

European Movement in Scotland



January 2017



Happy New Year to one and all

Just a few weeks before the Prime Minister wants to trigger Art. 50 we still have no clear plan for Brexit and how it is going to “benefit” the UK. What we do know is that Mrs May



Cafe Emis - lots of cake but no cherry-picking!

is determined to control immigration, including by EU citizens exercising their rights of Freedom of Movement, and to remove the UK from the jurisdiction of the European Court of Justice. These aims are incompatible with remaining in the Single Market. The Single Market achieves genuinely free trade by creating a level playing field, refereed by the ECJ, across the entire continent, in goods and services. Freedom of Movement of the people who produce the goods and provide the services is integral to the efficient operation of the market, as is the role of the ECJ in making sure no-one is

Scotland remains strongly pro-European

Latest YouGov Survey

In hindsight, was Britain right or wrong to leave the European Union?

Britain-wide figures : Right 47%, Wrong 43%

Scottish figures : Right 31%, Wrong 60%

Do you think Britain will be economically better or worse off after we leave the European Union, or will it make no difference?

Britain-wide figures : Better off 29%, Worse off 37%

Scottish figures : Better off 14%, Worse off 55%

Do you think Britain will have more or less influence in the world after we leave the European Union, or will it make no difference?

Britain-wide figures : More influence 21%, Less influence 36%
Scottish figures: More influence 11%, less influence 54%

taking advantage by breaking the rules all Members have agreed to.

The EU27 have made clear that the UK will not be able to both have its Single Market cake and to eat it by cherry-picking the bits it likes. The PM has acknowledged as much by saying she is not looking to keep bits of the EU. That indicates that a hard Brexit is looming. We are promised a speech with a plan from the PM in the next days. We also anticipate the ruling of the Supreme Court on whether the UK Parliament must legislate before Art.50 is triggered and whether the Scottish Parliament must be consulted.

Meantime, the Scottish Government has published its proposals to keep Scotland in the Single Market either with

If trade breaks down international relations break down. We've been down that road before. Brexit is not just a narrow question of trade, but about the future of European civilisation

Iain Macwhirter, Sunday Herald.

or without the UK staying in too. The PM has more or less ruled out a differentiated solution for Scotland, although other politicians and commentators have said that the options should be considered seriously. EMI^S is publishing a series of articles on its website analyzing the proposals and why the outcomes matter to Scotland. We are planning a debate for members on the proposals too – details to be announced shortly.

Last month EMI^S welcomed the election of Stephen Dorrell as new Chair of the European Movement UK. We will be working closely with Stephen and his team to promote the reasons why the EU remains the best option for the UK and Scotland in an uncertain world.

From economic wellbeing to geopolitical security, from individual human rights to having a significant voice on climate change, being a member of the EU is still worth fighting for. Please take opportunities to write to your MSP and MP – an email is fine and you can find their details on Parliament websites - to say why being in Europe matters to you. Let's persevere!

Vanessa Glynn, Chair EMI^S

EMI^S Events

Breakfast not Brexit

Saturday 28 January

Enjoy a fab breakfast/brunch, share views, learn more and have your say about latest Brexit developments and what they mean in Scotland and more widely.

Filmhouse Café, 88 Lothian Rd, Edinburgh, EH3 9BZ
10.15 – 11.15am

Free, Members, supporters and their guests. Refreshments available for purchase.
Capacity 20 – Book by replying to this email – a few places left.

Café EMI^S

Wednesday 22 February

Want to talk about all things EU over a coffee? Come along to our regular get-together for informal chat about what Europe means to you, where it's going and what EMI^S can do to encourage a European future for Scotland.

Patisserie Florentin, 5 NW Circus Place, Edinburgh, EH3 6ST
4.00-5.30pm

Free, Members, supporters and their guests.
Refreshments available to purchase.
Capacity 20 – Book places by replying to this email

We can help you organize a coffee house meeting in your neighbourhood. Get in touch.