

Not so much whither Europe as wither the EU?

'For many Europeans, the greater good no longer seems to matter. They wonder what the union is delivering for them and they ask whether it is worth the trouble'

Here is a summary of an influential American view of the current condition of the European Union as it desperately attempts to claim a starring role on the world stage:

The European Union is dying – not a dramatic or sudden death, but one so slow and steady that we may look across the Atlantic one day soon and realise that the project of European integration that we've taken for granted over the past half-century is no more.

Of course, the US has always adopted a rather ambivalent attitude towards the EU. On the one hand, it has worked tirelessly since the Second World War to encourage the rise of a strong, independent and peaceful Europe, originally as a bulwark against the Soviet Union but also to reduce its own responsibilities – both economic and defensive – in what had been a troublesome continent for most of the 20th century. On the other hand, the self-centred nature of Washington's foreign policy gave rise to some suspicion of the EU. The US did not really want to see the rise of a rival global power or, after the creation of the euro, any challenge to the supremacy of the dollar.

According to an influential American foreign policy analyst, however, the EU has failed either to live up to its promise or to present a credible alternative to the US world view.

"As the United States tries to dig itself out of debt and give its armed

forces a breather, it will increasingly judge its allies by what they bring to the table. In Europe's case, the offering is small and shrinking," wrote Charles Kupchan, professor of International Affairs at Georgetown University and a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. "The Obama administration has already expressed frustration with an EU whose geopolitical profile is waning."

This air of disappointment seems odd at a time when Brussels is preparing to strut its stuff with its External Action Service of international diplomats and is to be granted most of the rights of a nation state at the UN. Mr Kupchan, though, looks beyond the propaganda and the posturing.

In an article in *The Washington Post*, he writes: "From London to Berlin to Warsaw, Europe is experiencing a renationalisation of political life, with countries clawing back the sovereignty they once willingly sacrificed in pursuit of a collective ideal.

"For many Europeans, that greater good no longer seems to matter. They wonder what the union is delivering for them, and they ask whether it is worth the trouble. If these trends continue, they could compromise one of the most significant and unlikely accomplishments of the 20th century: an integrated Europe, at peace with itself, seeking to project power as a cohesive whole.

"The result would be individual nations consigned to geopolitical irrelevance – and a United States bereft

of a partner willing or able to shoulder global burdens."

Mr Kupchan points to a resurgence of nationalism across the EU which is "a product, primarily, of a backlash against immigration" and "aims not only at minorities, but also at the loss of autonomy that accompanies political union."

This, he says, is mainly the result of generational change. The EU grew out of a burning desire to prevent the disastrous European wars so vivid in the memories of those who lived through them and their effects, but the same concern does not appear to have passed to succeeding generations. In France, for example, a recent poll showed that people under the age of 36 were only half as likely as those over 55 to see the EU as a guarantee of peace. "No wonder new European leaders view the EU's value through cold cost-benefit calculations, not as an article of faith," Mr Kupchan concludes.

The EU's mania for expansion is also cited as weakening the institution: "The EU's rapid enlargement to the east and south has further sapped it of life. Absent the cosy feel the smaller union had before, its original members have turned inward. The newer members from Central Europe, who have enjoyed full sovereignty only since communism's collapse, are not keen to give it away."

Mr Kupchan is scathing about the accession of Belgium – a divided

continued on page 3

INSIDE: EU biofuels madness spurs "land grab" p.2 - Less than half of population expresses support for EU p.2 - Enter the virtual reality of Brussels p.3 - Not so much whither Europe as wither the EU? p. 3 - Forget the spin, the crisis isn't going away p. 4 - Referendum drive moves up a gear p.5 - Letters p.6 - Catching the last straws in the wind? p.6

EU biofuels madness spurs 'land grab'

The European Union is being accused of damaging both the environment and poorer nations because of its manic insistence that 20 per cent of liquid fuels should come from "renewable" sources by 2020.

In a report published at the end of August, Friends of the Earth say the much criticised EU biofuels target is encouraging European companies to stage what it calls a "land grab" in sub-Saharan Africa.

"Growing European and international demand for agrofuels as a transport fuel is creating market demand for agrofuels," says the report, *Africa: Up for Grabs*. "While African politicians may promise that agrofuels will bring locally sourced energy supplies to their countries, the reality is that most of the foreign companies are developing agrofuels to sell on the international market. The EU's mandatory target for increasing agrofuels is a clear driver to the land grabbing in Africa.

"These EU targets have established a clear market – which given land prices and the lack of available land within the EU will inevitably be met by imports. While national governments and state-owned companies are behind some of the investment in land for food, most of the "land grabs" for agrofuels appear to be dominated by private companies, with many of these coming from the EU...

"European companies appear to dominate the land acquisitions for agrofuels in Africa. UK company Sun Biofuels has acquired land in Ethiopia (80,000ha), Tanzania (8,000 ha) and Mozambique (5,000 ha) to grow jatropha [*which is claimed to produce CO₂-neutral oil*] while the UK-based CAMS Group bought 45,000 ha in Tanzania to produce ethanol from sweet sorghum."

Friends of the Earth also identifies

German, Italian, Austrian, Portuguese and Danish companies that are buying African land for fuel-growing, as well as EU-associated Norwegian and Swiss firms.

"The competition for land and the competition for staple food crops such as cassava and sweet sorghum for agrofuels is likely to push up food and land prices," says the report. "This competition for agricultural land raises fundamental questions about food sovereignty and government priorities. Should a country that is dependent on food aid (such as Kenya or Ethiopia) be selling fertile land to developers to grow fuel?"

"Studies suggest that a third of the land sold or acquired in Africa is intended for fuel crops – some five million hectares. Friends of the Earth has looked at cases of land grabbing in eleven countries across Africa, from Ethiopia to Mozambique. While some of this land is sold outright – to private companies, state companies or investment funds – most is leased and some is obtained through contracting with the farmer to grow specific crops (known as 'out growing').

"A number of, often small, EU companies are involved, sometimes with support or involvement from their national governments."

The report says that while many companies stress the social and environmental benefits of their business, offering employment and the promise of development to rural areas, some have been accused of providing misleading information to local farmers, of obtaining land from fraudulent community land owners and of bypassing environmental protection laws.

"Agrofuels are competing with food crops for farmland, and agrofuel development companies are competing

with farmers for access to that land. And this appears to be as much the case for jatropha as for other crops, despite the claim that it grows on non-agricultural land. When losing their access to traditional land, local communities face growing food insecurity and hunger – their human right to food is threatened.

"Pressure on farmland has led to forest being cleared to make way for agrofuel plantations, destroying valuable natural resources and increasing greenhouse gas emissions. In Ethiopia, land inside an elephant sanctuary was cleared to make way for agrofuels. Farmers have found that the much vaunted wonder crop jatropha, rather than bringing a guaranteed income, in fact takes valuable water resources and needs expensive pesticides. In some cases, food crops have been cleared to plant jatropha, leaving farmers with no income and no source of food."

The United Nations Environment Programme has already issued a dire warning that "global resources do not allow simply shifting from fossil resources to biomass while maintaining the current patterns of consumption." Now Friends of the Earth has lent its weight to the many critics of the EU's dash for biofuels as a supposedly easy solution to the problems of energy security and greenhouse gas emissions. Opponents say the target is short-sighted, economically unviable, endangers the environment, would produce doubtful benefits in terms of emissions and jeopardises global food supplies.

We urge the British government to campaign vigorously for the scrapping of this wasteful and quite dangerous example of barminess in Brussels.

Less than half of population expresses support for EU

THIS YEAR'S Eurobarometer survey of popular support for the European Union, published last month, shows that only 49 per cent of the citizens of member states give the EU their backing (29 per cent in the UK). Just 42 per cent say they trust European institutions and those judging EU membership a bad thing rose from 15 to 18 per cent.

In Greece, support fell to 44 per cent and even in the bloc

leader Germany, only half the population say they have confidence in EU membership.

The poll, which covered 1,000 people in each of the 27 member states, was carried out in May, but given what has happened since then – or rather, what has not happened – the chances are that the EU is no more popular than it was four months ago and possibly even less so.

Enter the virtual reality of Brussels

We discussed in the August issue of *eurofacts* the continuing efforts of Brussels to manipulate media coverage of the EU and, perhaps more importantly, to indoctrinate rising generations into unquestioning acceptance of the propaganda and officially peddled illusions of an emerging United States of Europe.

No matter that polls show the Eurocrats' best efforts so far yielding little in terms of popular support. Forget that the famed EuroParlTV appealed to almost nobody. Brussels is bent on retreating even further into its own virtual reality with a cross between a computer game and a social networking site.

Welcome to Citzalia, enthusiastically described in EuroSpeak as a "3D world that captures the essence of the European Parliament." How exciting can new media get?

The Eurogeek now has the opportunity to create an avatar and unleash it in the menacing *Tour of Duty* corridors of the Hemicycle to stalk the avatars of MEPs and... No, let the fantasy end there. You don't get a virtual grenade-launcher.

The purpose of this high-tech

nonsense (at a far from virtual cost of some €275,000) is to explain and illuminate the European Parliament and its work to an electorate of which the majority knows little about them and – reference the turnout in last year's European elections – cares even less. Virtual democracy, then, in place of what we think of as the real thing.

This must be what the Eurocrats meant when they said the Lisbon Treaty would bring greater transparency to the EU labyrinth and more power to elected representatives.

Exposing the non-debates would be real transparency

"As Europeans' votes don't matter, they can make up for it with a tiny virtual thrill of involvement in a fantasy world inspired by a real nightmare," writes Sophie Quintin Adali, of the French think tank unmondelibre.org. "Europeans can get online and spend every minute complaining about the democratic deficit – and then pretend their voices make a difference."

Will anyone bother, though? Mlle Quintin Adali comments: "The thought of citizen-avatars trying to figure out the 'co-decision' legislative process is

dizzying. Good luck to them with the arcane consultations between the Commission, the Council and the Parliament and the culture of deals behind the proverbial closed doors. Under the Lisbon Treaty, a new consultation procedure with the 27 national legislatures (the so-called Barroso initiative) should add to the bureaucratic fun."

In fact, there could have been a point to the Citzalia experience, she thinks: "Exposing the boring, poorly attended and entirely managed non-debates in the Parliament would indeed be in the interest of transparency. Not to mention the outrageous full relocation 12 times a year between Strasbourg and Brussels (annual cost: €200 million)."

That, however, is not going to happen: "Realism might confuse citizen-avatars who, back in the real world, might want to question their MEPs."

Well, yes, if they know who their MEPs are and where to find them. Now there's a thought: a Euro computer game in which citizen-avatars hunt down MEP-avatars in the real world and ask them what the hell they think they are doing.

That could really catch on.

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continued from page 1

country still struggling to form a new government – to the rotating presidency of the Union: "It speaks volumes that the country now guiding the European project suffers exactly the kind of nationalist antagonism that the EU was created to eliminate." He is also less than impressed by the appointment of "low profile individuals" as President of the Council and High Representative for Foreign Affairs on the basis that they would not threaten the authority of national leaders.

Nor does Mr Kupchan set much store by the EU's much vaunted ambition to be a global player. Based on European participation in the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq – and the lack of popular support for them – he believes Brussels

has no appetite for the responsibilities that accompany a serious international presence.

He quotes US Defense Secretary Robert Gates: "The demilitarisation of Europe – where large swathes of the general public and political class are averse to military force and the risks that go with it – has gone from a blessing in the 20th century to an impediment to achieving real security and lasting peace in the 21st."

Mr Kupchan reinforces the view often expressed by *eurofacts* that the Brussels bureaucracy is chiefly concerned with increasing its own power and the operation and job-creating expansion of its institutions. As an unnamed MEP told him, "The EU is now just trying to keep the machine going." The writer comments:

"Buying time may be the best the EU can do for now, but its slide is poised to continue... European politics will become less European and more national, until the EU becomes a union in name only."

Some would argue that the nominal union is already a fact, given the EU's inability to act collectively on almost any serious issue, especially in foreign affairs and defence. Poor leadership, the glaring democratic deficit and the authoritarian tendency to treat citizens as naughty children who should be ruled and not heard are all part of the reason for the current malaise in the EU. But the real problem that will destroy it is that what might have worked as a mutual trade organisation tried to turn itself into a political union, and that was never going to work.

Forget the spin, the crisis isn't going away

Brussels is busy congratulating itself at how successful it has been in beginning the rescue of Europe from the financial crisis that threatened to bring down the euro and throw a number of EU governments into default.

A series of celebratory statistics and press releases has shown that the economy of the euro area expanded by 1 per cent in the second quarter, the fastest pace in four years; exports rose by 4.4 per cent, the largest increase since the creation of the euro, while business investment went up by 1.8 per cent, after eight quarters of contraction, and a 0.5 per cent rise in consumer confidence was recorded.

It all looks very positive, and no one can deny that a return to economic growth is to be welcomed. But how much of this good news is illusory and where do we stand on the structural problems that underlie all the talk of recovery and light at the end of the tunnel? It might be worth considering some other details.

For example, alongside all the good news is the fact that in August European growth in manufacturing and services slowed more than had been forecast, while in Germany investor confidence fell to its lowest point for more than a year. "Risks to economic growth in the euro region economy are clearly to the downside," commented the rating agency Moody's.

The leading economist Joseph Stiglitz went even further, predicting that the response of governments both inside and outside the euro zone threatened to push the continent into a double-dip recession: "The problem is that we aren't getting out of this current crisis very quickly," he said. "What we're doing is setting ourselves for a longer-term Japanese-style malaise of weak growth for an extended period of time. It's very disturbing that people are talking about a new 'normal' with unemployment as high as 10 per cent, which would be devastating."

Dr Stiglitz blamed governments for focusing on debt reduction and hurried attempts to bring their borrowing

within the 3 per cent of GDP stipulated in the EU's growth and stability pact: "Because so many in Europe are focusing on the 3 per cent artificial number, which has no reality and is just looking at one side of a balance sheet, Europe is at risk of going into a double-dip."

Nor has the Brussels bail-out package for struggling euro zone countries such as Greece – hardly any of which has actually been delivered – increased the confidence of the bond markets in sovereign debt. Spreads in bond yields have in fact widened recently, in favour of countries such as Britain, Germany and France, and Ireland has had its rating downgraded as a result of fears over the continuing cost of its bank rescues.

Although the Irish government led the way in implementing swingeing austerity measures, the markets are spooked by the possible €25 billion cost of nationalising Anglo Irish Bank and a further bill of €4 billion faced by taxpayers to save two building societies. The fear is that such costs will prevent Ireland from reducing its budget deficit from last year's 14 per cent and could actually increase it to 20 per cent.

Worries about the position of other countries are still very much alive, with some analysts saying that the prospects of governments defaulting remain on the horizon. Greece is paying 11.5 per cent on ten-year bonds. In Belgium – which still has no government after its recent election – sovereign debt stands at 97 per cent of GDP. The coalition government in Italy has fallen apart and that of Ireland is vulnerable. In Germany and Holland, people are talking openly about the possibility of abandoning the euro and reviving national currencies.

So what is the EU doing about all this? Well, at the moment it is arguing about the details of regulating the activities of the continent's banks, which would not only do nothing to address the structural flaws in European economies but might actually make the situation worse by

driving business into the markets of the USA and Asia.

"EU authorities are to get tough new powers to settle disputes among national financial supervisors and to ban risky financial products and activities, in a revamp of EU financial supervision plans," reported a press release from the European Parliament, adding menacingly that "if national supervisors fail to act, then the authorities may also impose decisions directly on financial institutions, such as banks, so as to remedy breaches of EU law."

Most EU governments have expressed their satisfaction with this arrangement, though some have raised fears about removing power from national regulators and about what might happen if the European authorities attempted to use the heavy-handed interference envisaged. As for the banks, the chances must be that they will vote with their feet.

Meanwhile, the attempt to impose fiscal discipline across Europe seems to be running into the sand, predictably, as governments argue about what elements should be included in the official calculation of their debts and how any sanctions might be applied for those who break the rules. One problem is that member states are using the illusory figures pointing to recovery as an excuse to argue that everything is going to be all right and nothing needs to be done about structural problems.

"These discussions are blocked," admitted one official. "There are too many voices, too many views," added a minister involved in the talks.

And that, surely, is the point. Some of us have been saying for years that attempting to force a growing number of diverse cultures and systems into the straitjacket of European Union would do more harm than good – and that economic problems would eventually expose it as a sham.

The United States of Europe was always a foolish, idealistic dream that risked becoming a nightmare. Before that happens, it must be abandoned.

Referendum drive moves up a gear

A new group seeking a vote on UK membership of the EU must become a genuine mass movement to overturn the supine acceptance shown by all governments since we joined the EEC

With disillusion – not to say irritation – over the European Union spreading through the populations of the continent, and particularly in Britain, the pressure for a referendum on continued UK membership is steadily building.

Out doing the rounds of the party conferences this month is a new organisation calling itself The EU Referendum Campaign, which aims “to give the British people the opportunity to decide in a referendum whether Britain remains a member of the European Union or establishes a new type of relationship.”

We’ve heard this before, of course, with results that are only too familiar. The political establishment has simply ignored referendum demands and continued to claim that it is looking out for British interests in Europe, to promise to rein in the power of Brussels... and to bow to the European statist machine at every opportunity.

The arguments of the new campaign sound familiar, too: “With the EU now making the vast majority of laws we must obey and with new plans to take control over the tax and spend policies of its member countries, the British people must be given the right to decide where ultimate political power lies: in Brussels or with our elected parliament.

“Unless we win the right to vote on Britain’s membership of the EU within the near future, our democracy is in danger of falling under the total control of the Brussels elite and disappearing for all time.

“We want to trade and co-operate on a range of issues with the nations of Europe and, most importantly, with countries beyond the EU.

“We can do that without being members of the European Union. Norway and Switzerland, the two most economically successful countries in Europe, have chosen to remain outside the EU. These self-governing countries

enjoy trade with those inside the EU but do not have to hand over huge sums of money to the EU. Nor do they impose all the regulations that come out of the EU that we have to obey.

“We exist to bring about a new future for an independent Britain. We must restore power from the clutches of an unelected, corrupt organisation in Brussels to the British people where it rightfully belongs.”

Those have been the ambitions of all the referendum-seekers from UKIP onwards. The EURC, however, appears to be well-funded and better organised and seems to have developed a strategy that the political classes might find more difficult to dismiss.

“Now is the time to turn the tables and direct intense pressure on those holding, and wishing to hold in future, public office,” it says. “The EU Referendum Pledge campaign will do this by registering the public support of everyone who demands the right to be consulted directly.

“As the number of people taking The Pledge increases we will inform the government, sitting MPs, as well as the prospective candidates of rival parties in their constituencies, of the running total of voters in each seat demanding our Referendum.

“We will be naming and shaming MPs and candidates who refuse to commit as well as publicising and praising the names of those who have themselves signed The Pledge.

“We will go into marginal constituencies and challenge the local politicians and prospective candidates at public meetings to account for their respective positions on this key issue. Leaflets will be distributed door to door keeping constituents informed about where the local politicians stand.

“In this way, we will create a dilemma for those MPs and parties that want to continue resisting our democratic rights on the European question.

“Unless they concede to our

Referendum demand, they risk losing the support of those local voters who have taken the Referendum Pledge. In a volatile political situation in which support for all three parties is very shallow and uncertain, the politicians will do this at their peril.

“Equally, our campaign will reward those MPs and candidates of all parties who do the right thing and publicly declare that they will vote in the House of Commons for an EU Referendum Bill.”

Making things personal in this way seems to be the only method of persuading the political classes to act these days. MPs and candidates who who are made to see that their futures might really be in doubt are more likely to listen to what the majority of their voters are telling them.

Yet the campaign can hope to succeed only if it becomes a genuine mass movement and to do this it must overcome the apathy and dull resignation that infect the British public when it comes to the EU. Then there might be a chance of overturning the supine acceptance that has characterised all governments since we joined the EEC.

Though many people and MPs might dream of regaining control over our own destiny, we have become so used to the EU that there is a widespread fear of our being left out in the cold if we dare to leave it.

It is a fear that is groundless, yet previous referendum campaigns have failed to overcome it. What the EURC must do is present a complete, coherent and confident picture of what Britain would be like freed from the costly, authoritarian and stultifying hand of the EU.

We need a real manifesto for an independent Britain, widely distributed and publicised to give our people back their pride and independent spirit. We at *eurofacts* are happy to assist.

Join the campaign at

www.eureferendumcampaign.com

LETTERS

Tel: 08456 12 12 65 Email: eurofacts@junepress.com

England foots the bill

Dear Sir,

Estimates seen of what the EU is currently costing us vary from £70 billion to a very low £15 billion, these figures covering both direct money payments and indirect costs (red tape and over-regulation).

Direct costs are easier to quantify. With the EU budget currently running at £110 billion and with Westminster one of the prime “givers” to Brussels, the direct payment of near £35 billion may be near the mark since around 23 of the 27 member states are seemingly “takers”.

Recently the Bruges group estimated EU costs “UK” a phenomenal £114,000 per minute.

Westminster, in hiding EU costs, is perhaps too embarrassed to show what fools we are and if you looked to the UK budget for information, you would not be made aware the EU exists.

Westminster’s 2010/11 budget “cake” (compiled by a reputable and informative source) shows how the UK’s £697 billion budget is “spent”. There are seven Westminster ministries spending in the range £20 billion to £44 billion – but there is not a peep about a £35 billion EU payment

A mysterious “other” expenditure of £73 billion is shown (only education, health and social protection spend

more) with added notes attributing it to culture, sport, aid, international development etc. – but again the shy EU is not mentioned.

It seems a coy Westminster keeps the EU burden under wraps and even its admitted £9 billion contribution gets no budget mention. Who is it paying this sum to?

UKIP and others are right to criticise such phenomenal expenditure for so little return, but the one issue not mentioned is that Westminster’s direct payments to the EU come from England’s taxpayers and not British taxpayers.

This is because the “EU” is a Westminster Non-Devolved (ND) function like defence, taxation, foreign affairs etc and all these functions are totally funded by England’s taxpayers

Research shows the annual Barnett budget settlement to each devolved country is far in excess of its tax input to the Exchequer, so leaving Westminster’s governance of all Non-Devolved matters (and England itself) resourced from England’s share of the £697 billion budget (80.4%).

Additionally nearly all the “EU” Objective One etc funding (2006/13) returned to the “UK” goes to the devolved countries – each having national self-government, parties and politicians there to advance their own

country’s interests in both EU and UK. That’s what England needs, but we are represented by passive MPs and MEPs, few of whom are pro-England and who think England’s inhabitants exist just to elect and pay them. England must have self-governance that puts its own country and inhabitants first.

R.A.HOPKINS

Gloucestershire

Time for real action

Dear Sir,

Your August issue reveals yet again the need for action beyond words to liberate the UK from the EU.

With approximately 36 national Eurosceptic organisations dedicated to liberating the UK from the controlling bureaucracy in Brussels, and with our parliamentary parties taking the opposite direction, the balance can only be shifted from ground level.

Debate is fine – we have had many years of it – but action is what counts. Let the Eurosceptic bodies come together and begin building an organisation to make a real difference.

Recession-hit economies and attendant stresses could offer opportunities for initiating a groundswell in favour of complete UK political independence.

RALPH MADDERN

Warwickshire

Catching the last straws in the wind?

Bolstered by its “success” in forcing through the Lisbon Treaty, the Brussels establishment is now in danger of over-reaching itself.

Using the excuse of reforming the EU budget, the Eurocracy has come up with two new wheezes to pour money into its wasteful coffers.

Its first thought is to impose a raft of direct eurotaxes to increase what it calls, erroneously, its “own resources”, so that it will be less reliant on contributions from member states, in which austerity programmes are bound to raise questions over how much

national taxpayers shell out to keep Brussels in business.

All the talk of a tax on financial transactions in the wake of the banking crisis has inspired the Commission to extend its fiscal reach to cover such things as air travel and carbon emissions permits.

The current arrangements do not reflect the spirit of the EU treaties, says the Budget Commissioner, Janusz Lewandowski, reflecting the fact that the EU’s “own resources”, mainly from customs duties, now account for only about 25 per cent of its revenue, against

89 per cent 20 years ago. Expect interesting times ahead if the Commission persists with the idea.

Closer to home, the flakier elements of the European Parliament are pressing for the scrapping of the UK’s now reduced – thanks to Tony Blair – budget rebate. This, of course, was negotiated on the basis that we lose out on agricultural spending, still the biggest element of EU largesse at our expense in spite of promises of reform.

Paying taxes to Europe and a hike in our contributions? Do we hear the word referendum?

MEETINGS

Bruges Group
020 7287 4414

Monday **20th September**, 7.00 pm

Gabriel Stein, *Economic commentator*
John Redwood MP

PUBLIC MEETING

Princess Alexandra Hall, Over-Seas House, 6 Park Place, St James's Street, London SW1A 1LR

Admission £10

(Includes wine and refreshments)

FRINGE MEETINGS CONSERVATIVE CONFERENCE

The Freedom Association
0845 833 9626

Monday **4th October**

Tuesday **5th October**

Speaker to be announced

THE FREEDOM ZONE

Austin Court, 80 Cambridge Street, Birmingham, Warwickshire B1 2NP

Admission Free

(Further details to follow)

Bruges Group
020 7287 4414

Monday **4th October**, 2.30 pm

Roger Helmer MEP

Melanie Phillips, *Columnist with the Daily Mail*

PUBLIC MEETING

The Birmingham & Midland Institute, Margaret Street, Birmingham B3 3BS

Conservative Way Forward
0207 403 3990

Monday **4th October**, 8.00 pm

Guest Speaker:

Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, *Secretary of State for Education*

CONFERENCE DINER

ICC, Birmingham

Admission

(Members £50 Non-Members £60)

Details: events@conwayfor.org

Bruges Group
020 7287 4414

Tuesday **19th October**, 7.00 pm

Richard Shepherd MP

The Rt Hon the Lord Tebbit of Chingford CH

PUBLIC MEETING

Princess Alexandra Hall, Over-Seas House, 6 Park Place, St James's Street, London SW1A 1LR

Admission £10

(Includes wine and refreshments)

Bruges Group
020 7287 4414

Saturday **6th November**, 10.30 am

“Exit Strategy”

Speakers to be announced

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Great Hall, King's College, London

Admission £20

(Includes lunch and refreshments)

DIARY OF EVENTS

2010

Lib-Dems **18-22nd September**

Party Conference

Liverpool

Labour Party **26-30th September**

Conference

Manchester

Conservative Party **3-6th October**

Conference

Birmingham

UK Parliament **11th October**

Recess Ends

2011

Hungary takes over **1st January**

EU Council Presidency

Proposed Date For UK **5th May**

Referendum on
Electoral Reform

Poland takes over **1st July**

EU Council Presidency

USEFUL WEB SITES

British Declaration of Independence

www.bdicampaign.org

British Gazette

www.britishgazette.co.uk

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.euroseptic.org.uk

Democracy Movement

www.democracymovement.org.uk

EU Observer

www.euobserver.com

EU Truth

www.eutruith.org.uk

European Commission (London)

www.ccc.org.uk

European Foundation

www.europeanfoundation.org

European No Campaign

www.europeannocampaign.com

EU Referendum Capaign

www.eureferendumcampaign.com

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

Sovereignty

www.sovereignty.org.uk

Statewatch

www.statewatch.org

Team

www.teameurope.info

The Taxpayers' Alliance

www.taxpayersalliance.com

United Kingdom Independence Party

www.ukip.org

The Real Global Warming Disaster
by Christopher Booker. Hdbk. £16.99
 Is the obsession with 'climate change' turning out to be the most costly scientific blunder in history? Booker concludes that the answer is 'Yes'.

The End Of The English
 The European Superstate
by David Brown. £6.99
 As an apology to all grandchildren, it analyses how the EU plans for control of the UK have destroyed democracy. Required reading for all those worried in any way about the EU's power over us.

Bloodless Revolution
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