

European Movement in Scotland Newsletter  
March 11 2016



Dear Friend,

The press reception of the announcement on Monday that our President, Ming Campbell, would be leading our referendum campaign was a great success and resulted in more followers and a few more members.

There was considerable press coverage, some of which appeared boldly to suggest that Ming was leading the remain campaign in Scotland. He is not but we are delighted that he is leading the European Movement campaign. There has been some press coverage also of the fact that some political parties and organisations in Scotland will not be cooperating with each other during the campaign. This is regrettable, but not surprising, given recent history.

As always, we will firmly maintain our non-political stance and will cooperate with all campaigns which share the same objectives as the European Movement, to keep Scotland in the EU. Our strength has always been that our political neutrality has enabled us to attract members of all parties and of none and this will enable us to concentrate during the referendum campaign on the major task of explaining the many advantages of membership of the European Union.



### **Your help is needed**

As a follow up to last week's letter, a big thank-you to those who have contacted us to

say they would like to deliver leaflets after the Scottish elections. I hope a few more people will consider doing this. You don't have to deliver thousands; just let me know how many you would like to do. It's healthy exercise, too!

We also heard from one member in Perth who would like to help us organise an information event there. More on this soon. We can fund the costs and organise speakers, but we need more help on the ground to research suitable venues and can advise on how best to promote the event. We won't leave it all to you. If you think you can help do send an email to [chair@euromovescotland.org.uk](mailto:chair@euromovescotland.org.uk).

Perhaps you are a member of a group that would like more information about the EU. We would be happy to send speakers, a presentation and/or information along. Please [reply](#) to this email if we can help with this.

## News

### In the media

- The biggest item since our last newsletter was the announcement that Ming Campbell would be leading our campaign.
- Committee member Alex Orr has been writing letters on our behalf again and has had several letters taken up by the newspapers. One of these is a repost to Jim Sillars who maintained that leaving the EU delivers what member status cannot, 'real independence' and the 'unfettered ability to make our own laws'. He goes on to define this 'independence' as 'sovereignty'. This is an excellent letter from Alex which you can read on our website [here](#).

### Latest blogs on our website

- One of our supporters gives a very personal message as to why he is voting to remain in the EU. A reminder that many of us have relatives, British or of other nationalities, living in the EU. To vote to leave would be like betraying them.
- Committee member David Clarke points out that a crisis is exactly why we need the EU.

You can read these on the blog page of [our website](#). If you'd like to have your say, send your 'blog' along to us.

## Events

We are currently in the process of organising several events. We will have more information for you when all the details have been firmed up.

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.

### 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 & 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](#).

### International Public Policy Institute International Lecture

**Monday, March 21st, 18:00 to 20:00**

*Technology and Innovation Centre, 99 George Street, Glasgow, G1 1RD*

Organised by the International Public Policy Institute, University of Strathclyde.

A public lecture by Daniel Mulhall, Ireland's Ambassador to the United Kingdom, to provide an Irish perspective on the EU Referendum. There will be an opportunity for questions, and lively conversation with the Ambassador on living and working as an Irish diplomat abroad. Register [here](#) by Friday 11 March 2016.

### The UK in Europe. In or Out?

**Tuesday, March 22nd, 17:30 to 20:00**

*King's Conference Centre, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, AB24 3FX*

Organised by the Centre on Constitutional Change, UK in a Changing Europe, University of Aberdeen & Royal Society of Edinburgh

Ahead of a referendum on membership, the UK's relationship with the EU is centre stage right now. Join a panel of experts for a discussion of the key issues in the debate on the UK and Europe. All are welcome to this public event, which is free of charge. Registration on [Eventbrite](#).

## Scotland and the European Energy Union: A Sociotechnical Systems Perspective

**Wednesday, March 30th, 17:00 to 18:00**

*David Hume Tower, Edinburgh, EH8 9JX*

Organised by the Edinburgh Europa Research Group

Dr Antti Silvast, Research Fellow in European Energy Policy and Markets, The University of Edinburgh. This event is free and non-ticketed. All are welcome. For more information visit the Europa Research Group [website](#).

### **Notices**

Don't forget to [keep us updated](#) with any changes to your contact details and address.