

Dear Friend,

These are testing times for the European Union as one crisis, the spill-over of the 2007 banking crisis into the Greek state is followed closely by a second humanitarian crisis of epic proportions in the Middle East.

This second crisis was both foreseeable and predicted following the intervention of western states in the middle-east beginning in 2003. There has been much destruction but little construction in this region.

Below is the response of the European Movement Germany President, Dr Rainer Wend, which can be found on the [European Movement International website](#) and should be the overall position of the Movement in relation to this crisis.

Europe's politicians, with a few exceptions, are not reflecting the wishes and hopes of their citizens. This is a role for the European Union and the European Movement will speak up to encourage a wider-reaching role for the EU in this crisis.

"The influx of thousands of refugees is a test for Europe. The sheer distress and need for help of those who come is met with a strange helplessness from politicians. The mood is heated, not just in Germany – and those responsible are clueless? This must come to an end. Current events were foreseeable. Where were and are the emergency plans for the absorption of millions of refugees? Let's not kid ourselves. There are none.

"I predict that the next refugees will head off on the dangerous journey to Europe – for example, in an increasingly unstable Lebanon. We can see it. We know it. No fence will stop people in need! More than ever, it is clear: the ever so self-confident nation states will not manage the problem by themselves. A big collective European effort is necessary.

'Act big on big things and act small on small things', Commission President Juncker is absolutely right with his demand for how the EU should act. However, we are seeing something else: the EU should withdraw from the small scale, yes. But where is the answer to the large scale? We abolish cucumber directives, while people are dying in the Mediterranean. It is high time to 'act big'. The common EU domestic and external policy remains a blank sheet of paper. And from Greece, of all countries, we expect border control and processing first asylum applications?

"We Germans are world champions in calling for subsidiarity. Currently, the EU is not allowed to react. Nation states do not support the European Commission in doing the job. Press appearances and summits by heads of state and government just will not do. We need a collective refugee and immigration policy with real solidarity between states and between communities.

"Germany was not always one for the common quotas. Also Germany mistrusted collective coordination. To unilaterally repeal the Dublin Regulation for Syrian refugees is a good sign, but it comes too late and it is not enough.

"Let the Juncker administration act on a large scale! The EU needs strong coordination in its refugee policy. But mainly, nimbyism should be abolished in Europe! Otherwise Europe will abolish itself."

We have been very busy over the last few months meeting companies and organisations who wish to support us in our campaign to keep Britain in the EU. The response has been overwhelmingly positive and we have extended our network of support considerably.

You may be interested in this new website. As part of their inquiry into the implications for Scotland of EU reform and the EU referendum, the Scottish Parliament's European and External Relations Committee wishes to know what Europe means to you. You can get in touch to tell them about your experiences with Europe, whether it's travel, work or study, and they will post your contributions. They will also form part of an ebook to be published later in the year. Find out more on how you can take part by going to <http://scotlandeu.com/>. There is also a Twitter feed.

There are two new blog websites on the subject of Europe. The first has been launched by the



Europa Institute at the University of Edinburgh. The Managing Editor is Anthony Salamone. Click [here](#). The second is from an organisation, "The UK in a changing Europe", which describes itself as "The authoritative source for independent rigorous high-quality academic research on UK-EU relations". Click [here](#).

Orbit Communications continues to help us with both our media and fundraising campaign and we are very encouraged by the donations we are still receiving. We have issued two press releases, one on Universities for Europe which was taken up by Kingdom FM, The National, Daily Express, Courier, Scotsman, Daily Mail and the Evening News. A second one on the benefits to Scotland of EU migrants was taken up by Daily Express, National, P&J, Evening News, Scotsman.

We also had another letter regarding migrant myths in The Daily Express, The National, The Press and Journal, The Edinburgh Evening News and The Scotsman.

You can see all of these on our [website](#).

The Scottish Parliament's European and External Relations Committee is launching an inquiry into the United Kingdom's future relationship with the European Union. (More info [here](#).) We are in the process of preparing a detailed submission for this which we will post on our website soon.

And finally, we are very sad to announce the death on 10th August 2015 of Norman Peacock, who is a very long-standing member and great supporter of the European Movement in Scotland. Norman will have been well-known to some of you.

What can you do to help the campaign?

First and foremost, do write letters to the press, or when possible, add to the comments under existing letters. If you have a letter but would like us to submit it, do send it along. (We may edit it.)

Do you use Facebook or Twitter? Then consider adding an EU Twibbon to your photo. To find out more, visit the Twibbon [website](#).

We would like to hear some stories of how the EU has benefitted you, or your friends and family. We had the story of the retired couple living in France which was shared on Facebook many times. If you've any more like that, we'd like to hear them so we can share - omitting names, of course.



Help required

I have two requests for help.

The first comes from Sarah Bromage at the Scottish Political Archive at the University of Stirling. The archive is dedicated to collecting and making accessible archival material from Scottish politicians and political organisations. They are searching for material from the 1975 European Referendum. They are interested in this material as it would make a very interesting comparison with the material about to be produced. Any material donated would be added to the archive and held in perpetuity and made accessible in the University archive reading room.

If you think you can help Sarah out, please contact her at sarah.bromage@stir.ac.uk.

The second request comes from our administrator. We have in our possession several old photographs which we have scanned. We are not sure what these are. If you would like to see these, or you can help us identify them, please go along to this special page on our website. This is not on our main menu, so you will need to [click this link](#) to get there. If you have any old photos relating to EMiS that you'd like to share, do send them along to info@euromovescotland.org.uk. We look forward to hearing from some of our long-standing members!

Events

Let us know of any events in your area as soon as possible.

Glasgow Meeting

The venue for the September Glasgow meeting has not yet been finalised but we will hopefully have something to report soon.

Nordic Horizons: Opening Doors; the urban revolution in Denmark

Thursday September 24th 2015, 6pm

Scottish Storytelling Centre, 43-45 High Street, Edinburgh

Chair: Lesley Riddoch, broadcaster & writer.

The non-profit organisation GivRum involves Danish civil society, the public sector (including local authorities which fund it on a project basis) and businesses in neighbourhood development. By literally opening the doors to empty buildings, GivRum allows cultural projects and creative businesses to thrive.

Via their City Link initiative GivRum hopes to share best practice with cities around the world.

Billed as 'a growing network of project makers, artists, activists, creative entrepreneurs and engaged citizens with ideas that can link cities', the initiative promotes international grassroots, community and activist collaboration. The first City Link project, last year, saw the organisation work in Hamburg. This year GivRum is in Edinburgh!

Sponsored by the Scottish Government

Come to hear Jesper Koefoed-Melson, Director of GivRum, and Sara Melson, City Link Project Manager, explain more, and take part in our discussion about whether this trend could make its way to Scotland and the UK.

Sponsored by the Scottish Government

Please book your place via [Eventbrite](#). Free.

As always, after the meeting there is a visit to the pub for some drink and food after the event. Everyone is welcome.

European Researchers' Night 2015

Friday 25 September 2015

Several hundred cities all over Europe.

This event takes place every year in hundreds of cities all over Europe and offers the public the chance to explore science, discover what researchers do and how it affects daily life. In Scotland there are events in Edinburgh, Glasgow, St Andrews and Aberdeen. These are suitable for all the family and free.

To find out more, click [here](#).

EU negotiations and referendum: Implications for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland

Monday 5 October 2015, 17:45 - 19:30

Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation, High School Yards, Edinburgh EH1 1LZ

This podium discussion features three experts on devolution and the European Union from Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

- Dr Jo Hunt is a reader at Cardiff Law School specialising in regionalism and decentralisation within the framework of the European Union.
- Dr Cormac MacAmhlaigh is a lecturer at Edinburgh Law School specialising in constitutional and European Union law.
- Dr Lee McGowan is a senior lecturer in politics at Queen's University Belfast who has worked extensively on the impact of European Union membership for Northern Ireland under the devolution settlement.

Tickets from [Eventbrite](#).

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