

Dear Friend,

As we approach the last 100 days of the campaign leading up to the referendum on Britain's membership of the European Union, you will want to know what part the European Movement in Scotland intends to play in this campaign. Scotland Stronger in Europe, as the likely official campaign, will target the approximately 40% of voters who are supposedly Eurosceptic but who can be persuaded to vote remain if powerful enough arguments are presented. They will concentrate on the three factors which will also be targeted by the leave campaign of immigration, the economy and sovereignty. Because a campaign cannot target all constituencies this makes sense.



Scotland has a small minority of people who are committed Europhobes and will vote leave in all circumstances. They will not be moved. It also has a larger minority who are pro-EU and believe that Scotland should remain in the EU either with the present agreement or with even closer integration.

Polling suggests that the former group is twice as likely to vote as the latter group. The minority pro-EU group, which is about a third of the voters, will listen to the remain arguments of the official campaign but this may not enthruse them to campaign themselves or to vote.

The European Movement in Scotland will campaign with a positive message highlighting the advantages to the citizens of Scotland and Europe of being part of a democratic coming together of sovereign states for mutual advantage and solidarity. This form of union has never been attempted before and there will be false steps along the way. Neither will it ever be perfect, politics is never perfect. Our objective is to enthuse the pro-EU voters, the demographic of which is likely to be young, and to ensure that on 23rd June they turn out with the same enthusiasm and sense of purpose to vote for this noble, if imperfect, ideal as the leave voters and thereby ensure that Scotland remains in the EU. Wish us luck!

News

Our Campaign

We are delighted to announce that we have appointed Amrita as our new campaign assistant. She started work on March 1st and you will be hearing more from her.

We have a new image that we have already been using on our Facebook and Twitter accounts. It emphasises the word "The Big Picture" which fits in nicely with our message about all the good things that membership of the EU offers us, and it isn't just about the economy and migrants. It also used the word "Remain" as this is what will be on the ballot paper.



How you can help

You can do your bit to both help the European Movement in Scotland and to spread the word about the benefits of our membership of the EU:

1. Would you like to hold an information event in your area? If you can help with this, then send me an email and we can discuss possibilities.
2. Would you like to deliver leaflets? We plan to deliver leaflets after the Scottish elections. Reply to this email if you would like to deliver some. Let me know how many you think you can realistically deliver so that we don't waste paper and resources. Looking forward to being deluged with email!
3. Connect on social media, Follow us on Facebook and Twitter — and invite your friends to follow too!
4. Write letters to the press or send them to us and we will submit them in our name.
5. Add comments to both pro- and anti-EU articles you see in newspapers, online, on Twitter or on Facebook - and that includes our own feeds.
6. Send us a blog for our website. (It can be posted anonymously if you prefer.)
7. Send us a few words about how important the EU is to you.

Speak up for the EU!

The StrongerIn campaign group now has a group in Scotland called "Scotland Stronger In" They are setting up small groups around Scotland to do some "leafleting" on the streets. If you would like to find out more, or even volunteer, go along to their [website](#). I'm sure they will welcome your help. (In case you're wondering, we will not be leafleting before the Scottish elections.)

Latest blogs on our website

- Committee member Alex Orr discusses whether in fact we would have more autonomy outside the EU.
- In another blog Alex discusses the potential loss of sovereignty that would result from Brexit.
- One of our followers submitted a very personal blog explaining why he is voting to remain in the EU.

To see these visit the [blog page](#) on our website..

In the media

- Alex Orr had a letter printed in the Guardian reminding readers that migration goes in both directions with lots of
- people from the UK living, working and retiring in other EU countries.
- Derek Hammersley, as chairman, had a letter printed in The Herald, The National, The Press and Journal and The Scotsman where he welcomed the sentiments expressed by Nicola Surgeon in her speech after the launch of the SNP Remain campaign.
- Today we have issued a press release commenting on the report by the Fraser of Allander Institute at Strathclyde University warning that Scotland's growth is slowing further as the threat of Brexit looms.

To see them visit our [media page](#).

On the web

We have come across a few interesting articles on the web:

- Former chairman, John Brand, has set up his own blog with several articles on the EU. You can read them here: <https://scriver.wordpress.com/category/europhilia/>
- If you like reading informative blogs, try <http://www.reimaginingeurope.co.uk/blog/>

Events

Let us know of any events in your area as soon as possible. Apologies that there is not much notice for some events, but we receive rather late notice ourselves.

EU Referendum Series - Alternatives to EU Membership

7th March, 17:30 to 19:00

Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation, EH1 1LZ

Organisers: Edinburgh University Law School and the Europa Institute

Dr Nicholas Diebold, Law School, University of Lucerne, Switzerland

Dr Maria Garcia, Senior Lecturer in Politics, University of Bath

Professor Christophe Hillion, Europa Institute Leiden, Netherlands, and Swedish Institute of European Policy Studies, Stockholm

Free and open to all. For more info and to register go to [Eventbrite](#).

The Common Travel Area as the EU's Other Border-Free Zone: A Tale of History, Law, and Treaty Opt-Out

Wednesday, March 9th, 17:00 to 18:00

David Hume Tower, Room LG.06, Edinburgh, EH8 9JX

Organised by the Edinburgh Europa Research Group

Graham Butler, PhD Fellow in Law, The University of Copenhagen

This event is free and non-ticketed, All are welcome.

More information visit the Europa Research Group [website](#).

BBC Question Time

10th March

Dundee

No doubt there will be questions on the UK's membership of the EU. **If you're quick** you can register to attend at <https://ssl.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/5vyK2GwYrdQGFvCJyKNfZhn/join-the-question-time-audience>

The view from the continent: what people in other member states think about the UK's EU referendum

Tuesday, March 15th, 12:15 to 15:00

Dovecot Studios, 10 Infirmary Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1LT

Organised by AQMeN & The UK in a Changing Europe

Under discussion are the results from a survey of citizens across Ireland, Germany, France, Poland, Sweden and Spain with their views on the crucial questions around the referendum.

Presented by the research team followed by a discussion with Prof John Curtice

This event is free and open to all however registration is essential. For more information visit [Eventbrite](#).

Did EU Foreign Policy Slow Ukraine's Democratic Transition?

Wednesday, March 16th, 17:00 to 18:00

David Hume Tower, Edinburgh, EH8 9JX

Organised by the Edinburgh Europa Research Group

Nataliya Muzyka, PhD Candidate in Politics, The University of Sheffield

This event is free and non-ticketed, All are welcome. For more information visit the Europa Research Group [website](#).

Notices

As many of you are aware, the European Movement in Scotland has been around since the early 90s and we have many members who joined us at this time. So it is with great sadness that we must report the death of Arthur Bell who joined us about the time we were established. We send our condolences to his wife.

