

BREXIT

“We have our own dream and our own task. We are with Europe, but not of it. We are linked, but not combined. We are interested and associated, but not absorbed.”

SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL

WHY WE SHOULD LEAVE THE EU

UKIP's position has been quite unfairly and misleadingly labelled 'anti-Europe.' We are not 'anti-Europe,' but we are firmly opposed to political integration within Europe.

Back in 1972, we were told we were joining a 'common market.' What we actually joined was a supranational political union. We have lost our rights of self-government in the stealth creation of a United States of Europe, which has its own flag, national anthem, parliament, central bank, court of justice, a vast civil service, and fledgling military and police forces.

The tentacles of the EU stretch into almost every area of our national life. The EU has complete control over British financial services, fishing, farming, energy and trade. It dictates

UK business and employment legislation and immigration rules. It seeks greater control over our law enforcement services, our foreign affairs and tax policy. There is significant momentum behind plans for a EU-wide army and police force. The EU 'shares' responsibility with us for many other policy areas, including animal welfare, consumer protection, public health, space programmes, social policy, humanitarian aid and vocational training, to mention but a few.

On these and many other issues, our elected Westminster politicians are impotent. They pretend to have the power to influence these matters, but actually they have none. It is an out-of-sight, unaccountable, pan-European bureaucratic elite which has the final say and they do not consider Britain's best interests. The European Parliament is no safeguard. It is a sham democracy: our MEPs are not allowed to generate or re-visit existing legislation. They

can only vote on decisions made by unelected Commissioners and, even then, their vote can be ignored.

We have nothing to lose and everything to gain by leaving the EU.

Despite the fact we are the world's fifth largest economy and the seventh largest manufacturing nation, we will never again make a direct trade deal with any other nation until we leave the EU. We will never control our borders or manage immigration. We will never be able to prevent foreign trawlers plundering our seas of precious fish. If the EU's plans for 'tax harmonisation' come to fruition, soon we may find we cannot even set our own taxes. What else is coming down the tracks?

A British exit from the EU, 'Brexit,' is the only choice open to us, if we are to make our own

laws and control our own destiny. Unless we leave, our democracy, our law-making powers and our sovereignty will continue to be salami-sliced away by the EU. Genuine reform is impossible: successive EU Presidents, senior officials and European Prime Ministers have confirmed there is no hope of Britain negotiating any opt-outs, or special treatment.

As far as our 'influence' goes, we have very little anyway. As the European Union has expanded, our vote share in the Council of Ministers, the European Parliament, and the European Commission, has declined to the point where it is now almost insignificant. We can vote 'no' to proposals as often as we like, but unless other countries agree, measures will go on become British law anyway.

For all these reasons and more, Britain is better off out.