITED BY **MICHAEL EMERSON**

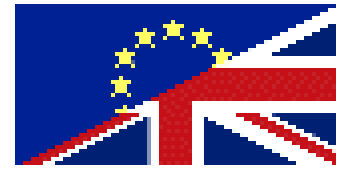
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Beijing drops hint it would like UK to stay in EU

23 Oct 2015 - 14:06

EurActiv.com by Matthew Tempest

the guardian

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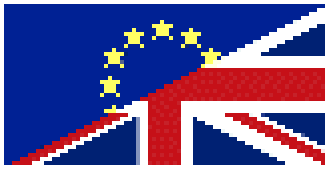
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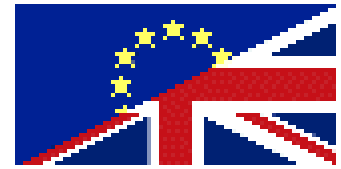
US warns Britain: If you leave EU you face barriers to trading with America

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

The international perspective – Non-EU countries



The United Kingdom and the European Union



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

Analysis: EU referendum – the state of public opinion

In-depth YouGov polling conducted over the summer reveals the challenges and opportunities for those campaigning to stay in or leave the European Union

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 Spott 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.
- Since 2010, interest in Europe as an issue has been rising.

The majority favour an EU referendum

A YouGov poll in May 2013 asked respondents what they would most like to see when it came to an EU referendum.

Public attitudes to EU referendum

Answers to question: "David Cameron has said that he will hold a referendum on Britain's membership of the EU in the next Parliament. [...] What would you most like to see?"

Survation.

Politics, Government & Current Affairs

Polling on new EU Referendum question shows "leave" lead for first time since November 2014

On behalf of the Mail on Sunday, Survation is the first polling company to conduct an opinion poll based on the new EU Referendum question wording after its recommendation by the Electoral Commission and approval by the Prime Minister.

Business for New Europe

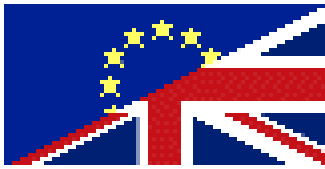
WHY THE UK SHOULD STAY IN MEDIA LATEST ABC

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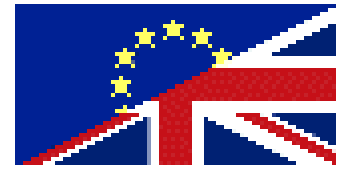
Poll Tracker

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
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 **The UK in a Changing Europe**

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

policy network paper



UNITED KINGDOM DENMARK BELGIUM

Britain and Europe

Are we all Eurosceptics now?

The rise of United Kingdom Independence Party (UKIP) during this parliament has seen the Conservative government a referendum on Britain's membership of the EU at the party's core in the 2015 election. This paper examines trends in attitudes towards Britain's relationship with the EU since British Social Attitudes started in 1985, and assesses whether British 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 1985.
- 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 23% 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 45% 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

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Author: Prof Matthew Goodwin

Date: 19 February 2016

Theme: Public opinion

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Do British voters actually want to leave the EU?



EU Renegotiation Poll

20/02/2016
Prepared on behalf of the Mail on Sunday

Survation.

What UK Thinks EU

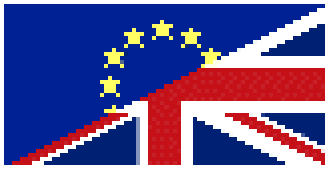
Non-partisan information on UK attitudes to the EU and the EU Referendum

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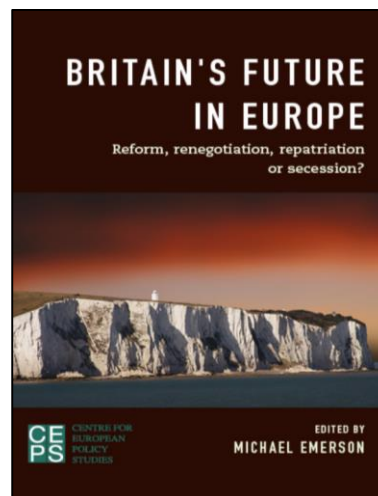
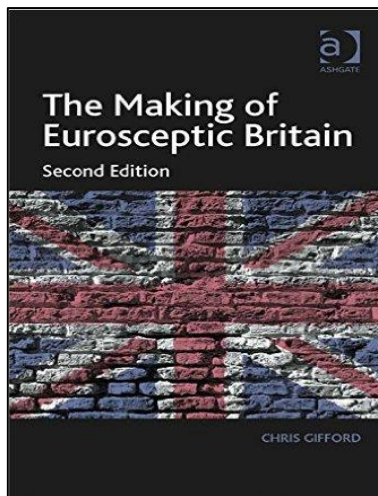
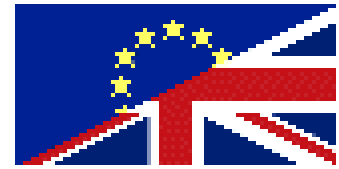
Did the 'English Dinner' Make Any Difference? First Evidence from Survation

Posted on 21 February 2016 by John Curtice

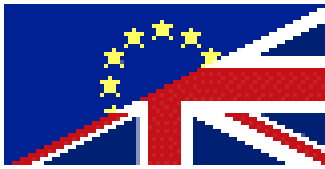
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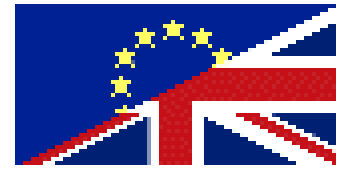
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Expert insight into EU law developments

Wednesday, 10 February 2016

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What role could universities play in the EU referendum debate?
Posted on 8 January 2016 by Steve Ballinger

With this week's announcement in Parliament that ministers would be free to campaign for whichever outcome they personally favour, the Prime Minister fired the starting pistol for an EU referendum race that will dominate this year's politics (and maybe some of next year's too).

Unlike some of his ministers, universities have already decided their own preference – that they will campaign for a 'Remain' vote.

In that respect, they're well ahead of most of the voting public. Analysis from non-partisan thinktank British Future, published this week in a new pamphlet [How \(not\) to talk about Europe](#), finds that up to two-thirds of the public is yet to decide for certain which way (or indeed whether) they will vote in the big decision that faces Britain.

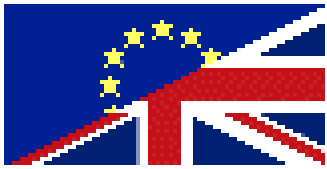
With only around a fifth of people certain which way they will vote, that presents universities with a similar challenge to other advocates in the referendum, whether for 'In' or for 'Out' – how to reach and persuade those undecided voters who will determine the referendum result.

That challenge is made even tougher for both sides by the fact that the people doing the advocacy – in the case of universities, most likely senior administrators, academics and students themselves – may not share the same way of thinking as the people they need to persuade. If Europhiles are from Mars and Eurosceptics are from Venus, most average voters are from planet Earth: many of them will be more concerned about who's going to win the *Bake-Off* than who'll come out top in the EU referendum. The passionate arguments from committed advocates on both sides – whether they're a UKIP councillor campaigning for 'Out' or a university professor advocating an 'In' vote – may sound rather alien to an undecided voter who is not convinced that a vote either way will have a big impact on their everyday life.

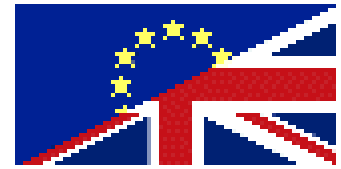
So what role could universities play? Like voices in the business community, universities will be most effective when speaking from their own locus of experience and credibility – explaining what impact a decision either way could have on universities, learning and research. In that respect, Vice Chancellors will be a trusted voice, particularly if they're not seen to be just defending their own interests or telling voters what to do, but rather setting out their own assessment of the potential impacts of the referendum result. That could be particularly true in regions like East Anglia and the South West where there may not be many other voices with significant regional profile speaking up on their side of the argument.

Like all advocates in the referendum campaign, universities should think carefully about who they are seeking to reach, the arguments they use and the messengers who voice them. While academics and student supporters may not convince schoolgate mum in Stoke-on-Trent to agree with them, their arguments may have more resonance on campus. Non-academic support staff may have more traction with a broader, non-graduate audience, particularly their own friends and family.

Finally, and importantly, universities should remember their civic role as centres of discussion and debate – as a place where ideas can be discussed openly. In this respect, universities could play an important and non-partisan role in ensuring that we have a referendum that is good for our politics and for democratic engagement. They should platform voices from both sides and encourage not just students but also their non-graduate neighbours in university towns to engage in the debate, to consider the pros and cons for both sides and then use their vote accordingly.



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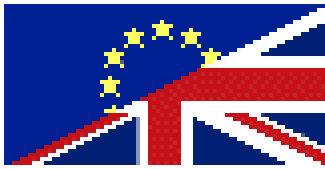
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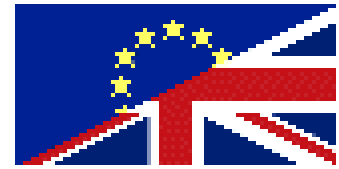
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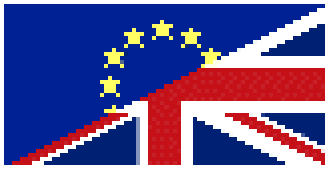
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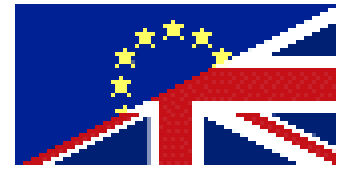
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February 4, 2016 11:43am GMT

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