The EU Referendum, 23 June 2016
The United Kingdom and the European Union
A guide to information sources
Part 1 – Before the referendum
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Director, Cardiff EDC
The EU Referendum, 23 June 2016

The United Kingdom and the European Union

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

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

To find further information search in ESO

+ An older version of this guide containing more links to sources published before 2016 is available
+ There is also a separate guide to information published after the Referendum
+ Some of the information from the campaigning organisations is no longer available (marked in this guide)

Updated to: 24 October 2016
The EU Referendum, 23 June 2016
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Main sections in the guide

- Neutral sources
- Background and lead-up to the campaign
- UK Government sources
- UK Parliament sources
- Electoral Commission
- Political Parties
- Campaign Groups
- Stakeholders, think tanks and the International and regional perspectives
- News sources and social media
- Issues
- The Result
The EU Referendum, 23 June 2016
The United Kingdom and the European Union
Neutral sources
‘Neutral’ sources of information

EU Referendum
Whichever side you end up on, get the facts.

Not neutral but...

Neutral but...

EU Referendum Hub

BBC

ITV News
The EU Referendum, 23 June 2016
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Background information and lead-up
The UK government carried out a review of the EU’s competences, which the Foreign Secretary launched in July 2012. This was an audit of what the EU does and how it affected the UK. It was seen as important that Britain had a clear sense of how its national interests interacted with the EU’s roles, particularly at a time of great change for the EU.

Government departments consulted Parliament and its committees, business, the devolved administrations, and civil society to look in depth at how the EU’s competences (the power to act in particular areas conferred on it by the EU Treaties) worked in practice.

The UK’s European partners and the EU institutions were also invited to contribute evidence to the review, and it also examined issues that were of interest across the EU, seeking to improve understanding and engagement.

UK Government departments then reported on areas of competence and their findings were published in four waves between 2012 and 2014.

The House of Lords EU Committee and various commentators noted that the results of the Review were largely positive of EU membership.
The European Union Referendum Act 2015 allows for the holding of a referendum in the United Kingdom and Gibraltar on whether the United Kingdom should remain a member of the European Union. The referendum should be held before the end of 2017.

The UK Prime Minister, David Cameron, announced on 23 January 2013 that if his party was elected to power following the next election expected in 2015, it would hold a referendum in the UK on European Union (EU) membership in the next Parliament.

Initially, a private members bill was introduced in 2013-14 by James Wharton, MP to allow for a referendum – it passed through the House of Commons but was defeated in the House of Lords in January 2014.

A new private members bill was introduced in session 2014-15 by Robert Neill, MP and was adopted as an Act in December 2015.
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**EU reform negotiations: what's going on?**

By Vaughne Miller

What happened 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.
The United Kingdom and the European Union

What happened with the negotiations Nov 2015 – Jan 2016

• **David Cameron sends European Council President Donald Tusk further details of UK calls for EU reform**, 10 November 2015

• **Letter from European Council President Tusk to EU governments on the UK negotiations**, Dec 2015

• Find more information in ESO

EU Law Analysis

Expert insight into EU law developments

Tuesday, 10 November 2015

Cameron’s Chatham House speech: Full speed ahead for the renegotiation of the UK’s EU membership?
The United Kingdom and the European Union

EU referendum: Prime Minister's minute to ministers, January 2016
Speech by David Cameron at the World Economic Forum, Davos, 21 January 2016

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.

Electoral Commission to open registration for EU Referendum campaigners

News release published: 26-01-2016
EU reform - UK negotiated with EU and other Member States 2016
The United Kingdom and the European Union

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

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.

What happened in the negotiation February 2016 + 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
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UK Prime Minister David Cameron holds special Cabinet meeting, 20 February 2016 to report back on outcome of the European Council, 18-19 February 2016. 23 June 2016 is announced as the date of the EU referendum.


Find more information in ESO

David Cameron announced the date of the EU referendum – the campaign began
The EU Referendum, 23 June 2016
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UK Government sources
The United Kingdom and the European Union

UK Government campaigned to ‘remain’ in the EU

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

Find out why the Government believes we should remain

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

Safety and security
EU membership keeps us safer

Improving our lives

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

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

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

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

EU referendum - find out more.

Why the Government believes that voting to remain in the European Union is the best decision for the UK.
The United Kingdom and the European Union

The impact of a sterling depreciation on the costs of a family shop on food, non-alcoholic drink, clothing and footwear

The impact of a depreciation in the sterling exchange rate

1.1 A range of nominal studies have estimated that leaving the EU would lead to a fall in the value of the pound of 10% or more.

1.2 As shown in Table 1.1, HM Treasury estimates that a 10% fall in the price of sterling would increase the cost of a typical food and drink shop by around £22,000 (£23,000) per year.

1.3 According to UK statistics, an average adult 2-child household spends £2,400 a week on food and non-alcoholic drinks, and 30% a week on clothing and footwear.

1.4 An increase in the cost of house prices and household expenses would lead to an increase in the price of household goods and services.

Table 1.1: Impact of a 10% depreciation of sterling on shops of 2 adult, 2 child·household

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2016 (£)</th>
<th>2017 (£)</th>
<th>Change (£)</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food and drink</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>4,450</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothing and footwear</td>
<td>2,395</td>
<td>2,600</td>
<td>1,100</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6,400</td>
<td>7,050</td>
<td>1,150</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: HM Treasury, Family Spending 2017

Technical note on methodology

1.5 The impact of a depreciation on the non-oil components of the CPI, the sensitivity of the CPI components that make up the food and non-alcoholic drink category to changes in the exchange rate, is accounted for by this method. This is similar to the approach taken by the HM Treasury 2015 problem description methodology.

Regional output and house price impacts from leaving the EU

1.6 Analysis published by HM Treasury shows the impact that a vote to leave the EU would have on UK output and house prices. In the "most severe" scenario, after four years, GDP would be around 2.7% lower and house prices would be 10% lower compared with what is estimated in the EU. The model uses simple methodologies to provide estimates of the impact at a regional level on the assumption that the regional effects are proportional to those at the UK level.

Impact of a vote to leave the EU on regional Gross Value Added

1.7 The estimated impact on output (as measured by gross value added) for each region and country of the EU is shown in Table 1.2. The portion of GVA that cannot be attributed to regions which is a result of the economic activity, such as oil and gas extraction, is also shown.

Table 1.2: Impact of leaving the EU on regional GVA after two years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region/Country</th>
<th>2015 GVA (£ million)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North West</td>
<td>64,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North East</td>
<td>64,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yorkshire and Humberside</td>
<td>64,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Midlands</td>
<td>64,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Midlands</td>
<td>64,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East</td>
<td>64,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East England</td>
<td>64,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South West</td>
<td>64,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wales</td>
<td>64,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>64,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland</td>
<td>64,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>64,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: HM Treasury, Family Spending 2017

HM Government published a series of Policy Papers, February-June 2016
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UK Government campaigned to ‘remain’ in the EU – for more...
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UK Government campaigned to ‘remain’ in the EU – for more …
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UK Parliament sources

- Select Committee reports
- Library publications
The United Kingdom and the European Union

European Union Committee
9th Report of Session 2015–16

The EU referendum and EU reform

HOUSE OF LORDS
European Union Committee
11th Report of Session 2015–16

The process of withdrawing from the European Union

HOUSE OF LORDS
Science and Technology Select Committee
2nd Report of Session 2015–16

EU membership and UK science

Information sources from UK Parliament: Committees: 2016 reports
The United Kingdom and the European Union

Information sources from UK Parliament: Committees: 2016 reports
The United Kingdom and the European Union

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

Information sources from UK Parliament: Library
The United Kingdom and the European Union

Information sources from UK Parliament: Library
The EU Referendum, 23 June 2016
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Electoral Commission
The UK’s Electoral Commission played an important role in the running of the EU Referendum:

- Assessment of the Question asked
- Choice of the ‘lead’ campaign organisations
- Publication of a voter guide
- Details of donations and loans received by campaign organisations
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Political Parties
The United Kingdom and the European Union

Information sources from the UK political parties
[Splinter groups are listed on the Remain and Leave pages]
The EU Referendum, 23 June 2016
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Campaigning groups for Remain and Leave
The United Kingdom and the European Union

Vote Leave, take control

BRITAIN STRONGER IN EUROPE

July 2016: Note that the websites of some of the campaign groups were withdrawn soon after the referendum. Archives of some of these can be found here

Information sources from the ‘lead’ campaign groups
The United Kingdom and the European Union

Campaigning to remain in the EU…

The website of ‘Business for New Europe’ is currently unavailable.
Campaigning to remain in the EU...
The United Kingdom and the European Union

Campaigining to leave the EU...
The United Kingdom and the European Union

Campaigning to leave the EU…
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Stakeholders, think tanks and the International and regional perspectives

An older version of this guide contains more links to sources published before 2016
The United Kingdom and the European Union

Stakeholders and interests: The City of London
Stakeholders: Business
Stakeholders: Trade Unions

EU Referendum

On Thursday 23 June British voters will decide if Britain should continue its membership of the European Union or leave. Working people will have a big stake in the referendum because workers' rights are on the line. The TUC is concerned about the risks of leaving the EU for working people.

Resources

Women's Rights: Brexit impact

EU Referendum

On Europe even we can agree: for British workers it's better in

UNISON to campaign for the UK to stay in Europe

The UK VOTES 23 June 2016

UNITE MEMBERS SUPPORT THE EU

UNITE WILL CAMPAIGN FOR REMAIN

VOTE JOBS VOTE RIGHTS

EMBARGOED UNTIL 00.01HRS WEDNESDAY 1 JUNE 2016

BETTER OFF IN

Working people and the case for remaining in the EU

TUEU

TRADE UNIONISTS AGAINST THE EU
Stakeholders and interests: The UK should leave the EU
Stakeholders and interests: The UK should leave the EU
The United Kingdom and the European Union

Stakeholders and interests: The debate continued ...
The United Kingdom and the European Union

Stakeholders and interests: The debate continued …
The United Kingdom and the European Union

Stakeholders and interests: The debate continued ...
The United Kingdom and the European Union

Engalnd – Scotland – Wales – Northern Ireland
The United Kingdom and the European Union

The BREXIT Debate: Northern Ireland

Starting gun to a referendum or a ticking time-bomb?

By Dr. Lee McGowan, senior lecturer in European Studies at Queen’s University, Belfast

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

The EU referendum and potential implications for Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland Executive
The United Kingdom and the European Union

The Scottish Government

Holyrood overwhelmingly votes to remain in European Union

The Telegraph

Scottish and Welsh nationalists pledge to stop the English leaving EU

The Conversation

In or out of the EU, Britain faces more Scottish upheaval

The BREXIT Debate: Scotland [Find more in ESO]
The United Kingdom and the European Union

The BREXIT Debate: Wales [Find more in ESO]
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The international perspective – International organisations
The United Kingdom and the European Union

The international perspective
European views on the UK’s renegotiation, Sept-Oct 2015

- France, the Netherlands, Slovenia and Latvia
- Italy, Poland, Bulgaria and Malta
- Belgium, Luxembourg, Denmark and Romania
- Austria, Portugal, Croatia and Ireland
- Czech Republic, Hungary, Sweden and Lithuania
- Germany, Greece, Slovakia and the EU Institutions
- Other EU States

International views
The United Kingdom and the European Union

EU-India relations: Why Narendra Modi is likely to make the case against Brexit on his visit to the UK

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

Beijing drops hint it would like UK to stay in EU

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

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

The international perspective – Non-EU countries
The United Kingdom and the European Union

The EU deal to avoid Brexit: Take it or leave
Stefani Weiss and Steven Blockmans
No. 131 / February 2016

Abstract

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

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

Follow EU referendum messages on social media

News sources: BREXIT / Role of UK Media / Social media

The facebook page of ‘StrongerInCampaign’ is currently unavailable.
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News sources: BREXIT / EU Referendum Tag Links

Links to the final key editorials in the UK media before the referendum via ESO

Not all news sources use ‘Tags’
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Issues
Issues: The Economy

- HM Treasury analysis: the long-term economic impact of EU membership and the alternatives
- HM Treasury analysis: the immediate economic impact of leaving the EU
- The economic and financial costs and benefits of the UK's EU membership
  First Report of Session 2016–17
- The Economy after Brexit
  Economists for Brexit
- Trade, investment and jobs will benefit if we Vote Leave
- DARLING: £250 Billion of UK Trade at Risk if we Leave the EU
- Where next? A liberal, free-market guide to Brexit
- The economic consequences of leaving the EU
  The final report of the CES Commission on Brexit 2016
Issues: Public opinion

The website of ‘www.businessforneweurope.org’ is currently unavailable.
Issues: The origin of UK Law: what % from the EU?

Find more information in ESO on this topic

Is two thirds of UK law made by the EU?
Issues: Costs of membership

Fact Check: how much does the UK actually pay to the EU?

The EU budget – a tough nut for the UK?

Lies, damned lies and statistics on the UK’s EU membership

Vote Leave: Briefing - Cost

The UK's EU membership fee
Issues:
Migration / Free Movement

The webpage ‘www.migrationwatchuk.org/eu-referendum’ is currently unavailable.
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The Result
See separate Part 2 guide
The EU Referendum, 23 June 2016
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Miscellaneous
The title of this book changed from ‘Brexit: How Britain Will Leave Europe’ to ‘Brexit: How Britain Left Europe’ after the referendum.
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Books

IN or OUT? Europe in Cartoons
Kipper Williams

Brexit Beckons: Thinking ahead by leading economists
Edited by Richard E. Baldwin
A VoxEU.org Book
CEPR Press
EU Referendum, 23 June 2016
Guide to Information Sources

Legal Deposit UK Web Archive

Archive-It: UK European Union Membership Referendum – has saved for posterity much information from the referendum campaign which might disappear

Archiving for posterity information from the EU Referendum
The Cardiff EDC provides a professional and neutral information service on the European Union and the wider Europe

Enquiry service – Find information: European Sources Online – Events

Further information: http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/european-documentation-centre
Blog: http://blogs.cardiff.ac.uk/european-documentation-centre/