

Germany to benefit most from Blair rebate giveaway

The Prime Minister may claim that subsidies to the new EU members will assist the UK economy - but he is simply wrong

By Ian Milne

“Why should British taxpayers pay for sewers in Budapest?” asked Nigel Farage MEP on the *Today* programme before Christmas.

Ministers justify the partial giving-up of the rebate on the grounds that subsidising the Accession Countries (EU-10) which joined the EU in 2004 will be good for the British economy. Do they have a point? The hard economic facts suggest not.

Germany, with a 26 per cent share of EU-10's worldwide imports*, and to a lesser extent Austria, continue to be - as they were historically - the major trading partners of EU-10, not the UK. The share of EU-10's worldwide imports presently held by the UK is a paltry 3.5 per cent, **more than seven times smaller** than that of Germany.

Massive Surplus

Thus, inevitably and automatically - to the extent that subsidies from British taxpayers to EU-10 actually do increase those countries' propensity to import from the rest of the EU (itself a dubious proposition) - the benefit to the German economy will be over seven times greater than the benefit to the British economy. In other words, British taxpayers are indirectly subsidising the third largest economy in the world as well as contributing to Germany's already massive trade

surplus.

It is true that UK exports to EU-10 grew rapidly in the decade before they joined the EU. During that period, EU-10 received no structural or cohesion or CAP subsidies from the EU; but they did have (and continue to have) free trade in goods with the EU. Nevertheless, by 2004, EU-10 was still a small market for UK exports, accounting for less than 2.0 per cent of British exports worldwide. It was also a market with which the UK ran a proportionately big trade deficit.

Less than Stable

Looking to the future, the demographics of EU-10 (and of Bulgaria and Romania, which are scheduled to join the EU soon) are awful, with fast-shrinking and fast-ageing populations. In addition, for EU-10, the task of implementing the EU's *acquis communautaire* has only just begun. As a result of this devastating combination, EU-10 (and EU-12) will be sharply-contracting economies, inevitably importing less than stable or growing economies.

If the British government really does believe that channelling British taxpayers' money to overseas countries provides a direct benefit to the British economy, then hard-headed economic logic would lead it to conclude that

British subsidies should go to:

- Countries outside the EU-10: those that presently absorb over 98 per cent of British exports;
- Countries with expanding economies in the future;
- Countries where British business has “clout” (which is manifestly not the case in Eastern Europe).

It may be argued that there is a moral obligation to assist the Central and Eastern European countries - although the Prime Minister has not made such a case. If so, it cannot presumably be as strong as the case for assisting much poorer Third World countries. Against this, it may be argued that there is a huge amount of evidence for concluding that such subsidies are more likely to harm than to assist sustained economic growth. So, before throwing subsidies at other countries - any countries - let the government convince the rest of us that this really does benefit the British economy.

*“Imports” and “exports” throughout this article defined as goods, services, income & transfers. Imports of goods account presently for over 80 per cent of EU-10's imports of goods, services, income and transfers.

Basic economic and demographic data about the EU-10 is set out on the following page.

EU 10: Basic economic and demographic data

1. In 2004, EU-10 accounted for 4.6% of EU-25 GDP, and 16.3% of EU-25 population.
2. In 2004, EU-10 absorbed 1.7% of the UK's exports (of goods, services, income & transfers) worldwide, and 3.3% of the UK's exports to EU-24.
3. In 2004, UK trade with EU-10 was in substantial deficit: EU-10 exported 28% more by value to the UK than the UK exported to EU-10.
4. In 2004, the UK was in deficit with eight of the ten EU-10 countries, and only just in surplus with the other two.
5. The value of UK exports (of goods, services, income & transfers) to EU-10 increased by around 200% (from very low levels) between 1994 and 2004. In the same period, the value of UK exports to EU-14 increased by 65%.
6. EU-10's demographics are not just bad; they are catastrophic. EU-10 is projected to lose 33% of its working-age (15-64) population between 2005 and 2050, according to the UN. When Bulgaria & Romania are included, the percentage for EU-12 rises to 35%.
7. In 2004, the value of German exports (of goods, services, income and transfers) to EU-10 was 7.4 times than the value of UK exports to EU-10.
8. In 2004, EU-10 drew 26 per cent of its imports from Germany; another 24 per cent came from the rest of the Eurozone. The remaining 50 per cent of EU-10's worldwide imports came from non-Eurozone EU countries and from outside the EU altogether.
9. In 2004, 8 per cent of the Eurozone's worldwide exports went to EU-10.
10. In 2004, the UK supplied 3.5 per cent of EU-10's imports from the whole world.
11. In 2004, France supplied 5 per cent of EU-10's imports from the whole world.

Sources: ECB Monthly Bulletin January 2006, www.ecb.int; ONS: UK Balance of Payments: The Pink Book 2005, www.statistics.gov.uk/products/p1140.asp; Deutsche Bundesbank, German Balance of Payments by Region, August 2005, www.bundesbank.de; Banque de France, La Balance des Paiements Francais, Rapport Annuel 2004, www.banque-france.fr; Written Answer, HoL Hansard, 31st January 2006, Col WA 32, www.publications.parliament.uk; United Nations Population Division Projections, www.un.org/esa/population

Anglo-French defence cooperation stepped up

The drive to bring about a closer - some would say intense - relationship between France and Britain in the area of defence cooperation continues as the following parliamentary exchange on the 6th February 2006 amply demonstrates:

Lord Dykes asked Her Majesty's Government: Whether they intend to follow up the Franco-British outline contract for the pre-construction stages of the combined aircraft carrier with further major defence equipment projects with France; and, if so, what specific projects will be involved. [HL3695]

The Parliamentary Under-Secretary

of State, Ministry of Defence (Lord Drayson): The UK and France are partners in some 30 bilateral or multilateral co-operative equipment programmes. We both recognise the benefits that defence equipment co-operation can bring; this is specifically acknowledged in the UK's defence industrial strategy. We therefore meet regularly to consider potential new areas of interest.

Although no further major defence equipment projects are currently planned, we are examining a number of promising technology areas - such as guided weapons enablers and missile technology - which may have

the potential to become co-operative projects in due course. On the 24th January we announced a potential joint project on technology for lightweight radars. *This month will also see the first meeting of a new UK/France steering board designed to give added impetus to identifying, and taking forward, new bilateral defence technology co-operation* (italics added).

We will continue to be open to the possibilities of new co-operation with France (as with our other allies), and will engage in further major projects with France when it is in our mutual interests to do so.

Brown could outflank Cameron on Europe, Tories are warned

Failure to engage supporters over the EU could cost the Party further support

The Conservative Party made a serious tactical error in playing down the 'European issue' during the 2005 general election for which it paid a significant political price - even if this enabled it to avoid internal disputes. And if it continues to suggest that Europe is a non-issue it may do itself serious further damage.

This is one of the conclusions reached by Jeremy Black, Professor of History at the University of Essex in a new book, *The European Question and the National Interest*, published this week by the Social Affairs Unit.

Pointing to the fact that but for the intervention of UKIP and Veritas the Party would have an additional 27 seats and would have restricted the Labour majority to 49, he writes: "This indicates the extent to which an explicit Euro-scepticism on the part of the Conservatives might well help the Party electorally, whatever the pressure from members of the Party against such an option".

Professor Black suggests that the Party's failure to engage the public on the European issue in 2005 constituted a serious tactical error. "It would have been more appropriate to admit past mistakes, particularly at Maastricht, and suggest present remedies."

However, the onward drive of

European harmonisation provides the Conservative Party with opportunities as well as problems. But he points out: "If the Conservatives fail to take the opportunity, they may be outflanked, not only by UKIP, but, more seriously, by Labour, if under a Brown leadership, it adopts a robust, nationalist position different to that of Blair. The latter prospect poses a particular challenge for the Conservatives. There may indeed be a repetition, albeit in a different form, of the response among some to the first Blair government. Relief that he distanced himself from the left and continued some of the Conservatives' policies led to a failure to devote sufficient attention to the dangerous attitudes, initiatives and practices of the government".

Professor Black warns Conservatives of two further dangers: of regarding reform of European institutions as a credible option and of being inhibited from basing policy on considerations of national interest for fear of being labelled extremist.

He writes "...reform short of renegotiation is not credible, no more than policy negotiation without the option of the veto; and renegotiation includes the option of admitting failure. Renegotiation is essentially an

inter-governmental strategy, not an integrationist one..."

"The Conservatives also need to accept that they will always be stigmatised by their opponents as extremist. They should not allow fears of this charge to set their agenda. The charge is untrue in itself, and has not prevented a third of the voters from supporting the party. There is a scant sign that more will rally if the extreme label is not applied, and there is no reason to suppose that such a slandering will not happen whatever the Conservative purpose."

Professor Black believes that the future of the EU is likely to be a bleak one. He argues that a political system cannot work unless the bulk of the population identifies with it. Yet the EU has failed to replace the nation as a focus for identity and thus of loyalty. The central political problem of government, he says, is that of eliciting consent, and the nation state is still the most effective means of achieving that.

The European Question and the National Interest by Jeremy Black is published by The Social Affairs Unit ISBN 1 904863 08 6. Available from the June Press £16 99 plus p&p, see back page.

Islanders threaten to quit European Union

Aland, a small semi-autonomous Finnish island, has threatened to leave the EU unless Brussels allows its case on the tax-free sale of "snus" (Swedish chewing tobacco) to be heard at the European Court of Justice (ECJ).

The EU Commission has asked that the European Court of Justice declares

Finland in breach of EU regulations for letting Aland uphold sales of snuff - which is forbidden in the EU - on ferries to and from the island.

Meeting with communication commissioner Margot Wallstrom on the 6th February, Britt Lundberg of Aland's government argued that if the

island is not allowed to plead its own case before the ECJ, public opinion in Aland about the EU will turn negative. In the long run, Aalanders, who this year have seen a number of bans from Brussels, including a recent hunting ban, may consider leaving the European Union.

Belgium backs Constitution

Belgium is close to becoming the 14th EU country to ratify the EU Constitution, after deputies of the northern Flemish region on the 8th

February approved the text of the treaty. The consent of the Flemish parliament represented the last hurdle for the federal state of Belgium to

formally ratify the text.

The Estonian parliament has also begun its second reading on the Constitution.

France: the demographic realities

Our issue of the 27th January included a letter from Mr Clements ("Demographic Realities") with some fascinating statistical projections of French population. A few days later the national French statistical office, INSEE, published its annual report on French population.

This shows that in 2005 there were 807,400 births in France. The overall birth-rate, says INSEE, was 1.94 per woman; the birth-rate for immigrant women ("femmes immigrées"), using 1999 figures, was reported in the French press to have been 2.4 per woman, against 1.7 for native-born French women. Assuming the same differential birth-rate applied in 2005, the implied number of births by population category in 2005 was as follows:

■ Babies born to native-born French

women: 465,040 (58% of all births).

■ Babies born to immigrant women: 342,360 (42% of all births).

■ All births in France: 807,400.

The overall French birth-rate of 1.94 per woman was the second highest in the EU, after Ireland, whose birth-rate was 1.99. INSEE says that the UK, Finland, Denmark, Sweden, Holland and Luxembourg have birth-rates above 1.7, while in Spain, Italy and Germany the rate is between 1.3 and 1.4.

The replacement (of the population) birth-rate being 2.1, it looks as if the immigrant population in France is growing in absolute terms, while the native-born population is shrinking.

The overall proportion of babies born out of wedlock in 2005 was 48 per cent.

At the end of 2005 the total

population of France (including the "DOM-TOMs", the overseas departments and territories), was 62.9 million, of whom 61.0 million in metropolitan France, 1.9 million overseas. The population of the UK at the same date was 60.0 million. INSEE reports that net immigration into France in 2005 was 97,500, and observes that "*France is one of the European countries where net immigration contributes least to population growth; net French immigration accounted for a quarter of total population growth in 2004, whereas in EU-25 as a whole net immigration accounts for four-fifths of population growth*". There were 537,300 deaths in France in 2005, so the total net increase in population that year was 270,100.

European Movement shuts up shop

The integration-minded European Movement is to close its office and to sack its London staff of six as well as its part-time organiser in Scotland because it is no longer able to raise funds.

In a valedictory message in the January issue of its Newsletter the organisation's director David Stephen said: "*It is very sad to have to preside over the dismantling of a Head Office team which has come together only in the last half-year, but we have no alternative. We have to accept financial - and political - reality. And*

the finances follow the politics...

"Perhaps we should be encouraged by the fact that British withdrawal from the EU is no longer an option taken seriously by the mainstream politicians and commentators (sic). But the general climate remains inhospitable for those with a pro-European agenda. We will shortly be publishing an information brief showing how anti-European organisations are multiplying and prospering in this country. Myths abound. The debate is bedeviled by facile generalisations about European institutions and how

they work. And there is a strong current of opinion in political and journalistic circles which maintain that everything American, transatlantic, is good and to be copied, while everything European continental, is dysfunctional and inappropriate to the British context."

The European Movement, which is now seeking an unpaid director to lead the Herculean task of encouraging Britain to love the EU, is to continue as an all volunteer organisation sharing an office with the Federal Trust.

Regulations still multiplying

It seems that finally some progress has been made in repealing unnecessary or harmful EU regulation. But as the figures printed below demonstrate EU regulation resembles the thistle: the more you cut it back the faster it grows. The statistics elicited by Lord Stevens suggest that new regulations are multiplying at nearly double the rate at which existing regulations are being reduced.

Lord Stevens of Ludgate asked Her Majesty's Government: Since the launch of the campaign to get rid of

unnecessary regulations, how many European Union regulations or directives have been repealed; and how many new regulations or directives have been enacted during the same period. [HL3465]

The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (Lord Triesman): Since the launch of the new Commission's drive for Better Regulation in 2004, 858 regulations and 107 directives have been enacted; 498 regulations and 44 directives have

been repealed or have expired. Last year, with the active support of the UK presidency, the Commission announced that it would withdraw a third of all pending legislative proposals and, over the next three years, simplify 222 pieces of existing basic legislation, affecting more than 1,400 legal acts. We will continue to press for sustained and ambitious European regulatory reform that delivers measurable reductions in the burdens on business. House of Lords Hansard 30th January 2006.

Failed anti-fraud boss to keep his job

OLAF's 'statutory independence' is a myth - and will remain so as long as its boss is chosen by the Commission

The European Commission has opted to reappoint Franz-Hermann Bruner as head of OLAF, its anti-fraud office, despite the fact that he and his department have faced a constant barrage of criticism, almost from the moment it was created.

Bruner has faced complaints from the European Ombudsman as well as the German media over his treatment of the German reporter Hans-Martin Tillack. There have been criticisms over OLAF's handling of the Eurostat corruption scandal and there have been complaints from the European Court of Auditors about OLAF's general ineffectiveness. Leaked reports from OLAF's supervisory committee accused the bureau of conducting "fake investigations" - presumably with the aim of distracting attention from other matters.

Under EU rules, the Commission must consult the European Parliament and member states about who should fill the top OLAF job but has the final say itself. Bruner's appointment followed a three-way meeting between Siim Kallas, the Commissioner for Administration, a four-man delegation of MEPs, and the Austrian ambassador on the 7th February.

It is not known what advice was given by member states via the Austrian presidency, but MEPs are known to have favoured a senior Swedish police chief and former head

of Interpol Bjorn Eriksson for the 160,000 post.

Bruner was also backed by the leader of the German socialist group Martin Schulz, and the German leader of the European Peoples' Party Hans-Gert Pottering, both of whom lobbied vigorously on Bruner's behalf.

The greatest number of complaints about OLAF has concerned its inquiries into suspect contracts awarded by Eurostat four years ago, but until last year Bruner is reported to have used only two members of his team of 300 to investigate the matter.

Suspect expenses

Instead, critics say, Mr Bruner's main efforts were devoted to combating cigarette smuggling and customs fraud. A confidential Commission report leaked to the German press, shows that OLAF used only 20 officials to investigate Brussels fraud. The anti-fraud office has also been criticised for extreme slowness. In one case, OLAF spent four years probing the disappearance of 3.5 million (£2.4 million) in subsidies from the Irela Institute, an EU-backed organisation devoted to Latin-American relations, but did not discover where the money went.

An internal commission report also criticises OLAF's failure to tackle suspected corruption within the EU's

Committee of the Regions, including irregularities in printing contracts and suspect expenses claims.

On the 9th February, following Bruner's reappointment the *EUObserver* quoted an unnamed *EU diplomat* as saying that OLAF's 'statutory independence' had been undermined because of his debt of gratitude to Kallas:

"Now Bruner is in the hands of Kallas. He will follow the Commissioner in whatever he is doing, thanking the Commission as he does so".

If Bruner seems ill-qualified to take on the Sisyphean task of rooting out fraud in the EU the same may be said of the man to whom he reports. In 1997 Kallas, a former President of the Estonian Bank, faced a series of fraud charges relating to the theft of \$10 million from the bank in an oil-trading scam in 1993. After proceedings that took four years to complete he was acquitted of the fraud charges, but found guilty of providing false information. None of the money was recovered.

The truth is that OLAF's 'statutory independence' exists only on paper and this will remain true so long as the top policeman charged with rooting out corruption in the EU Commission is appointed by the Commission itself.

Foreign and Commonwealth Office rubbishes Chancellor's pamphlet

On the 25th January 2006, in the House of Lords, Lord Pearson asked Her Majesty's Government:

Whether they have studied the recent analyses of the costs and benefits of the United Kingdom's membership of the European Union.

Lord Triesman, replying in his capacity as the Parliamentary Under-

Secretary of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office poured scorn on Patrick Minford's and Ian Milne's recent cost benefit studies. Rather more surprisingly he also rubbished Gordon Brown's recent pamphlet, *Global Europe: Full-employment Europe*. All three, said Triesman, "are based on extrapolations that go so far

beyond the normal sense of where one should take an economics extrapolation that they are not in any realistic sense credible".

Not credible! What on earth must the Prime Minister-in-waiting have thought of such impertinence? And what chance of future promotion for Lord Triesman?

LETTERS

Tel: 08456 12 12 65 Fax: 08456 12 12 75 email: eurofacts@junepress.com

Will Cameron pass the Tebbit Test?

Dear Sir,

During the month of December 2005 the BBC Radio 4 *Today* programme invited listeners to say who they thought "Runs Britain". Each contributor selected was given a couple of minutes live on air to put their views across. Some of those responding were well known and suggestions ranged across a wide field and included the Vatican, the TUC, Big Business, Opus Dei etc.

Lord Tebbit told listeners that he thought the country was run by Brussels and, surprise, surprise, when listeners were invited to contact the programme to say whose views they endorsed, Lord Tebbit's assessment was backed overwhelmingly as he received more votes than all of the other contributors put together.

I wrote to congratulate him and posed the question "Where does the Conservative Party go from here with its new Leader?" He kindly replied to my letter saying "Where do we go from here, you ask. Well, personally I wait to see which way Mr Cameron will lead the Conservative Party. If he turns out to be a radical Eurosceptic, willing to leave the European Union rather than to submit to foreign rule he will have my support. If he simply wants to be Prime Minister that would be another matter".

A copy of Lord Tebbit's letter has been forwarded to the Conservative Party.

DAVID OWEN
Devon

Benefits of Withdrawal

Dear Sir,

In the first sentence on page 5 of your issue of the 27th January you tell us that *eurofacts* has never made any bones about its conviction that Britain would be far better off outside the EU. In the last sentence on that page you

tell us that the Eurozone's trade surplus of 80 billion euros (about £55 billion) would give the UK the whip hand in any "renegotiation" with the EU.

It could only do so if "renegotiation" were to leave that surplus more or less intact. Can you explain what you hope to get from "renegotiation" which is worth £55 billion a year to us, and which we couldn't get anyway just by leaving? Wouldn't reducing our deficit with the rest of the EU be a major benefit of withdrawal?

JOHN KISSIN
London

[We are primarily opposed to EU membership because of the loss of sovereignty it entails and its profoundly anti-democratic character. However, on withdrawal, the EU will undoubtedly try to extract political and economic "compensation" from the UK. The point we made is that the UK would simply say to the EU: "You must be joking. You need our markets far more than we need yours. There's no question of us paying for the privilege of leaving".

Two-way trade between the EU and the UK would not come to an end following British withdrawal. The UK trade deficit with the EU might not even correct itself. The objective of withdrawal is to regain sovereignty, not the elimination of trade with the EU or the reduction of the trade deficit - Ed.]

A Test of Honesty

Dear Sir,

A Member of Parliament's Constituents are entitled to know what his or her ambitions are in relation to the government of their country. Almost certainly most citizens would wish to retain sovereign independence for themselves and for subsequent generations and to enable them to satisfy themselves on this issue, they need to hear honest answers and undertakings from their respective

Member of Parliament.

It was with this thought in mind that the Committee of the Southeast Sussex branch of the Democracy Movement resolved in November 2005 to send separate invitations to the various politicians on its 'patch' during 2006. It was intended that each politician should be encouraged to explain openly and honestly and without hindrance his/her views on British membership of the EU at a public meeting within his/her Constituency: all expenses to be paid by the Democracy Movement. The first such invitation was issued to Gregory Barker (Conservative MP for Bexhill and Battle). It was also decided to invite a known Eurosceptic to speak in support of the Democracy Movement's aims and objectives and accordingly an invitation was also issued to Christopher Gill (Chairman of the Freedom Association), who gladly accepted the invitation. Sadly, Gregory Barker declined the opportunity to enlighten his Constituents on his hopes for the British people in relation to membership of the EU. His letter was as follows: "With a new leader in place and an exciting agenda ahead of us it is absolutely vital that the Conservative Party are united and move forward as one close knit team. As such I am sorry to say that I see very little benefit in exploring areas of difference between myself and a former Conservative MP".

It will be an interesting exercise to invite other Members of Parliament in East Sussex to join our team on a public platform and to see how many of them have the courage to speak honestly about their aims for Britain. Whether they are in favour of integration into the EU or withdrawal from the EU or somewhere in between.
ANTHONY LEEDING
Sussex

MEETINGS

**European Institute and
London School of Economics**
events@lse.ac.uk

Tuesday **28th Feb. 2006**, 6.30 pm

Valery Giscard d'Estaing
Chairman: **Howard Davies**

PUBLIC MEETING
Old Building, London School of
Economics, London
Admission by Free Ticket
(Tickets available from E-mail
event@lse.ac.uk)

The Anti-Common Market League
01787 376374

Monday **6th March 2006**, 7.00 pm

"The Case for EFTA"

Daniel Hannan MEP, *Conservative*

PUBLIC MEETING
The Clarence (upstairs), 53 Whitehall,
London SW1
Admission Free

UK Independence Party
(South Manchester Branch)
0161 485 3818

Tuesday **14th March 2006**, 8.00 pm

"The Way Forward"

Peter Baker

PUBLIC MEETING
The Parish Rooms, Church Road,
Cheadle Hulme, Cheshire
Admission Free

Freedom Association
07979 695611

Tuesday **21st March 2006**, 12.30 pm

Howard Flight, *former Conservative
MP*

PUBLIC MEETING
The Function Suite of the The Counting
House Pub, 50 Cornhill, near Bank,
London EX3V 3PD
Admission Free

Gresham College
020 7831 0575

Tuesday **21st March 2006**, 6.00 pm

"Leadership and change: Prime
Ministers in the post-war world - Heath"

Professor John Ramsden, *Queen
Mary, University of London*

PUBLIC MEETING
Barnard's Inn Hall, Holburn, London
Admission Free

UK Independence Party
01722 744814

ALL DAY CONFERENCE

Saturday **25th March 2006**
Commencing 11.00 am

Sir Richard Body
Graham Booth MEP
David Campbell-Bannerman
Trevor Coleman
Nigel Farage MEP
Marc Glendening, *Dem. Movement*
Lindsay Jenkins, *Author*
Mungenova Jolans, *Czech Republic*
Roger Knapman MEP
Robert McCartney

ALL DAY CONFERENCE
Great Hall, Exeter University, Devon
Admission Free

**Campaign for an
Independent Britain**
020 8340 0314

Saturday **29th April 2006**, 2.30 pm

"Better Off Out"

Roger Helmer MEP, *Conservative*
John Midgley, *Co-founder of the
Campaign Against Political Correctness*
Doug Nicholls, *Secretary of Trade
Unionists Against the European
Constitution and General Secretary of
Community and Youth Workers Union*

Chairman, **Lord Stoddart of Swindon**

PUBLIC MEETING
Upper Hall, The Emmanuel Centre,
9-23 Marsham Street, London SW1
Admission Free

SELECT COMMITTEES

House of Lords
020 7219 3000

Wednesday **1st March 2006**, 10.45 am
Evidence will be heard on *A Common
Returns Policy* from Mr Tony McNulty
MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of
State, Home Office, and (b) Ms Bridget
Prentice MP, Parliamentary Under-
Secretary of State, Department for
Constitutional Affairs.

Wednesday **1st March 2006**, 4.15 pm
Evidence will be heard on *A European
Fundamental Rights Agency* from
Baroness Ashton of Upholland,
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Wednesday **8th March 2006**, 11.00 am
Evidence will be heard on *The Nuclear
Package* from witness to be confirmed.

Wednesday **8th March 2006**, 3.45 pm
Evidence will be heard on *A Common
Returns Policy* from Manfred Weber
MEP; and Lord Triesman, Parliamentary
Under-Secretary of State, Foreign and
Commonwealth Office.

Thursday **9th March 2006**, 10.00 am
Evidence will be heard on *EU Proposal on
Consumer Credit Harmonisation* from
witnesses to be confirmed.

Note:
*Committee Meetings can
change from Public to Private
without warning*

DIARY OF EVENTS

2006

Finland takes over **1st July**
EU presidency

2007

Germany takes over **1st January**
EU presidency

Accession of **1st January**
Bulgaria and Romania
to the European Union

Portugal takes over **1st July**
EU presidency

2008

France takes over **1st January**
EU presidency

A Throne in Brussels

by Paul Belien. *Hdbk.* £25.00

Historical analysis which warns that the EU is heading the way of Belgium.

The European Question and the National Interest

by Jeremy Black. £16.99

A leading historian's interpretation of Britain's relations with EU/EC/EEC.

The Great Deception:

Can the European Union survive

by Christopher Booker. £9.99

This is the latest version (November 2005) of this comprehensive history of the European Union.

Britain and the EU: Time to Move On

by Christopher Hoskin. £3.95

The EU malaise and the cure.

The Future is a Foreign Country

by Matthew Illsley. £10.00

Full of useful detail and quotes on how and why we got into the EU mess. It leads to the conclusion that withdrawal from the EU is the only way forward.

Disappearing Britain

The EU and the death of

Local Government

by Lindsay Jenkins. £14.99

The detailed Brussels agenda for the break-up of the United Kingdom.

Resolving the European Crisis

Perspectives on the future of the European Union

Edited by Paul Jervis. £9.99

Opinion formers include; Daniel Hannan MEP, Ruth Lea, Lord Pearson, John Redwood MP and Gisela Stuart MP.

The Missing Heart of Europe

Does Britain hold the key to the future of the Continent?

by Thomas Kremer. £11.99

Can nation states flourish? A European businessman's view of the impact of divergent national cultures.

The 2006 Essential Guide to the EU

by Ruth Lea. £15.00

A detailed yet accessible analysis of how the EU works now and in the future.

Who's Afraid of a

European Constitution?

by Neil MacCormick. £8.95

A member of the European Convention on the Future of Europe and former MEP describes its nature and purpose.

Alarming Drum

Britain's European Dilemma

by Peter Morgan. *Hdbk* £19.95

An analysis of Britain's relationship with the EU, Director-General of the IoD (1989-1994) proposes alternatives to current failing EU.

The Wrong Side of the Hill

The Secret Realignment of UK Defence Policy with the EU

by Richard North. £10.00

The author argues that Britain has embarked on a course that will divide it from its traditional American ally.

The Benefits of Tax Competition

by Richard Teather £12.50

Teather argues that EU attempts to harmonise taxes will damage the world economy.

EU: Papacy Reincarnated?

by Mark Stout £9.99

This book explores the origins and functioning of both the EU and the Medieval Papacy from a legal/political/historical perspective and unearths a startling number of parallels.

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European Movement	020 7940 5252
Federal Trust	020 7735 4000

AGAINST "EU"

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British Housewives League	020 8445 4848
British Weights & Measures Assoc.	
	020 8922 0089
Campaign against the Single Currency	07071 663876
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Democracy Movement	020 7491 3072
Freedom Association	01746 861267
Labour Euro-Safeguards Campaign	020 7691 3800
New Alliance	020 7386 1837
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CROSS PARTY PRESSURE GROUPS

Congress for Democracy	01372 453678
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CROSS PARTY THINK TANKS

Bruges Group	020 7287 4414
Global Britain	
Email: globalbritain-1@globalbritain.org	
Open Europe	0207 197 2333

POLITICAL PARTIES

Conservative	020 7222 9000
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Democratic Party	01684 891700
Mr Geoff Southall	
Labour	08705 900 200
Rt Hon Tony Blair MP	
Liberal	01562 68361
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