

Countdown to the summit: Will Brown insist on a referendum?

Eurosceptics may fear that Tony Blair's final action as prime minister will be to betray British interests at the EU summit - but thankfully there are other possibilities

"What you cannot do is have a situation where you get a rejection of the treaty and bring it back with a few amendments and say, 'Have another go'. You cannot do that". These words were spoken by Tony Blair in April 2004. Like many of Mr Blair's utterances they probably provide a poor guide to his actions. However, with luck the present fears that Mr Blair's final act as Prime Minister will be to betray his country at the 21st June EU summit while simultaneously dumping his successor and old adversary in the *merde* may turn out to have been wide of the mark. They are the stuff of eurosceptic nightmares, but thankfully there is a range of other intriguing possibilities.

Transfer of Powers

The current negotiations between the so-called "sherpas" - the officials currently representing their national governments - and the German Presidency over the European Constitution remain shrouded in secrecy. According to EU spokesmen the "sherpas" are not even allowed to inquire about progress in the 26 parallel sets of talks going on around Europe. Replying to demands for a referendum on any deal which would involve a further transfer of powers to Brussels British Ministers stonewall, routinely referring to a statement by the Europe Minister Geoff Hoon on 5th December 2006, a model of its kind in that it does not provide the

faintest clue to the Government's intentions.

As to the state of the present negotiations there are signs, mostly coming from Brussels and Berlin, that member states are moving away from the idea of a new treaty in favour of an amendment to current treaties. An amendment sounds rather more innocuous than a treaty and a good deal more so than a constitution, even if its implications turn out to be the same. No need for a referendum on a mere amendment, or so we would be told.

There would seem to be four possible outcomes to the present round of negotiations:

- An outline agreement or 'roadmap' which would lead the way to a slimmed-down treaty (or amendment) which would not be subject to ratification by means of referendums - the option favoured by most EU leaders including the German Chancellor and the French President as well as the Italian and Spanish Prime Ministers.
- An outline agreement or 'roadmap' leading to a slimmed-down treaty (or amendment) backed by all but one or two member states (both French and European diplomats have specifically suggested that such a deal could exclude Britain).
- An outline agreement on a treaty (or amendment) which some

countries including Britain would put to a referendum.

- The failure to reach any significant agreement, which would intensify the crisis which began with the French and Dutch rejection of the Constitution in 2005.

Nicholas Sarkozy's triumph in the French presidential election would seem to reduce somewhat the possibility of the third of these outcomes i.e a deal which did not lead to further referendums. "A referendum on the Constitution would destroy Europe", Sarkozy declared during the campaign.

Abject Failure

However, the nine countries which have not so far ratified the current draft treaty *might* still go ahead with referendum plans, especially if Britain chose to lead the way. In the press conference following the launch of his leadership campaign Mr Brown refused to rule out a referendum. Labour's 2005 Election Manifesto states: "It is a good treaty for Britain and for the new Europe. We will put it to the British people in a referendum and campaign whole-heartedly for a 'Yes' vote to keep Britain a leading nation in Europe."

Is Mr Brown, who has not said a kind public word about the Constitution, still prepared to whole-heartedly

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Further step on the road to an EU business tax

The EU took a further step in the creation of a common EU business tax on 2nd May when the Commission published plans to introduce the tax by 2010.

The goal of a common consolidated corporate tax base (CCCTB) was established in 2001. But progress has been slow due to the reluctance of some states, including Britain. However, resistance to the tax has been led by low-tax Ireland which has been far more outspoken in its condemnation of the Commission's proposals than the UK.

When a progress report was published by the Commission in 2006 twelve countries were in favour and seven - Ireland, the UK, Lithuania, Latvia, Slovakia, Malta and Cyprus -

were against. The remainder were undecided.

Speaking after the 2nd May meeting Laszlo Kovacs, the EU Tax Commissioner made it clear that he would "not allow the veto power of a few countries" to block his project. As a last resort he would go ahead under the so-called enhanced cooperation mechanism. This would allow a minimum of eight states to go ahead irrespective of the views of others (*Source: EurActiv, the EU-sponsored portal, 7th May*).

The Irish Taoiseach Bertie Ahern has been unequivocal in his opposition. "This is not the harmless, sensible, logical, technical adjustment which some people are trying to portray it as," he has said "We regard the

proposal as little more than a Trojan Horse for harmonised corporation tax and that is why we will resist and oppose it."

The Commission plans to publish outline legislative proposals next year and intends to implement its plans in 2010.

If passed the rules may leave companies the choice of whether or not to submit a single return for their European-wide operations.

According to research by the Said Business School at Oxford University a common European business tax would cost British companies £4 billion a year. The total UK corporation tax take is at present about £50 billion.

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Countdown to the June summit

campaign for a yes vote? Why should he begin his premiership by embarking on a course of action that is almost guaranteed to end in abject failure? He has presumably communicated his views about such matters to Mr Blair.

Mr Brown is currently at pains to stress that he is keen to listen and learn. It is just thinkable that he might fulfil Labour's promise to consult the people but adopt a neutral stance in a referendum campaign (although this would leave him vulnerable to the charge that he was failing to provide leadership and could not make up his mind on one of the central issues of the day; such a course might also open a major split in his own ranks with a general election only a year or so away).

A deal which did not lead to a referendum might seem to hold fewer terrors for a politician who is thought to be more risk-averse than the 'visionary' who is soon to depart Number 10. But is this so? Whether there is a new treaty or a treaty amendment it will propose the appointment of a permanent President and foreign minister, the creation of a European legal personality and the surrender of national vetoes in no less

than 49 areas. Even if the British government claws back some of the vetoes during the negotiations it would be difficult to pretend that the proposed changes were not of major constitutional significance as even the *Guardian* has now acknowledged The danger of pushing ahead without a referendum is that 'Europe' could be a major issue at the General Election, something which Mr Brown would obviously prefer to avoid in these circumstances.

A more attractive outcome from an electoral perspective would be one that enabled the process of European political integration to continue without Britain. The new possible Prime Minister (who is said to have been 'incandescent' about Blair's surrender over the EU budget deal) might simply announce that having listened to the British people he had concluded there was deep and profound opposition to a further transfer of national powers and that he was consequently unwilling to sign up to a deal. This would require courage and independence on Mr Brown's part, as well as a readiness to disregard the opinions of metropolitan elites, but this would enable him to eliminate at a

stroke any advantage that the Conservatives might possess on the European issue.

Of course, it is entirely possible that the present round of talks will end with no agreement on a detailed roadmap of the kind that the German Chancellor is seeking. In addition to British anxieties about the greater use of QMV, the Poles are strongly opposed to proposals that would reduce their voting power and there are numerous differences of opinion about whether or not the Charter of Fundamental Rights should be included in a revised document and, if so, by what means. Given the political capital Mrs Merkel had invested in the present round of talks failure to reach agreement on the way ahead would destroy the prospect of a European constitution for the indefinite future. In that case the crisis which the European Union has been embroiled in will intensify in a mood of mutual acrimony and recrimination with untold implications.

All of which suggests that just because eurosceptics have learned to live with adverse political trends, they shouldn't entirely exclude the possibility of things finally taking a turn for the better!

Will Sarkozy prove to be the French Thatcher?

The new French President is a dynamic outsider but many of his policy proposals echo ideas which failed spectacularly in the UK in the 60s and 70s

By Ian Milne

Have the French finally found *l'homme providentiel* who can get France out of the mess it's in? Will the election of Nicolas Sarkozy be as significant for France as the election of Margaret Thatcher was for Britain in 1979?

Sarkozy, with a decisive 53/47 victory in the second round on a staggering 84 per cent turnout, and with the defeated Left, Centre and Far-Right parties all in their different ways in crisis, certainly has the mandate to carry out the reforms France so badly needs.

First, he has to get a working majority in the parliamentary elections which, like the presidential one, take place over two rounds, on 10th and 17th June. Assuming he does, how will he resolve the many contradictions and inconsistencies in his manifesto?

Trojan Horse

"Europe", or more precisely the EU, was the first international subject he addressed in his victory speech just after the result was declared on 6th May. Sarkozy is a Europhile. "*All my life I've been [pro] European*", he said, "*I believe profoundly and sincerely in the process of European construction....France is back in Europe.*" He then appealed to France's European partners "*not to turn a deaf ear to the anger of [EU] citizens who see the EU not as a protection but as a Trojan Horse bringing in all the threats associated with globalisation*".

A cynic might say that Sarkozy's plan, to avoid a referendum by ramming through a mini-treaty incorporating the key points of the Constitution so comprehensively rejected by the French and Dutch electorates, is precisely that: turning a deaf ear to the peoples of Europe. Interestingly, French observers are speculating already that even if the mini-treaty is agreed, and even if Sarkozy manages to head off calls for a referendum in France, Gordon Brown

won't be able to in the UK.

Sarkozy's bluntly-stated opposition to Turkish accession to the EU ("*because Turkey's in Asia Minor*") reflects French public opinion; it also recognises the improbability of the French electorate ever voting for such an accession in the referendum which, at Article 88, is inscribed in the French Constitution. (It also torpedoed one of the central aims of what passes for UK "policy" on the EU: to get Turkey in.) So far, Brussels is pretending that it hasn't heard what Sarkozy has said, and continues to negotiate Turkish accession with Ankara.

Significant Shift

The Turks, for their part, are not impressed, and have rubbished Sarkozy's suggestion that Turkey should instead join a new "Mediterranean Union". In his victory speech, Sarkozy said the Mediterranean Union would be "*a link between Europe and Africa*". This union, apparently, would start off being a kind of free trade area, then evolve into something like the EU. It isn't clear whether Mediterranean EU members like Italy or Spain would be members, or whether the EU's existing "policy" for the Mediterranean (the "Barcelona Process") would become redundant. So the Mediterranean Union project, even if meant to represent a significant shift in French foreign policy, will need a huge effort by Paris even to start to get it accepted as "real" by the EU, its member states and the other countries bordering the Mediterranean.

Sarkozy's other proposals for change in the EU carry echoes of policies which failed spectacularly in the UK in the '60s and '70s. He wants the ECB - the European Central Bank - to dilute its anti-inflation stance so as to "promote growth". In other words, he wants a weak euro. The Germans won't be too keen on that, and even if they were it would mean changing the

ECB's statutes via a new treaty. So nothing much will happen on that front. Another bizarrely old-fashioned Sarkozy idea is to "promote EU industrial policy", whatever that means (playing catch-up with the Americans, *à la Galileo*? Bailing out national champions? Throwing money at "new" technologies?). Yet another is to "strengthen community preference" by erecting barriers against imports from countries deemed to be competing unfairly by not having the same environmental and social requirements as EU countries - an only too familiar French anti-dumping reflex and a mercantilist throwback to Colbert. Sarkozy is likely to face strong resistance on this from both Brussels and a number of EU countries, let alone the targeted developing countries and the World Trade Organisation. Such policies would seem to be inconsistent, to say the least, with the new president's claim that he will reform the French economy along Anglo-Saxon lines.

Politically Correct

Talking up the discredited Kyoto protocol and promising French action on climate change, as Sarkozy is doing, hardly suggests radical reform either - rather the re-iteration of the current tired international politically-correct nostrums.

Most of his EU proposals reflect French public opinion, even if the chances of their being implemented are slim. However, Sarkozy's real test will be in domestic politics: whether he can carry through those promised but intractable nuts-and-bolts tasks such as reforming the labour market (including emasculating the thirty-five hour week); reforming pensions; limiting the right to strike; corralling the trades unions; reducing taxes; reducing the national debt; reducing unemployment; getting the economy on to a growth track. Only if he

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Rise in EU budget surprises critics

The good news is that the EU machinery is too inefficient to allow the Commission to spend as much of our money as it would like

The bad news is that the EU intends to spend even more money next year than many people expected. The good news, in as far as there is any, is that it won't wholly succeed. The Commission's proposal is to increase spending to 121.6 billion (5.3 per cent more than in 2007). As the result of inefficiencies and bureaucratic weaknesses it will almost certainly fail. For this reason four countries - Germany, France, the UK and the Netherlands - have expressed unease about the Lithuania Budget Commissioner Dalia Grybauskaite's spending plans for next year, even though they fall within the spending limits set by EU leaders for 2007-13.

The critics say that by putting more money aside than it can spend, the EU executive is not motivated to work efficiently. Ironically, Ms Grybauskaite highlights efficiency and competitiveness as the key features of her proposals.

In presenting its budget plans on 7th May the Commission took great pride in the fact that for the first time the EU will be spending fractionally more on

"sustainable growth" than on the CAP (43.6 per cent).

However, the claim is made by lumping together increased spending on the Cohesion Fund and other disparate items, rather than as the result of reductions in agricultural spending which is expected to increase by one half a per cent.

Nevertheless most British and European newspapers accepted Ms Grybauskaite's claims at face value, overlooking the fact that if it were really possible to generate sustainable economic growth and jobs through lavish public spending programmes, EU states would be at the top of the world's growth and employment league tables instead of floundering near the bottom of them.

The biggest spending increases go to Energy and Transport (up 12 per cent), Environment (up 11 per cent), the Cohesion Fund (up 14 per cent), Management of Migration Flows (up 24 per cent), Health and Consumer Protection (up 15 per cent), Common Foreign and Security Policy (26 per cent), Rapid Response for

environmental emergencies (up 21 per cent).

Last year there was a big row over the money which the Commission spends for administration. Anxious to head off similar criticism Ms Grybauskaite lays stress on the EU's new staffing policy which is focussed on re-deployment rather than on recruiting new personnel. But the EU's 2008 expenditure will still rise by 5.2 per cent as a result of increases in staff pensions (10.2 per cent) and spending on schools for the children of EU personnel (11.1 per cent) following enlargement.

The biggest increase of all will be on the EU's Galileo global positioning system for which there is arguably no need at all since the US system is available free to users. The budget proposals include a 51 per cent hike in spending on the project which is in such serious difficulties that even this huge increase may not be sufficient to prevent its collapse (see p.5).

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Will Sarkozy be the French Thatcher?

succeeds in those areas will France be on the road to recovery. Chirac's governments had a go at them, but rapidly came unstuck. Sarkozy, on the face of it, should do better, though he may need two or even three terms to complete the job.

One of the reasons for thinking he might succeed is that Sarkozy is something of an outsider in French society, with a background very different from that of his post-war predecessors (and, indeed, from that of Ségolène Royal), who tend to have deep roots in various bucolic French provinces, to be more or less part of the

haute bourgeoisie, and to have gone through the classic elite education - prestigious lycée, Sciences-Po then ENA. Sarkozy, in contrast, brought up in the western suburbs of Paris by his mother (after his father, an immigrant from Hungary, walked out when he was five), got a law degree from Nanterre university, not a prestigious one. (His wife, Cecilia, of Romanian-Spanish extraction, though born in France, claims not to have a drop of French blood in her veins, so she too is an outsider.)

Outsiders, by definition, especially recent immigrants, tend to carry less

(or different) mental and emotional baggage than insiders. This appears to be an important factor in Sarkozy's make-up and should help him cut through traditional French societal inertia. He is a man of huge energy and determination who has just run a faultless election campaign. At the time of writing he and François Fillon seem to be trying to make imaginative appointments to key posts in the latter's cabinet from the defeated Socialist Party (for example Hubert Védrine as Foreign Minister). So far so good. If Sarkozy can't reform France, no one can.

Galileo: a white elephant in space

The EU's satellite navigation system is late, over-budget and completely unnecessary

Galileo, the European Union's hugely expensive satellite navigation system project, is in "a deep and profound crisis", Wolfgang Tiefensee, the EU transport commissioner has admitted. For readers who have not followed the history of the project or are baffled by the often technical nature of EU statements on the project we offer the following guide.

What is the project meant to achieve?

Galileo is intended to rival the US Global Positioning System (GPS) which was built by America's armed forces in the 1980s and has proved to be an astonishing success. Its most famous use is to help drivers find their destination and the market for GPS receivers is currently growing by 25 per cent a year. But it can be used for a growing number of other purposes, from monitoring forest fires to helping farmers find missing livestock.

Why is Galileo needed?

It isn't. The US system, on which we presently rely, is available free to civilian users. China, which was once interested in joining the European scheme, and Russia are developing their own schemes. EU spokesmen justify the system by saying that it is necessary to 'maintain Europe's position in space' and to develop new technologies.

How far has the project fallen behind?

Galileo was supposed to be operational by 2010, but independent

analysts say that it won't be ready at least until 2014. The project, started seven years ago, will comprise 30 satellites; to date only one test satellite is in orbit.

How much is it costing?

The original cost was put at 3.6 billion with taxpayers paying for a third and the remainder coming from the eight companies in the consortium which is building the project. The companies, which are quarrelling among themselves about who does what, are now demanding more money and expressing doubts about whether they can make a profit. The public costs are likely to escalate still further if the EU decides to take over full control and funding of the project.

What is the root of the present problems?

Lack of leadership: there has been no agreement on a chief executive, a headquarters, or how profits, if they ever materialise, should be shared. The scheme has also been bedevilled by continual political interference as national governments have competed to get as much work for their companies as possible.

Who is participating in the project?

The Galileo Consortium includes the Franco-German aerospace company, EADS, France's Thales and Alcatel-Lucent, Britain's Inmarsat, Italy's Finmeccanica, Spain's AENA and Hispassat, and TeleOp, a German consortium led by Deutsche-Telekom.

Does the scheme have

military implications?

Satellite navigation systems undoubtedly have military uses, which is why the French government, anxious as always to reduced reliance on the US, has been so vigorous in promoting the scheme. The British government is adamant that Galileo will not be used for military purposes, which appears to be the formal EU position. Currently, 95 per cent of the American GPS use is for civilian purposes.

Isn't Galileo meant to be more efficient than the US system?

Originally the system was intended to be more accurate than GPS which provides positional fixes to within three metres. Galileo is supposed to provide readings within one metre of accuracy. But the GPS system has been upgraded with the result that it is now as accurate as the Galileo system is intended to be.

What are the present options?

The options are to set new deadlines and pour new funds into the consortium, for the EU to take over funding and control completely, or to kill it off. The Commission appears to favour the second option. This would also certainly mean that Galileo would follow in the glorious tradition of the Airbus and the Euro-fighter - grandiose multi-national projects which were intended to confirm Europe's super-power status but which turned out to be massively expensive embarrassments. The best option by far would be to kill it off, and quickly.

MEPs refuse to disclose pension details

The European Parliament's Bureau, the body that oversees the assembly's administration, has voted to prevent the publication of a list naming MEPs who benefit from a pension scheme to which taxpayers contribute two euros for every euro paid in personal contributions.

The scheme - worth more than £1,400 a month - is controversial because the

MEPs personal contributions are paid out of members' office expenses. No one checks to find out whether the politician pays anything into the scheme from his own salary.

However, there is a widespread suspicion that a large proportion of MEPS are using office expenses to pay for a free pension. The total cost of the scheme is around £8 million a year.

The MEPs have sought to justify the

suppression of the list on the basis that publication would represent an intrusion into their personal lives.

However, according to the *Daily Telegraph* on 30th April the European ombudsman Niki Diamandouros, is threatening to bring a finding of maladministration against MEPs unless the names of beneficiaries are published.

LETTERS

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

Constitutional Trickery

Dear Sir,

Part of the cunning plan to smuggle through the EU Constitution involves dropping its provocative references to the more obvious "trappings of statehood".

Yet despite the rejection of the Constitution, this year May 9th was still designated as "Europe Day", when (it was fondly imagined) the loyal and enthusiastic citizens of the Union would feel moved to wave its flag, burst into its "Ode to Joy" anthem, and perhaps even greet each other with its inspirational slogan - "United in diversity, citizen!".

Excluding the provisions enshrining these "symbols of the Union" would not remove their existing status. Far more importantly, it would not affect the core legal substance of the Constitution, which according to Chancellor Angela Merkel must be transferred intact into the new treaty.

Anyway, even if those provisions

were taken out now, with some public show, once we were no longer paying proper attention they could easily be put back in through a "minor" or "technical" constitutional amendment.

Dr D R COOPER
Berkshire

MPs should think before they vote

Dear Sir,

It has long been rumoured that Tony Blair aspires to be "President of Europe", and this has now been confirmed by a reliable press report.

Unfortunately for him, that exalted position does not yet exist. It would have been created by Article I-22 of the Constitution, and no doubt that provision will be kept in the Mark II Constitution which he says should be pushed through Parliament without a referendum.

Before they vote for that treaty, in open defiance of their many constituents who still want the

referendum they were promised before the last general election - 83 per cent of adults across the country, according to a recent poll - Labour MPs should look ahead a few years to the next election.

Would they really be prepared to see their own political careers brought to a premature end, while their ex-boss enjoyed his extended career on the European stage?

MURIEL PARSONS
Berkshire

French Numbers

Dear Sir,

Anthony Scholefield's contention (*eurofacts* 27th April) that the numbers of French immigrants in London are vastly over-stated would appear to be borne out by the number of French voters who actually voted in London last 6th May in the final round of the presidential election. According to *Figaro*, this was 13,989 - just under fourteen thousand.

CLIVE GEORGE
London

EU school fees bill rises to £98 million

It is easy to sympathise with parents who struggle to meet the rising cost of school fees. But we may safely exclude Brussels bureaucrats from our concerns. Next year the budget for providing free education for the children of EU officials is to rise by more than 11 per cent as a wave of new officials are recruited from Eastern

Europe.

A total of 144 million (£98 million) was set out by the European Commission on 2nd May for education costs for the children of staff and diplomats at the 13 European schools in seven countries.

Targets to recruit almost 1,000 more bureaucrats from the 12 countries that

have joined the EU since 2004 mean that a large increase is expected in children of school age. Two new schools will help to accommodate the influx triggered by the accession of the mainly former Communist countries.

The EU said that the schools were "a vital element in attracting and recruiting staff of the highest calibre".

European Union: United Kingdom net contributions 2003-2005

Lord Vinson asked Her Majesty's Government: Further to the Written Answers by Lord Davies of Oldham on 20th March (WA 183), whether the net imbalance of United Kingdom official

transactions with the European Union, taking the average over the calendar years 2003, 2004 and 2005, was in excess of £3 billion per year. [HL3271]

Lord Davies of Oldham: The average

net contribution over this period was £3.4 billion.

Source: House of Lords Hansard, 23 April 2007.

MEETINGS

Gresham College
020 7831 0575

Tuesday **29th May**, 6.00 pm

“Our new Constitution”

Vernon Bogdanor, CBE FBA,
Gresham Professor of Law

PUBLIC MEETING

Barnard's Inn Hall, Holburn, London
Admission Free

Get Britain Out (formerly The Anti-Common Market League)
01787 376374

Thursday **31st May**, 7.00 pm

“The ‘Big Brother’ Surveillance Society - the EU Connection”

Guy Herbert, NO2ID campaign

PUBLIC MEETING

The Counting House, pub (upstairs) 50
Cornhill, London EC3V 3PD
(close to Bank Underground Station)
Admission Free

Gresham College
020 7831 0575

Tuesday **5th June**, 6.00 pm

“Sixty Years On Leadership and Change: Prime Ministers in the Post-War World - James Callaghan”

Professor the Lord (Kenneth) Morgan

with a response by
Professor Peter Hennessy

PUBLIC MEETING

Staple Inn Hall, Holburn, London
Admission Free

Bruges Group
020 7287 4414

Wednesday **13th June**, 7.00 pm

Julian Morris, Executive Director of the International Policy Network

PUBLIC MEETING

Details to be announced
Admission £10
Payable on the door or in advance

Trade Unions Against the EU Constitution (TUAEC)
020 7287 4414

Saturday **16th June**,
Noon to 3.00 pm

“No to the EU Constitution, No to the Services Directive, Yes to Democracy, Yes to Trade Unions Rights”

Bob Crow, RMT General Secretary
John Cryer, T&G Political Officer
Graham Fletcher, Engineering Gazette
Kelvin Hopkins MP, RMT General Secretary

Carolyn Jones, Institute of Employment Rights
Eric Meijer, Dutch Socialist Party MEP

PUBLIC MEETING

Friend's Meeting House, Euston, London
Admission Free
(Apply - TUAEC PO Box 46295
London W5 2UG)

SELECT COMMITTEES

House of Lords
020-7219 3000

Thursday **7th June**, 9.30 am
Evidence will be heard on *The European Institute of Technology Proposal* from Mr Malcolm Wicks MP, Minister of State, DTI.

Tuesday **19th June**, 11.00 am
Evidence will be heard on the *The Inquiry into Air Travel and Health* from witnesses to be confirmed.

Tuesday **26th June**, 11.00 am
Evidence will be heard on the *The Inquiry into Air Travel and Health* from witnesses to be confirmed.

Tuesday **10th July**, 11.00 am
Evidence will be heard on the *The Inquiry into Air Travel and Health* from witnesses to be confirmed.

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

USEFUL WEB SITES

Better off Out Campaign

www.betteroffout.co.uk

British Declaration of Independence

www.bdicampaign.org

British Weights & Measures Assoc.

www.bwmaOnline.com

Bruges Group

www.brugesgroup.com

Campaign Against Euro-Federalism

www.caef.org.uk

Campaign for an Independent Britain

www.cibhq.co.uk

Democracy Movement

www.democracymovement.org.uk

EU Observer

<http://euobserver.com>

EU Truth

www.eutruth.org.uk

European Commission (London)

www.cec.org.uk

European Foundation

www.europeanfoundation.org

European No Campaign

www.europeannocampaign.com

Foreign Affairs

www.foreignaffairs.org

Freedom Association

www.tfa.net

Global Britain

www.globalbritain.org

Global Vision

www.global-vision.net

June Press (Publications)

www.junepress.com

Labour Euro-Safeguards Campaign

www.lesc.org.uk

New Alliance

www.newalliance.org.uk

Open Europe

www.openeurope.org.uk

Regional Assemblies

www.regionalassemblies.co.uk

Speak Out Campaign

<http://speakout.co.uk>

Sovereignty

www.sovereignty.org.uk

Stewardship

www.stewardship.org

The People's "No" Campaign

www.thepeoplesnocampaign.co.uk

United Kingdom Independence Party

www.ukip.org

DIARY OF EVENTS

2007

French Parliamentary Election **10th and 17th June**

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

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.

A Democratic Europe: An Alternative to the EU

by *Richard Body*. **£10.00**

Sir Richard lays out the case for a truly democratic European Union as opposed to an undemocratic super power.

The Great Deception: Can the European Union survive

by *Christopher Booker & Richard North*. **£10.99**

This book is the most comprehensive history of the EU.

Living in a Fascist Country

by *Vernon Coleman*. **£15.99**

The disappearing freedom and privacy.

Hard Pounding: The Story Of The UK Independence Party

by *Peter Gardner*. **£9.99**

An inside story of the rise of UKIP.

The Bumper Book of Government Waste

by *Matthew Elliott and Lee Rotherham*. **£9.99**

An exposure of the huge levels of waste in Britain and the EU.

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.

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.

Iran The Clash of Ambitions

by *Houchang Nahavandi*. **£16.95**

A history of the people and influences that have formed the Iran of today. It has a history of integrating invaders.

Corruption -

The World's Big C

Cases, Causes, Consequences, Cures by *Ian Senior*. **£12.50**

Senior shows how corruption in the EU is becoming worse and why the UK should not sign up to the proposed European Constitution.

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

Video

Britain On The Brink

by *Sanity*. DVD or VHS Video **£5.00**

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