

# Facts About The European Union

The purpose of this paper is to set before readers some basic information about the process leading up to the EU and how it operates. Much of this information is unknown to the vast majority of people, yet it is needed for those who are expected to make decisions at the next election, on which Britain's involvement in Europe will be decided forever.

## The Road To Union

- ❑ The Treaty of Rome (1957) proposes *'ever closer union'*.
- ❑ The European Communities Act passed 20 July 1972, despite a national petition signed by 764,107 people opposed to entry.
- ❑ Britain signs the Treaty of Rome in 1973 under the Conservative government of Edward Heath. This gave up sovereign rights over most aspects of economic and trading policies.
- ❑ A public referendum on continued membership of the EEC took place in 1975. Britain remained in membership.
- ❑ The Single European Act (1986) was passed.
- ❑ The Treaty of Maastricht (a legal document merging the Treaty of Rome and the Single European Act) was formally ratified on 2 August 1993.

In this process it should be noted that most UK citizens have understood little about what was really going on. This is due to:

- ❑ Deliberate deception by those involved, e.g:
  - Our joining the EEC (the 'Common Market' as it was then), was presented as a beneficial free trade agreement. In the subsequent referendum, Edward Heath assured the nation that there was *'no question of any erosion of essential national sovereignty.'* Such fears were: *'completely unjustified.'* However, the Lord Chancellor had written to Heath on 14 December 1960 regarding the constitutional implications of joining the Treaty of Rome. He stated that the process was clearly one of federalism and Britain would lose significant sovereignty on a bigger scale than ever previously experienced, even in wartime, and that the Community would have force of law on any future regulations. He also suggested that his fears should be *'brought into the open.'* French President Georges Pompidou and West German Foreign minister Walter Scheel had affirmed the aims of European Government to Heath in 1971. In 1990, a BBC interviewer asked Heath if he had in mind a United States of Europe with a single currency in 1975. Heath answered: *'Of course, yes.'* There is now no doubt that Heath acted with duplicity.
  - Founding father of the EU, Jean Monnet is a Catholic who rejects the idea of sovereign nations and believes in a federal Europe superstate. He planned to achieve this without the peoples of Europe realising it as the plan would take successive steps, each disguised by an economic purpose, all leading to federalism: pooling of Europe's coal and steel production, co-ordination of the atomic programmes, followed by the Common Agricultural Policy, the Common Market and single currency. He explained this to Heath on 6 May 1970: *'I told Heath how we had proceeded from the start, step by step,*

*and how in this way we had gradually created the Common Market and today's Europe, and that I was convinced we should proceed in the same manner.'*<sup>1</sup> The Labour Party leader, Hugh Gaitskell had warned in 1962 that the Common Market meant: *'The end of Britain as an independent nation state ... the end of a thousand years of history.'*

□ EU propoganda to mislead, e.g:

- The EU has a massive resource earmarked for publicity and PR, *'to promote European understanding'*. The estimated budget for 1997 is £250,000,000 of tax-payers money.<sup>2</sup> This money has been used in the UK to compete unfairly against anti-European candidates in elections. There is also evidence that propoganda was used against Margaret Thatcher in 1990 which aided her downfall.<sup>3</sup> Leading Eurocrat, Max Kohnstamm stated in 1954 that the purpose of Information Services was to *'disarm opponents of integration.'*<sup>4</sup>
- More than £20 billion of taxpayers' money has helped to finance the EU propoganda campaign in Britain.<sup>5</sup>
- Christopher Booker revealed that statistics quoted in Parliament, from CBI sources, that 71% of English firms were enjoying greater trading opportunities with Europe were untrue. In fact under 2% said they were benefiting. Leon Brittan quoted another CBI survey stating that the majority of CBI members (84%) favoured economic and monetary union. In fact only 60 companies had reacted positively.<sup>6</sup>
- The BBC and several newspapers commented on the 1995 CBI survey declaring that the majority of British firms favoured a single currency. In fact only 2% did so.<sup>7</sup>
- Children as young as 5-years-old have been targeted for propoganda by the EU. For instance: a colouring book called - *'Let's draw Europe together'* contains many misleading statements. Willy de Clercq (European Commissioner) sees this as *'strategically judicious to act where resistance is weakest'*.<sup>8</sup>

□ Difficulty in finding true information, e.g:

- In the run up to the Maastricht treaty, the country was pre-occupied with the 1992 General Election and the principal parties did not actively discuss Maastricht as a key election issue. Copies of the Treaty were very scarce and hard to find. The government did not make it easily available. Contrast Denmark where 300,000 copies were distributed very quickly. At the time of the election HMSO withdrew copies of the Treaty because of German objections to the typesetting, in lower case, of the word ecu! (Although previously it had said that it was withdrawn from sale due to lack of interest.) A private publisher got hold of a photocopy from the Foreign Office and reset it for publication having proofed it against a copy obtained from Brussels. It was distributed under the title of 'The Hidden Treaty' for sale at £2.95 (the HMSO version was £13.30).<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Hilton, p68.

<sup>2</sup> Foster, p4.

<sup>3</sup> Hilton, p170-171

<sup>4</sup> Hilton, p162.

<sup>5</sup> Hilton, p162

<sup>6</sup> Hilton, p159-160.

<sup>7</sup> Hilton, p160.

<sup>8</sup> Hilton, p165

<sup>9</sup> Wood, p35-36.

## British Sovereignty

- The purpose of the EU is to build a federal state; Maastricht clearly delineates this as a ‘making into one’ an amalgamation of the contracting states. It has resulted in the following consequences *already*:
  - The Queen has been reduced, by the Maastricht treaty, to the position of a subject of Brussels.<sup>10</sup>
  - Britain must submit its economic plans to Brussels.<sup>11</sup>
  - Foreign, defence and social policy is soon to be decided by the EU not Britain. [Where Britain has an opt-out clause, e.g. the Social Chapter, other compulsory directives (e.g. Health & Safety) ensure compliance by the back door.]
  - EU law supersedes that of British law:  
*‘Every national court must apply Community law in its entirety and must accordingly set aside any provision of national law which may conflict with it.’*<sup>12</sup> E.g: In May 1996, the European Court of Justice judged that Britain acted illegally in banning the export of sheep to Spain for slaughter, despite the horrendous cruelty and illicit methods involved. Britain was forced to comply with a clearly unrighteous judgment! Lord Denning (former Master of the Rolls) said: *‘European law ... is now like a tidal wave bringing down our sea-walls and flowing over the fields and houses to the dismay of us all.’*<sup>13</sup>
  - Parliament has lost its sovereignty.
    - Britain has lost its sovereign right of territorial fishing areas. E.g: Parliament passed the Fisheries Act, approved by the Queen and the Lords, to prevent Spanish fishermen sailing under a British flag and stealing a quota of fish allotted to Britain, (remember we had already given away most of our own fish to receive back a 30% quota). The EU Court of Justice instructed us that our Act was illegal, the Spanish were allowed to continue and the EU Court forced Britain to compensate the poor Spanish. Is any more proof needed to see the abject folly of being part of the EU!
    - Foreign nationals can vote in British elections.
    - Visa controls for non-EU countries will soon pass to Brussels.
    - Maastricht gives Brussels supremacy in over 70 policy areas, including: taxation, monetary policy, education, immigration, judicial policy, health and safety, industrial policy, energy etc. There is no veto in any of these areas!
- Germany’s foreign policy spokesman has said that Germany not only wants a federal Europe, but that member states sovereignty has already been lost, the idea of sovereignty is *‘an empty shell’*, he said.<sup>14</sup>
- The vast majority of UK citizens have no idea that all this ground has been lost. Remember that the Treaty of Maastricht is *an irreversible and internationally enforceable treaty*.<sup>15</sup> Signing it was illegal and treasonable in British law Parliament is not able to bind any future Parliaments.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>10</sup> Enquiries by a vicar to his administrators and Buckingham Palace as to whether his oath of allegiance to the Queen put him lawfully under allegiance to Brussels, were passed to Brussels for confirmation. Foster, p3. See also McWhirter, *Freedom Today*, June 1996.

<sup>11</sup> See Phases 1 and 2 of *Economic and Monetary Union* which the Chancellor (Kenneth Clarke) has signed especially Articles 102a; 103(1), (3), (4); 109e (4), m; 5 etc. Further strictures are planned and there is no opt out from provisions under 103 (5), in fact, Qualified Majority Voting applies so Britain could not block the legislation.

<sup>12</sup>Case 106/77 Amministrazione delle Finanze dello Stato v. Simmenthal, 1978, ECR 629 at 643,644.

<sup>13</sup> Foster, p2

<sup>14</sup> Referendum Party Newspaper, p3.

<sup>15</sup> *‘Neither the original Treaty of Rome nor the Treaty of Maastricht even envisages a withdrawal from the EU by any member nation. It is designed to be an irreversible union.’* Sir James Goldsmith, *The Betrayal of our nation*, p3. Tony Benn said in 1992 regarding Maastricht: *‘even if a British government were elected on the issue of repealing a piece of this legislation ...the mechanism to do so would not exist’*. Commons Report 2/12/92.

<sup>16</sup> Leolin Price QC wrote to *The Times*: *‘are powers which we have entrusted to our constitutional representative to be*

The clear principles contained in the Bill of Rights of 1689 have been overturned e.g: *'the execution of laws ... without the consent of Parliament is illegal.'*

- ❑ Margaret Thatcher's book: *The Downing Street Years* contains a chapter titled 'The Babel Express, relations within the European Community'. Here she expresses fears about the growth of the superstate and loss of British sovereignty. She should know.
- ❑ Lord Tony Pandy, retired speaker of the House of Commons and a Christian, wrote about his worries to *The Times* on 24/4/95: *'The current slide towards a single European currency threatens both our economic and political independence, and thus our sovereignty. Subterfuge and half truths have been used to persuade the nation that neither our sovereignty nor our relationship with the Commonwealth is endangered.'*
- ❑ Graham Wood makes a salient point when he states that: *'Britain who has done so much through her post-war foreign policy to emancipate her former empire, encouraging both democracy and self-determination [is now thinking] of denying those very same principles by allowing her own people to become the obligatory citizens of a foreign state.'*<sup>17</sup>
- ❑ We are now citizens of Europe by compulsion whether we like it or not. Maastricht allows no opt out clause. Furthermore we are all *'subject to the duties imposed thereby'* (Article 8.2). These duties have yet to be defined and may well include military service. And what of the United Nations Charter which states that a person cannot be a citizen of two states at the same time? Remember that Maastricht is a legally binding international document.

### Democratic Influences

- ❑ With the exception of Sweden, no country in the EU, apart from Britain, has had unbroken democracy for more than 52 years.
- ❑ Greece, Portugal and Spain have not even had democracy that long.
- ❑ The construction of the EU was designed by Germany, with assistance of French civil servants. It is based upon Germany's constitutional legacy, which is itself founded upon Prussian politics moulded by Hegel. This philosopher believed in the state and despised the people whom he called 'rabble'. Elected Parliaments were only useful to subordinate the people. He said, *'The people ... do not know what they want. To know what one wants is the fruit of profound insight and this is the very thing that the people lack.'*<sup>18</sup>
- ❑ The European concept of law is based upon the *'Code Napoleon'*, i.e. you are guilty until proved innocent!
- ❑ Britain's democracy was founded upon Calvinistic Christian principles and is based in the people. Parliament is only **lent power** for a short period. Most of Europe has systems based upon either godless philosophies or Roman Catholic authoritarianism.
- ❑ Many have pointed out that Britain has always resisted Continental schemes to create a hegemony in Europe. Violent attempts by Charlemagne, Napoleon, The Kaiser and Hitler were overthrown. This peaceful plan has succeeded without most people even realising it.
- ❑ All these countries now make our laws! Graham Wood tersely remarks: *'It must take a people politically blind and stupid indeed to accept such draconian loss of their democratic rights without resistance.'*<sup>19</sup>

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*transferred to the government of a different polity ... without even being able to tell us exactly what powers are to be transferred?'* *The Times* 14/10/92. See also letter of Norris McWhirter to the Speaker of the House of Commons published in the February 1993 issue of *Freedom Today*, also as an appendix in Wood (p41) and Hilton (p183).

<sup>17</sup> Wood, p18.

<sup>18</sup> Foster, p3.

<sup>19</sup> Wood, p21.

## Unelected Bureaucratic Control

- ❑ The control centre of the EU is based in 50 people:
  - 15 heads of state and government.
  - 15 ministers in the *Council of Ministers*.
  - 20 European commissioners (two are British: Leon Brittan and Neil Kinnock).
  - None of these people have been elected by the people to carry out European government functions and they are not accountable to anyone!
- ❑ The democratically elected European Parliament and the various national Parliaments cannot overturn decisions made by these 50 people.
- ❑ The European Parliament has nothing in common with Westminster but the name. It does not represent an electorate, cannot raise taxes and is not the powerhouse of Europe. It merely comments upon policies already made by the Council of Ministers. It is really an assembly (its previous name until the Single E. Act) meeting only five days a month. The Council of Ministers is the law making body of the EU. It meets in secret so is rather like a Cabinet meeting. Many decisions are made here by majority vote, not consensus.<sup>20</sup> The executive body is the Commission, which instigates legislative proposals then put to the council which supervises the implementation of decisions. These representatives are not democratically elected and this meeting is also secret. It is not responsible to any other body and agrees directives which become EU law. The Court of Justice is based in Luxembourg and is the final arbiter on the interpretation of EU treaties. It can (and does) overrule national state laws.
- ❑ Note Title 1 Article F3 of Maastricht: *'The Union shall provide itself with the means necessary to attain its objective and carry through its policies.'* Dr Alan Sked, Chairman of the Anti-Federalist League has compared this to Hitler's Enabling Act. It also nullifies the 'subsidiarity' principle inserted in Title 2 of the Treaty.<sup>21</sup>

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<sup>20</sup> Its power can be seen in the case of the dropping of the title '*Economic*' in EEC. This was decided at one session of the Council of Ministers Luxembourg Summit in 1976, and was so surreptitious that even the EU Commission and Parliament knew nothing about it. For 11 years the use of 'EC' was illegal until ratified by the Single European Act (1986/7). The public had been conditioned to accept what was only a proposal.

<sup>21</sup> Wood, p22.

## Economy and Trade

- ❑ Since joining the EU in 1973, the UK has amassed a trade deficit with Europe of £70 billion.
- ❑ Less than half of UK exports go to the EU, only 25% of UK investments overseas are with the EU and less than 5% of investment in the UK is from the EU.
- ❑ Britain has a trade surplus with the rest of the world (over £80 billion). 75% of overseas investments are outside the EU. The UK gets twice as much inward investment from Commonwealth countries than from the EU.
- ❑ Membership of the EU is not required to trade with it. For example: Switzerland rejected membership of the EU in 1993 yet exports (per capita) 3½ times as Britain to the EU; Norway exports 3 times as much as Britain to the EU.
- ❑ Every member of EFTA is richer than every member of the EU except Luxembourg; e.g. Norway rejected EU membership but kept her trading advantages, her fishing grounds and has no EU regulations or costs. Norway's stock exchange rose and inflation fell to an all time low. When Switzerland stayed out, she saw a rise in the Swiss Franc and stock market, a fall in interest rates, inflation and unemployment. The wealthiest nations in Europe (UN statistics) are Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Iceland - all are outside the EU.

## Cost

- ❑ 5.4p on the basic rate of the UK income tax (1996/7).
- ❑ The cost of the EU so far (1973-1996) is £235 billion. We pay 0.25% of our GDP (£9 billion p.a.).
- ❑ Future added costs include: increased VAT spectrum and the EU pension debt of £10 billion.
  - Monetary Union requires all national governments to hand over to the European Federal Bank all gold reserves and all assets, including pension funds for the benefit of Europe, However, France, Spain and Italy have made no capital provision for their current pensioners and pay them from national insurance contributions of workers. In a few years, the outgoings in pensions will exceed the income and the countries will be faced with bankruptcy like Albania. The pension bill for Europe will exceed £30,000 per person within a generation.
- ❑ Payments exceed grants by £4 billion p.a. (In 1995, payments = £8.9 b., receipts = £4.8 b., net contribution = £4.1 b. In comparison, the cost of NHS hospitals and equipment = £3 b.)
- ❑ The EU protection policy inflates the cost of basic food products by 150% above world market prices.
- ❑ The Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) increases the average British family's food bill by, at least, £18 per week (£1000 p.a.), i.e. this is a concealed tax. The CAP spends £250 million per week on the storage, dumping and destruction of food while many nations are starving. Each year the CAP generates £6 Billion worth of fraud involving the Mafia and the IRA according to the EU's own Court of Auditors.<sup>22</sup>
- ❑ How in the world can we defend a Common Fisheries Policy which decimates our fishing fleet and allows foreign vessels, with larger quotas, fish in our waters which then sells our fish back to us!
- ❑ House of Commons research figures (reported by *The Times* 20/10/95), showed that without the cost of supporting the CAP, a pint of milk costing 36p would cost only 17p, a kilo of sugar costing 71p would be 33p and a large loaf costing 53p would cost 38p. Beef prices are doubled, lamb is increased by a third, chicken and pork by a quarter as a result of the CAP.
- ❑ It is estimated that 1 million British jobs have been lost since 1973 as a result of the CAP.

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<sup>22</sup> Dr Martin Holmes quoted in Wood, p29.

- ❑ Fraud and lax management costs as much as £2 billion in 1994 (figures from the EU Court of Auditors).
- ❑ VAT cannot be zero rated once introduced on a product by EU law. Current exemptions include food, children's clothes, books, newspapers, public transport and house purchases in the UK. The EU wants these brought in line by the year 2005. National governments may well phase these taxes in to create the illusion of sovereign choice.
- ❑ We should not forget the consequences in cost and jobs of the myriad of EU regulations being formulated daily. Many businesses have simply given up trying to keep up with them and have gone out of business. Other firms find that they need to continually spend money revamping their operation in order to comply with the next one.
- ❑ A respected firm of accountants estimates that joining the single currency will cost Britain £36bn.

### **German / French control**

- ❑ The heart of the EU is a German /French solidarity. They are bound by the terms of their bilateral treaty of 1963 to reach an 'analogous position' ahead of meetings of the Council of Ministers.
- ❑ Raymond Barre, former French Premier and European Commissioner has said, '*I never understood why public opinion about European ideas should be taken into account.*'<sup>23</sup>
- ❑ Germany has revealed its self-interest in policy when it maintained high interest rates after German reunification to the detriment and complaints of other states, forcing the UK out of the ERM.
- ❑ Chancellor Kohl has said '*The future will belong to the Germans ... when we build the house of Europe ... In the next two years we will make the process of European integration irreversible.*'<sup>24</sup> He has also stated: '*We will make the process of European integration irreversible ... might is right in politics and war.*'<sup>25</sup>
- ❑ The German Christian Democratic Party has stated: '*No country should be allowed to block by veto the efforts of the other countries to deepen integration.*'<sup>26</sup>

### **EU Philosophy**

- ❑ The EU is proud to have an underlying foundation of secular humanism. Any Catholic influence appears to be restricted to a formal religious institution which imparts no Biblical moral influence.
- ❑ Historically, European Governments have been mainly influenced by paganism or Catholicism. For a couple of centuries, Germany, France and a few other states have been very influenced by the Enlightenment and secular philosophies of varying sorts. Great Britain and The Netherlands, on the other hand, have been mainly influenced by the fruits of the Reformation. The development of their democracies have been different from other European countries. Britain's sovereign is still sworn to defend the country under the God of the Bible.
- ❑ An example of the application of secular philosophy is that the EU Parliament has recently asked the Commission to draft legislation to legalise homosexual marriages. Any ministers refusing to marry a homosexual or lesbian couple would be prosecuted.<sup>27</sup>

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<sup>23</sup> The News, p8

<sup>24</sup> Hilton, p39.

<sup>25</sup> Helmut Kohl, The News, p8

<sup>26</sup> The Bournemouth Speeches, Bill Cash MP, Sir James Goldsmith MEP, Rt. Hon. Lord Tebbit, 1994, The European Foundation.

<sup>27</sup> PWM Trust Prayer Letter, Easter 1997.

## Roman Catholic Influence

- ❑ Roman Catholic imagery is utilised in EU symbols:
  - The EU flag was inspired by the halo of 12 stars around pictures of the Madonna. Dr Crampton, director of the Flag Institute, said that: *'No one can deny that under these symbols Catholics recognise the presence of the infinitely merciful Queen of Peace in Christ.'*<sup>28</sup> When the union was increased to 15 member nations, the EU confirmed that the flag would remain with only 12 stars as it was based on the picture of 'Our Lady' in Strasbourg cathedral. Interestingly, the EU has only criticised the flag design of one member nation - England, calling it 'a disgrace' that Wales is not represented.
- ❑ On the continent Roman Catholics are in the majority (199m. to Protestants 61m.). Protestantism cannot be maintained even if there was a truly democratic process.
- ❑ The prominent MEP Dr. Otto von Hapsburg (the eldest son of the last Austro-Hungarian Emperor) is a staunch Catholic advocating a major role for the Roman Catholic church in Europe as 'Europe's ultimate bulwark'.
- ❑ Since W.W.II, each pope has strongly supported the idea of a supra-national EU. In fact, Europe was consecrated to Mary by the Vatican in 1309. This was done at a shrine in Gibraltar called: 'Our lady of Europa' which is now being renovated with a £200,000 EU grant.
- ❑ Maastricht is the home of a shrine to Mary. During the treaty negotiations, Jacques Delors, a devout Catholic, went every morning to pray at the shrine.
- ❑ The current Pope is a strong supporter of the EU and its policies. In 1988 he addressed the European Parliament in Strasbourg. The Sunday Telegraph summed up the Pope's plans: *'He is calmly preparing to assume the mantle which he solemnly believes to be his divine right - that of new Holy Roman Emperor.'*<sup>29</sup>
- ❑ Pope John Paul II definitely sees himself as the leader of a new world order for which the EU is a foundation. One of his titles is, in fact, *Ruler of the World*.
- ❑ The Vatican with its 116 embassies, emissaries, institutions and priests around the world is in a unique position to influence everyone. *'What captures the unwavering attention of the secular leaders of the world in this remarkable network of the Roman Catholic Church is precisely the fact that it places at the personal disposal of the Pope a supranational, supercontinental, supra-trade-bloc structure that is so built and orientated that if tomorrow or next week, by a sudden miracle, a one-world government were established, the Church would not have to undergo any essential change in order to retain its dominant position and to further its global aims.'*<sup>30</sup>
- ❑ The Evangelical Alliance has noted that Evangelical Christians are perceived by the EU as a sect, any religious group which is not part of the Roman church is viewed with suspicion.<sup>31</sup>

## Final Word

*'We do not want another committee. We have too many already. What we want is a man of sufficient stature to hold the allegiance of all people and to lift us out of the economic morass in which we are sinking. Send us such a man and be he god or the devil we will receive him.'*

Paul-Henri Spaak, Former Belgian prime minister, President of the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe 1949-51 speaking near the start of the move for European Union.

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<sup>28</sup> Mediatrice et Reine, 1973.

<sup>29</sup> Sunday Telegraph, 21/7/91

<sup>30</sup> Malachi Martin (an ex-Jesuit priest at the heart of the Vatican), The Keys of this Blood, p142-3.

<sup>31</sup> Hilton, p104.

## Appendix 1

### The Maastricht Treaty

Due to the voluminous and technical legal nature of this document, very few read it (306 pages, 6000 words of tedious small print). Stephen and Gill Bush give a breakdown of the key points affecting Great Britain:

- Imposition of foreign citizenship on British citizens.
- Economic & monetary union.
- Removal of our right to identify travellers at our borders, control immigration, asylum and the issue of visas.
- The establishment of a common Foreign & Defence policy.
- Extended use of qualified majority voting which gives enormous weighting to smaller countries (Luxembourg, Ireland, Belgium, Denmark, Greece, Portugal, Holland).
- Increased centralisation, planning and surveillance of our national life.
- Establishment of the Economic & Social Cohesion Fund.

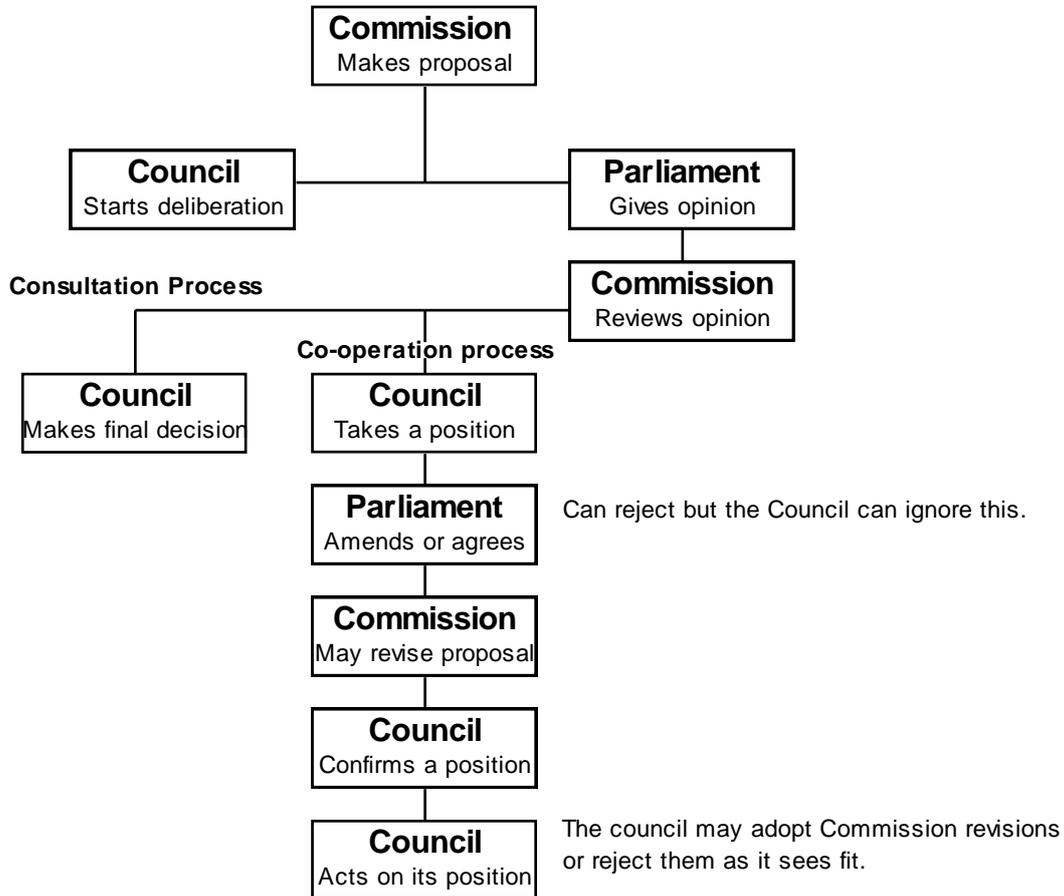
Extension of the Commission's remit to pry into every aspect of our national life.<sup>32</sup>

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<sup>32</sup> S & G Bush, *Britain's Future-The Meaning of Maastricht*, Prosyma Research Pub.

## Appendix 2

### The EU Legislative Process



It can be seen that the Council of Ministers is the body with the real power, and we should bear in mind that the EU is issuing approximately 27 directives everyday, all of which we have to comply with, none of which have been sanctioned individually by Westminster. Maastricht has given the EU responsibility for common European policies in over 70 areas.<sup>33</sup>

<sup>33</sup> Based upon a diagram in Graham Wood, Maastricht, p37.

## Bibliography

This paper is completely drawn from the works referred to. There is some original thought, but not much, as it simply seeks to lay before the reader the current facts of the matter as researched by other specialists in the field. As such, I am grateful for the use of these sources.

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**Foster, Phil** Local paper on the effects of the EU on Britain, Cambridge, 1997
- Goldsmith, Sir James** *The Betrayal of our nation*, speech given in Bristol.  
**Hilton, Adrian.** *The Principality and Power of Europe*, Dorchester House, 1997. [This book is the main source and is essential reading.]
- The News** *The Referendum Party newspaper*.  
**Lord Tonypany** Letter regarding the defence of Parliament.  
**Wood, Graham** *Maastricht, the Christian dilemma*, Campaign for an Independent Britain, 1993. [This book is the secondary key source for this paper.]

All authors are Christians, with the exception (as far as I know) of Sir James Goldsmith.

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Understanding Ministries

# Some subsequent facts coming to light

2000 - 2001

## Political Agenda for growing federalism

- At a Franco-German summit at Rambouillet in May 2000, Lionel Jospin, Jacques Chirac and Gerhard Schröder discussed a range of new ideas for the EU including: a constitution for the 'European Citizen', an elected 'President of Europe' and reform of the EU's founding treaty to give *'a long-term political perspective on the Union's future'*.
- **Fischer's German plan for federal Europe** - Joschka Fischer, Germany's foreign minister, called for a European federation with its own constitution, government and president in June 2000. He said that a 'vanguard' group of member states (the 11 eurozone countries) should accelerate political integration. Even the French interior minister, Jean-Oierre Chevenement, called this a desire to rebuild a Holy Roman Empire but all the commentators agreed that *'the federalist revolution is happening'* (Daniel Johnson in *The Daily Telegraph*).
- **Chirac strengthens Paris-Berlin axis** - in a speech to the German Reichstag in July 2000, French President Jacques Chirac outlined his vision for European integration which echoed German thinking by calling for France and Germany to set up a 'pioneer' group of nations (fast-lane) to forge ahead with political and economic integration without being held back by nations like Britain.
- **Superpower army** - Blair committed Britain to 12,500 troops, 72 combat aircraft and 18 warships as a contribution to the new EU defence force in November 2000. Two former foreign secretaries pronounced it a threat to Nato (Lord Healey and Lord Owen).
- **Cook's ardent support** - is well documented. Ironically, on the very day he attacked the British press for predicting an EU which would arrest people for drinking beer in pints, Sunderland greengrocer Steven Thoburn was in court for selling bananas by the pound in contravention of European law.

## The Movement Against Growing Federalism

- **German States reject increased powers for Brussels** - The premiers of the 16 states that constitute the federal republic of Germany have warned Chancellor Schroder that they will refuse to ratify the next European treaty if more of their powers are lost to Brussels, especially in the areas of education, social security and transport. The next European treaty (to replace the Amsterdam Treaty of 1997) is due to be signed later in 2000 and any hold up would embarrass the German government. Henning Scherf, mayor of Bremen said, *'All 16 of us have sworn to do everything in our power to prevent Germany's federal structure from being dissolved by EU centralisation'*.
- Growing opposition to the single currency took Danish leaders by surprise in June 2000. Polls show that 47% are opposed to joining the euro, the first time in two years that the majority are against the idea. This is bad news for a government that has tabled a referendum in September.
- Germany's foreign minister Joschka Fischer has called for the German people to have more control over their country's policy towards the EU and has proposed that all future transfers of power to Brussels should be determined by referendum.
- The German Commissioner, Gunter Verheugen, in charge of overseeing the expansion of the EU stated, in a September 2000 newspaper interview, that the German people should be allowed to vote in a referendum before any further expansion occurred. He also claimed that the euro had been introduced behind the backs of the German population and that Germany should have a referendum on the single currency.
- Andrew Alexander (*The Daily Mail*) laid out a solid case for leaving the EU altogether in

December 2000. He explained the inevitability of a federal superstate and the hatred of British people for such a monster. The rhetoric that we can't exist economically without the EU is a fraud he said. Britain is the fourth largest economy and the single biggest export market for the EU; they need us as much as we need them. If we left the EU we could easily insist on a free-trade agreement with zero tariffs, just as Norway and Switzerland have. Freed from the tide of Brussels red tape, we would be in a stronger position to sell to the EU and attract foreign investment. We also would not have to pay £5.5 billion a year to Brussels, reclaim our fishing grounds and abandon the VAT system. The benefits are so striking, he avers, that the only wonder is why we haven't done it already.

### **Strong pound vs weak euro**

- **Reasons for retaining the pound** (letter to *The Times*) - Less than 30% of our GDP is exported. Of that, only 41% goes to euroland after removal of the 'Rotterdam Effect' (goods shipped to Rotterdam and forwarded). Less than 3% of all businesses in the UK have any dealings with euroland. Most of our trade is denominated in dollars and most of our principal trading partners are in the Anglo-Saxon world, not Europe. The US and UK economies and currencies have broadly marched in step for years. They are based on a common commercial culture. We import far more from euroland than we export and all these imports are now much cheaper as a result of the euro's weakness. The pound, like the dollar, is a petro-currency. The recent fall of the pound against the dollar has put up petrol prices, but much less than if we had converted to euros. Fuel prices in euroland have escalated catastrophically as the euro slumped against the US currency. The higher cost of fuel and other imports are now seriously damaging euroland businesses and they can do absolutely nothing about it. (sic) *Ashley Mote, Liss, Hants*.
- **Trade figures**, briefing from *The Week* - Less than half of British exports (less than 15% of Britain's GDP) go to euroland. The larger portion of our trade is denominated in American dollars, and against the dollar the pound has been stable for four years (as of 27 May 2000). At the moment it is at its lowest level against the dollar for six years, benefiting all those who export to the States. The real problem is not the strength of the pound but the weakness of the euro which has fallen 14% against the pound since its creation in Jan 1999.
- Assuming that the mid-range Treasury forecasts of 3% in 2000 and 2.5% growth in 2001 are broadly met, then the year 2001 will be the ninth consecutive year in which economic growth has climbed by 2% or more. Since 1855 there has been no other period of nine consecutive years in which economic growth has risen by 2% or more. We do not need the euro for stability.
- The clamour to solve short-term exchange rate problems by joining the euro is wrong. When last attempted, Labour urged Major to join the ERM which led to the recession. Devaluation followed by joining the euro will also not work. Once in the euro there can be no devaluation and the only way to gain advantage would be to reduce labour costs. That means higher unemployment or lower wages or both. Wim Duisenberg (ECB president) accepts this and said that higher British unemployment is 'a price worth paying' for price stability in Europe.
- Anne Segall of the *Daily Telegraph* stated in July 2000 that it was right not to have joined the euro in January 1999 or we would have experienced an Irish-style boom. The truth is that the 'one size fits all' interest rate policy has become a 'one size fits no one'. The ECB's current 4.25% rate is too high for Germany and Italy but too low for Spain, Ireland, Finland and other hot-spots. Unemployment, growth and inflation vary markedly from one EU country to the next. The idea of Britain converging is also foolish, 'Converging with whom?' is the question to be asked. British inflation is only 0.5% in EU terms while Ireland's has risen from 1.99% to 5.2% in a year.
- While Labour scaremongered about the collapse of British industry and inward investment if Britain kept out of the euro, the figures told a different story. By July 2000 the number of foreign investment projects rose by 16% to 757 of which manufacturing accounted for 40%.

The UK is an attractive place to invest. The recent problems with car manufacturers has much more to do with international overproduction and price reductions. While the news of record flows of foreign investment were ignored, the DTI leaked a memo which warned of a 'manufacturing breakdown' if we do not join the euro and emphasised that Japanese companies were considering withdrawing. Actually, only 4% of the previous year's foreign investment came from Japan while 49% came from America - and the Yanks are opposed to us entering the euro-zone.

- Jonathan Sayeed wrote to *The Times* to explain that he had asked the Research Service of the House of Commons to prepare a note on the pros and cons of EMU membership. The H of C library is recognised as being an authoritative and impartial research body; part of the reply follows: '*Given that the advantages claimed for EMU are small but long term, it follows that the UK is unlikely to be seriously disadvantaged by not joining in the short term. Even in the long term it is reasonable to argue that the structural changes made to the management of the UK economy have already eroded much of the advantage offered by claimed-for dynamic effects. My guess is that in 28 years' time it will be as hard to pinpoint the net benefits of EMU membership as it is today to do the same for membership of the EU since 1973.*' (From *The Week*, 24 Feb 01)
- The *Financial Times* laid out the British case against joining the Euro: 1) the UK is doing very well on its own and is growing faster than the eurozone; 2) the UK economy would be less stable inside the eurozone, (note the result of irrevocably fixed exchange rates in Argentina); 3) nobody knows what a sensible entry rate might be or how to get it without destabilising the economy; 4) the long-term workability of the single currency remains uncertain. (Article by Martin Wolf, Jan or Feb 2002).
- Despite fears, only in Euroland are vestiges of recession still apparent in February 2002. The reasons are: too much regulation and business conservatism making Europe slow to respond to changing conditions, and lack of monetary policy. While in the US and the UK interest rates are actively used to manage demand, the European Central Bank stuck to the Bundesbank's dogma that interest rates should only be used to control inflation. The result was that euro rates are higher than in 1999 at the height of a boom. Monetary paralysis has thus paralysed the EU community. Anatole Kalentsky, *The Times*).

### **Interfering policies**

- Unpopular laws emanating from Brussels are habitually implemented in Britain whereas in Spain, France, Italy and Greece they are ignored or circumvented.
- In June 2000, the EU insisted that Britain should begin charging VAT on bridge tolls.
- Diplomatic sanctions were imposed on Austria in February 2000 after Jorge Haider's far-right 'Freedom Party' joined the government as a coalition partner. This in itself was hypocritical since the EU supported many oppressive regimes for financially beneficial reasons. However, these sanctions were lifted in September by recommendations from the EU Court of Human Rights. In fact, Austria had threatened to block Brussels business if the sanctions were not lifted. The sanctions had also whipped up a wave of nationalist sentiment in Austria.
- The very nations which are pushing hardest for European integration are those which ignore most EU directives. By December 2000, France had received 89 formal warnings for failing to obey European regulations. Italy has received 72 and Germany 66. Britain has only received 34 and Denmark (who rejected the euro) only 16.
- Blame for the Foot and Mouth epidemic of March 2001 was laid on EU regulations which give Britain no control over what products are allowed into the country. More than a third of beef imports come from Brazil, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Botswana and Uruguay. Who can know if these are disease-free regions? The dismantling of border controls and health checks on imported livestock and food is required by the single market.

- In May 2001 judges in Strasbourg ordered the British Government to pay £10,000 to each of the families of ten IRA men shot dead by police and troops. Eight of the ten were killed in 1987 during an ambush by the SAS during a bomb attack on Loughall police station. This action certainly saved police lives. There will be no compensation of the families of the 2000 people murdered by Republican terrorists.

### **Gradual Loss of Sovereignty**

- In April 2001 a Sunderland grocer was taken to court for failing to display goods measured in metric measurements. Steven Thorburn was given a six month conditional discharge. The judge stated that it was clear Parliament had '*surrendered its sovereignty to the primacy of European law*' when Britain joined the Common Market in 1972. A later case (Feb 2002) resulted in the High Court stating that EU law is sovereign in this matter, greengrocers were convicted.
- *The Observer* warned in April 2001 that once Britain signs up to GATS (General Agreement of Trade in Services) parliament will be demoted to an advisory body. The WTO plans to use part of the GAT treaty, known as the Necessity Test, to create an agency with power to strike down national laws considered '*more burdensome than necessary*'.

### **Religious Freedom**

A new European employment directive will make it illegal for organisations to refuse to employ an individual due to that person's religious views or sexual orientation. Churches and Christian organisations could be forced to employ homosexuals or people of other faiths in senior posts; or church schools forced to employ teachers who oppose their religious perspective. The only protection is for ministers or religious education teachers to be of the same religion, but they can still be gay. The Commissioner responsible for the directive, Anna Diamantopoulou, has confirmed this. This directive overrides the freedom of religion under Article 9 of the Convention on Human Rights and Section 13 of the Human Rights Act. It also negates legal protections granted to church schools by the UK government in 1998. This legislation would affect all religious groups, not just Christians.

### **Statistical Support for the EU and the euro**

- In October 1999, 41% would vote for Britain to completely pull out of Europe if there was a referendum. *Mori/Sun; NOP/Express*. In November this rose to 54%. In January 2000 63% were against joining the euro and in early February it was 69% (*ICM/BBC 'Today'*); by late February over 70% of businesses wanted to keep the pound (*ICM/Daily Mail*) and by the end of the year, 71% of Britons were against replacing the pound with the euro (*MORI/The Mail on Sunday*). Interestingly, as the last Deutschmarks were being printed, 2 out of 3 Germans stated that they were opposed to the single currency. Most would even prefer the dollar to the euro. By June 2001, 70% of Germans did not want the euro (*The Week: 311, 16.6.01*) In Europe generally, less than 50% of the EU's population describe membership of the EU as a good thing (*INRA, The Independent July 2000*).
- 38% of Swedes think that the EU is a bad thing, only 34% think it is a good thing. (*The Week, 267, p24*)
- Has the EU benefited member countries? 56% of Swedes think not; 48% of Austrians think not; 44% of Finns think not; 49% of East Germans think not; 42% of Germans think not. (*The Week, 267, p24*) In January 2001 polls revealed that only 29% of Germans were glad that they joined the single currency. [*ICM/Guardian*]
- Do member countries trust the Commission? 47% of Danes do not; 53% of Swedes do not; 40% of Britains do not. (*The Week, 267, p24, 2001*)
- In February 2001 the Swiss decided not to join the EU.
- In September 2000 the Danes voted not to join the euro.

## **Propaganda**

- Plans were made to give the EU a greater role in the educational system of member states. This initiative involves proposals such as cartoon strips and audio-visual materials designed to educate pupils about the EU's role and aims. A report calls for a 'European Youth Policy', cultural policy and citizenship training. It invites bids for 109 specific research projects. Conservative opponents claimed this was an attempt to develop modules as a first step towards a common EU curriculum. The question is, why are we paying for EU propaganda to be forced upon our children when the majority of the populace is against further involvement?

## **Corruption**

Despite the resignation of Jacques Santer as president of the Commission after numerous financial scandals, and the assertion of Romano Prodi that a '*new era of efficiency*' would prevail, a report by the European Court of Auditors in November 2000 found that over £4 billion of taxpayers money was wasted by the Commission during 1999.

## **Hypocrisy**

After an Irish referendum rejected the Nice treaty on enlargement, the EU was legally bound to rethink as all members states were bound by EU law to agree before the initiative could go forward. Instead, the EU agreed to press ahead with plans to admit Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic and other former Soviet countries.