

Leaving the EU

Your questions answered



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Question 1

Britain has signed treaties on the EU. Can we just pull out?

Answer

Yes, easily. One of the few good things in the European Constitution (now called the Lisbon Treaty) is the new Article 50 which states:

“Article 50

1. Any Member State may decide to withdraw from the Union in accordance with its own constitutional requirements.

Britain has stood alone in the past. We can do it again. And, as in the past, when Britain takes the lead others will follow.

Background

Parliament could repeal the 1972 European Communities Act and then defy any attempt by Eurocrats to block the walkout. Mr Carswell, Tory euro-sceptic, said: “There has been lots of secondary legislation passed over the years but that would be swept away by getting rid of the original act.”

Repealing the 1972 Act, introduced under former Tory prime minister Edward Heath, would require a series of votes in the Commons and the Lords, and the Royal Assent.

But once the parliamentary procedure was complete, EU bosses could do little to stand in Britain’s way. Britain could then negotiate new relations with countries in Europe and around the rest of the world.

The other clauses in Article 50

2. A Member State which decides to withdraw shall notify the European Council of its intention. In the light of the guidelines provided by the European Council, the Union shall negotiate and conclude an agreement with that State, setting out the arrangements for its withdrawal, taking account of the framework for its future relationship with the Union. That agreement shall be negotiated in accordance with Article 218(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. It shall be concluded on behalf of the Union by the Council, acting by a qualified majority, after obtaining the consent of the European Parliament.

3. The Treaties shall cease to apply to the State in question from the date of entry into force of the withdrawal agreement or, failing that, two years after the notification referred to in paragraph 2, unless the European Council, in agreement with the Member State concerned, unanimously decides to extend this period.

4. For the purposes of paragraphs 2 and 3, the member of the European Council or of the Council representing the withdrawing Member State shall not participate in the discussions of the European Council or Council or in decisions concerning it. A qualified majority shall be defined in accordance with Article 238(3)(b) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

5. If a State which has withdrawn from the Union asks to rejoin, its request shall be subject to the procedure referred to in Article 49.”

Source: THE TREATY ON EUROPEAN UNION AND THE TREATY ON THE FUNCTIONING OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Question 2

60% of our trade and three million jobs rely on us being in the EU. Would these jobs be lost if we pulled out?

Answer

No, on the contrary. We have a huge trade deficit with the EU. This means they sell us far more than we sell them. The key question is: If Britain left the EU, would trade with the EU just stop? Of course not. Our country is very important to European manufacturers, especially those in Germany, and trade would continue. European manufacturers would insist on it.

The big advantage for us would be that we could trade freely with the rest of the world without the trade barriers imposed on EU members in response to their trade barriers. We would revert to trading intensively with Commonwealth countries to the benefit of them and us. We could also discard the thousands of EU regulations which strangle British industry and destroy jobs. In the areas of agriculture and primary manufactured goods (such as textiles) which make up a significant proportion of imports from developing countries, the EU has maintained a system of tariffs and subsidies to protect continental manufacturers. In this respect, the EU is simply a customs union imposing huge import duties on non-EU food. For example, 105% on meat, 88% on bananas. This is why our food costs so much.

In fact, thousands of jobs will be created once we are outside the EU. When we regain our fishing rights, scrap the unfair Common Agricultural Policy and do away with the EU regulations which strangle business, our economy will boom. And our food will be much cheaper. The research institute Oxford Economics has found that membership of the EU costs the average family an extra £30 a week in food bills alone.

If it is true that UK jobs depend on exports to the EU then the reverse is also true: imports from the EU destroy British jobs. It's been calculated that we lose 600,000 jobs because of EU imports. As The Economist said recently: '...the idea that leaving (the EU) would be 'economic suicide' is nonsense'.

Will all trade with the EU cease when we leave? Of course not. They need us more than we need them.

Background

Wealth creation is the function of the private sector where 'real' jobs are created. Currently we have about 30 million jobs in this country of which around 6 million are in the public sector. Public sector jobs do not produce wealth but consume it. Our Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of around 1.7 trillion pounds comes from the labour of roughly 24 million people in productive jobs. Each productive job is therefore responsible for about £70,000 of GDP.

Around 9% of GDP is exported, suggesting that 3 million jobs are export-dependent. It is argued, correctly, that exports create jobs. The reverse is also true, imports destroy jobs. As we have a trade deficit with the EU of £43 billion, this suggests that 600,000 UK jobs are lost because of our trade with the EU. In contrast, we have a trade surplus with the USA of £25 billion suggesting that this trade creates 350,000 UK jobs. But, as noted above, such arguments are economic nonsense.

Once outside the EU, there would be external tariffs on British exports to Europe. This would make very little difference to British companies - most of whose exports go outside Europe anyway. The World Trade Organisation restricts the EU to an external tariff of around 6% on non-food and primary imports so the effect would, in any case, be quite small. (Britain would almost certainly be able to negotiate for itself a smaller tariff - in the way that Switzerland has. This would drive down the cost of leaving the EU still further.)

The external tariff on Britain's imports from outside the EU would disappear. Britain would probably gain more from this than it would lose from the imposition of a tariff on British exports to Europe.

A Britain outside the EU would be able to make special trading deals with other countries - such as our traditional trading partners in the Commonwealth. This would be hugely advantageous.

Question 3

The EU has said that past wars in Europe were caused by nation states and, by abolishing nation states, the EU will prevent war. Is this true?

Answer

No, it's a misreading of history. Major wars in Europe in the past 200 years were caused by empire-builders from undemocratic countries seeking to impose their will on the continent. They were defeated in 1815, 1918 and 1945 by alliances of independent nation states. Since 1945, the peace has been kept by NATO – an alliance of independent nation states.

Having failed in their attempts to build a United States of Europe by military means, the anti-democratic leaders in Europe are now trying to build it by political means:

“Our continent has seen successive attempts at unifying it: Caesar, Charlemagne and Napoleon, among others. The aim has been to unify it by force of arms, by the sword. We for our part seek to unify it by the pen. Will the pen succeed where the sword has finally failed?”

Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, President of the EU Convention, Aachen, speech accepting the Charlemagne Prize

d'Estaing ‘forgot’ to mention Hitler and the fact that much of the Maastricht Treaty establishing the Union was based on proposals by the Nazis in 1940. We will get rid of it once and for all.

Background

- Nations united against Napoleon in 1815 included: Britain, The Netherlands, Prussia, Russia, Sweden, Austria, the Netherlands and a number of German states
- Nations united against the Kaiser by 1918 included: Britain & the Commonwealth, France, Russia, the USA, Belgium, Serbia, Italy, Greece and Romania.
- Nations united against Hitler by 1945 included: Britain & the Commonwealth, France, Russia, the USA, Belgium, The Netherlands, Scandinavia and others

In the summer of 1940, Hitler was master of Western and Central Europe. As far as he was concerned, the war started in September 1939 was over, Britain's refusal to recognize this fact no more than an awkward detail. As part of his “peace offensive,” he authorized his economics minister, Walter Funk, to think out loud about the shape of the postwar economic system. In a rare effort to make Germany's conquests more palatable to its victims, satellites, and European neutrals, Funk announced a “New Order” at a press conference in Berlin on July 25, 1940. It had two elements. Germany and Italy would use their combined productive power to reconstruct Europe after the war. Beyond this, Germany would set up a payments union managed by a central clearing office in Berlin. Within the Union there would be fixed exchange rates and free trade, with any trade imbalances being offset by the clearing office. Trade with outside countries would be regulated by barter agreements. European imports from the United States would exactly balance European exports to the United States. In any case, gold would no longer function as a means of payment, either within the Union or with other countries: America's gold stock would become redundant.³⁴ The plan was the work of able technocrats in the Reichsbank and Economics Ministry, who in turn might have been influenced by Britain's wartime sterling area arrangements. Hitler, of course, never took the Funk Plan seriously – a warning to historians that political leaders are rarely interested in the schemes of their experts. *Source: Walter Goerlitz, HISTORY OF THE GERMAN GENERAL STAFF 1657-1945*

Question 4

If the EU is so bad for Britain, why are we still in it?

Answer

The EU is attractive to many leaders because it diminishes the power of the people, who often dislike government decisions and can remove them from office. Our leaders now get around this problem by helping to introduce laws which their own voters would not stomach - explaining them away as coming from the EU. Peter Mandelson explained the thinking of this new political class with the phrase: "We are living in a post-democratic society." This is the EU theory that democracy – or 'populism' as they like to decry it – has failed and now the unelected 'great and good' must rule us. As the people cannot be trusted to make the 'right' decisions so power has been handed to unelected 'experts' in the civil service, in supra-national bodies, quangos, and the judiciary. It is a gravy train for the new political class. They are not going to give it up easily.

Mandelson is a perfect example of this theory in action; he was twice disgraced as an MP and thrown out. Soon he was back as an unelected Lord wielding as much, if not more power than the then Prime Minister (who was also not elected to his position). Does this inspire you with confidence in the post-democratic system? Me neither.

Perhaps the most serious consequence of our subjugation to the European project is the loss of power that has made Parliament so unattractive to the best minds. Why work in a puppet government when you can do so little of real worth? This explains the mediocre politicians we have now and why the parties all seem to be the same. Too many politicians are on the gravy train and, even if they wanted to leave the EU, are not courageous enough - or sufficiently dynamic - to see that it can be done. They are simply puppets on the EU string.

Fortunately, we the people have not yet lost all our power.

Through political action, we can force our leaders to hold a referendum on EU membership - and win. We can then set about the task of restoring power to the people by scrapping EU laws and reverting to our Common Law, based on Magna Carta and the Bill of Rights.

Background

The European Union (EU)

Up to 80% of our laws now originate from Brussels in the form of Regulations and Directives we have to obey. Even if he wanted to, Mr Cameron cannot go his own way; the road ahead is blocked. And he helped to block it by first promising us a referendum on the Lisbon Treaty then reneging on that promise. It is nonsense to suggest that it cannot be held now. As even the Lisbon Treaty recognises, there is an easy way out if only our leaders will listen to the people. Let the people speak!

Incidentally, if 80% of our laws are now made for us by foreigners shouldn't we cut the number of MPs by 80%? The 20% left would have to work for their living and so have less time and energy to fiddle their expenses or work for others at five grand a day.

Quangos (Quasi Autonomous Non-Government Organisations)

The government now accounts for 53% of all spending in this country. We no longer have a successful mixed economy; instead we have a state monolith and a shrinking private sector (the one that's supposed to produce all the wealth). The underlying reason is that we have more than six million civil servants in this country (up from five million a decade or so ago). But this is clearly not enough so we also have more than a thousand quangos costing £100 billion a year.

The Taxpayers Alliance recently published a list of 1,162 of these bodies with power over our lives. Staffed by more than 700,000 employees, quangos are mostly run by unelected friends of the government in power who enjoy huge salaries and expenses – at our expense. And the expense is considerable. A helpful spreadsheet from the Taxpayers Alliance gives a total figure for 2007 of £102 billion. Despite the coalition's 'cuts', it will not be less this year.

Question 5

I've heard that we will soon be running out of electrical power. Is this true and what does UKIP propose to do about it?

Answer

It's very likely true. Successive governments have dithered over this question for years. Now Britain's domestic energy plants are ageing and renewable energy sources have been shown to be unreliable.

Instead of installing thousands of ugly and inefficient foreign-built wind turbines, we should be building a small number of efficient nuclear, coal and gas power stations to address our energy gap - which is just ten years away. But the coalition government is powerless to end the nonsense because the EU has ordered us produce 40% of our electricity from 'renewables' by 2020. They must obey.

UKIP will press for hybrid Acts of Parliament to accelerate the planning process and allow old reactors to be replaced. We will also press for repeal of disastrous EU Directives such as the Large Combustion Plant Directive. This Directive threatens to put the lights out by closing a quarter of the UK's domestic coal and gas power plants by 2015 without providing any realistic, working alternatives.

Background

Many of our energy problems stem from high-level politics designed to reduce our dependence on scarce oil and gas from unreliable countries. Nothing wrong in that, of course, but it's been taken to ridiculous extremes.

The nonsense was started by the United Nations (UN) who formed a group called the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and told them to prove that global warming was caused by mankind. They duly obliged. Not by carrying out any research of their own but by referring to the work of scientists who agreed with the proposition and avoiding the views of the many that didn't. The BBC and others misinterpreted this as a scientific 'consensus' where none existed. Global warming has now become a scam to transfer money we can't afford to rulers and big businesses in other countries.

Global warming may or may not be happening, although recent research suggests we are entering a cold cycle. Research also shows that CO₂ in the atmosphere plays little or no part in warming; it is overwhelmed by natural phenomenon such as heat from the sun, cloud cover and ocean currents.

The fact is that natural disasters such as storms, floods, droughts, tsunamis, heat waves, freezing winters, earthquakes and volcanoes will continue as they have always done – whether the planet warms or cools. Instead of crazy emission reduction schemes and 'cap and trade' money scams, we should be spending any money we have to deal with the effects of such disasters.

UKIP policies include the following:

- Support the efficient extraction of indigenous coal for use in cleaner, coal-fired electricity generation plants
- Oppose wind farms in general and require large new wind power schemes to be funded by the market. Most current schemes have proved uneconomic, often operating at less than a third of capacity - sometimes less than a tenth - thereby producing a derisory amount of power
- Ensure any large new wind farms are constructed offshore. UKIP regards onshore wind turbines and the accompanying power lines as eyesores in beautiful countryside
- Pull out of the expensive EU Carbon Trading Schemes, the proposed EU Carbon Tax and binding targets on renewable and bio fuels
- Stop funding the UN's International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the UN Framework Convention, and fund the Met Office so it can improve its forecast accuracy and work without political interference.
- Establish a Royal Commission under a High Court Judge that will allow scientists to reach a conclusion about the facts and economic implications of global warming
- Ban schools from using global warming propaganda such as Al Gore's film 'An Inconvenient Truth'
- Divert billions of pounds of funding from wasteful global warming-related spending toward environmental improvements of real value

Question 6

How can we cut immigration?

Answer

Currently, we cannot deport undesirables because of the Human Rights Act 1998. This is the law that frees the guilty, punishes the innocent and provides a lucrative feeding trough for lawyers.

The Act came into force in the UK in October 2000 with the aim of giving further effect to the rights contained in the European Convention on Human Rights. The Act enables UK courts to order a 'remedy' for breach of a Convention right, so over-riding the wishes of the elected government. Unelected judges now have more power than the UK government and use it frequently in ways which astonish most people. We believe that British courts should not be allowed to appeal to any international treaty or convention that overrides or sets aside the provisions of any statute passed by the UK Parliament

UKIP politicians, working together with euro-sceptics, will fight for a Referendum on our EU membership - and win.

We can then scrap the ridiculous Human Rights Act and replace it with a common-sense one based on protecting the innocent while punishing the guilty.

Background

The Human Rights Act was so badly drafted that even 'liberals' like Justice Secretary Jack Straw ended up disliking this creature of their own creation. Straw was said to be "greatly frustrated" by the way the Human Rights Act was sometimes interpreted by the courts. He also said that he could understand why the Act was seen as a "villains' charter" by its critics. For example, 'Human Rights' include the right to a private family life for murderers while burglars have gained more rights than householders. Rather than 'rebalancing' the Act as Jack Straw proposed, we should throw out the whole rotten structure. But our true rulers in Europe will not allow us to do this.

Recent evidence for this is the judicial ruling that the UK must now give the vote to all the prisoners in our gaols. Cameron admitted in the House of Commons (Nov 2010) that he was 'furious' but could do nothing about it. So, at the next general election, your vote will have no more value than that of a murderer, rapist or child molester. How does that make you feel?

Question 7

UKIP wants to stop immigration. Aren't you just a racist party like the BNP?

Answer

I can't speak for the BNP; I'll leave you to look at their beliefs and policies to decide what you think about them. However, I can speak for my own beliefs and policies as a member of UKIP.

Firstly, we believe in Independence of the Individual and the Nation. It follows that any discrimination is unacceptable to us - positive or negative. And it leads to the philosophy:

“Do what you want - but try to do no harm.”

However, any political decision has the potential to harm others so you need some guiding principles. Ours stem from the thoughts of Adam Smith and indicate three main tasks for government:

1. Protect the nation from external threats (military or political)
2. Protect the individual e.g. by laws, policing etc
3. Do those few things the private sector won't or can't

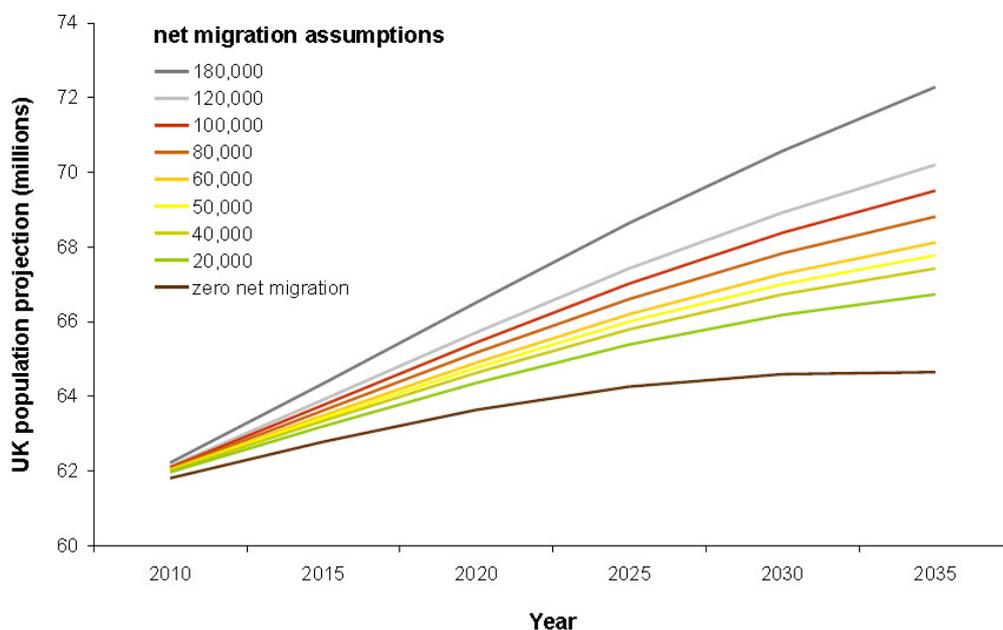
On the subject of immigration, then, our task is to protect the nation and its people from external threats. The biggest threat we see today is over-population of this small island of ours. We are now the most densely-populated country in Europe - ahead of even The Netherlands - and we have more people per square mile than China, India or Japan! There are at least 62 million people here in Britain now and this will rise to 77 million by 2050 - mostly through immigration.

Our infrastructure of housing, schools, hospitals, roads, railways and energy supplies cannot cope now and there is no money to improve things in the future. The only answer is to freeze all immigration and stabilise the nation. There is nothing in the least racist about this - we want to stop all immigration until the population is stabilised.

Anyone who looks at the facts arrives at the same conclusion. So why isn't it happening? Once again, the answer is the EU and its pernicious Human Rights Act (the villains charter as it is known). On top of this, we have EU Directive 2004/83 ordering us to accept anyone from the EU without question. This makes it clear that only by quitting the EU and tearing up these absurd laws can we regain the right to control our country. What's racist about that?

Background

Figure 3.13: UK population projections between 2010 and 2035 according to various assumptions of the annual level of net migration



Question 8

Why do we need to import so many immigrants? Is it true that we need their skills?

Answer

It is true that immigrants often have skills that native workers do not. Frankly, this is a disgrace. We have several million fit and able people who are unemployed - why can't they do the work? The answer is that our education system has failed our young people miserably. We have a ridiculous target of sending 50% of students to university while vast numbers are un-equipped for it and don't want it.

The main political parties all want to keep the failing education system we have now. This despite the fact that it fails to provide a pathway for the bright but poor and fails to give the less academically- talented students practical skills like plumbing or bricklaying. As a result, we have to import large numbers of skilled workers from Poland and elsewhere while we have a million or more young people living permanently on benefits.

Leading politicians care little about this dereliction of duty as they send their kids to independent schools to get a better education. Measures to impose quotas on universities to take more pupils from state schools merely underline the system's failure. A government that cared about providing opportunities for all would bring back grammar schools and reform vocational education. As they won't, why vote for them?

In many countries, youngsters are taught the important manual skills that every nation needs. We need to do the same. With the right skills, our young people can get off benefits, regain their pride and independence and become useful members of society.

We will work with schools, colleges and apprenticeship schemes to make this happen. Starting right here in Ashford.

Background

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) has forecast that ten years from now there will be 65 million people in the UK - an increase of five million - and by 2031, the population will be over 70 million. The projections also suggest that the population will be 77 million by 2051 and 85 million by 2081. Anyone living in the UK knows that our infrastructure of roads, hospitals, schools and the like does not provide adequately for the 60 million we have now. How on earth will we cope with 70 million or more?

Officials say the higher immigration figures over the next five year take account of the huge influx of skilled workers from Eastern Europe. But immigration from outside the EU is also set to grow after the European Commission announced it was introducing a "blue card" system for recruiting up to 20 million African and Asian immigrants. Although Britain is opting out of the system, once workers are in Europe for five years they will be free to move around the EU. Most will try to end up here. And no British politician can do a thing about it as long as we are hamstrung by EU rules. Referendum anyone?

Question 9

If I commit an offence in Europe which is not an offence in Britain, can I be extradited against my will?

Answer

You certainly can! Almost as soon as the European Arrest Warrant (EAW) became law, warrants flowed in. In the period 1 January 2004 to 22 February 2006, the UK received 5,732 EAWs. 175 resulted in an arrest in the UK, with 88 persons being surrendered. In 2009, more than 1,000 people in Britain were seized by police on the orders of European prosecutors, a 51 per cent rise in 12 months.

Many were accused of trivial crimes overseas such as possessing cannabis or leaving petrol stations without paying. One Kent motorist, Patrick Reece-Edwards, spent weeks in a British jail awaiting extradition to Poland on a charge of possessing a forged motor insurance certificate. When he was finally extradited, the matter was resolved by the payment of a civil penalty with no criminal record.

Under the EAW law, no evidence need be presented in British courts of the alleged offence and judges have few powers to resist the person's extradition. They must do what they are told.

This completely overturns the ancient British principle of *habeas corpus*. This is Latin meaning "to deliver the body" and is a writ, or legal action, through which a prisoner can be released from unlawful detention. The remedy can be sought by the prisoner or by another person coming to his aid. *Habeas corpus* originated in the English legal system, but it is now available in many nations. It has historically been an important legal instrument safeguarding individual freedom against arbitrary state action. But that is not the EU way!

Background

The UK Parliament makes laws (i.e. confirms laws drawn up by the unelected Commission in Brussels) or simply accepts them by signing up but never consulting the people. One of these laws is the European Arrest Warrant. The Commission explains:

"The European Union is replacing lengthy extradition procedures with a new efficient way of bringing back suspected criminals who have absconded abroad and for people convicted of a serious crime who have fled the country. The European Arrest Warrant (EAW) enables such people to be returned within a reasonable time for their trial to be completed or for them to be put in prison to serve their sentence.

The EAW replaces present extradition procedures for serious crimes, including terrorism. It is valid throughout the European Union. Under the old system the decision whether or not to extradite a person involved a lengthy procedure. This required a court decision in the country where the person was found, perhaps followed by appeals, sometimes lasting years. Extradition was sometimes refused by courts because they did not always recognise the legal proceedings or the court decisions in the country where these people were tried. Then after the court decision the question was finally decided by the political authority (usually the Minister of Justice or Home Secretary) which can refuse extradition on political or other grounds.

EU member states agreed in principle in December 2001 to replace the traditional extradition system within the EU with the European arrest warrant. This provides for the rapid return of such people to the country where they are accused of having committed a serious crime or where they were sentenced. Six months later, in June 2002, The Council of the EU agreed a framework decision to introduce the European arrest warrant in the EU and requiring member states to introduce legislation to bring the EAW into force. Under the decision all EU member states were required to give effect to the EAW by the end of 2003 so that it could enter into force on 1 January 2004. This means that a decision by the judicial authority of a member state to require the arrest and return of a person should be recognized and executed as quickly and as easily as possible in the other member states.

A European Arrest Warrant may be issued by a national court if the person whose return is sought is accused of an offence for which the penalty is at least over a year in prison or if he or she has been sentenced to a prison term of at least four months. The framework decision on the EAW is based on the principle of mutual recognition of judicial decisions."

Question 10

Will we have to accept the Napoleonic Code if we remain in the EU?

Answer

Without doubt, it's only a matter of time. Until now the basic principle in English law was that a person was innocent until proven guilty. The Napoleonic Code takes the opposite view - based on the idea that if you were innocent you would not have been arrested in the first place. This concept spills over into the civil area where anyone who is accused of anything is presumed guilty. This gives rise to many spurious cases which have to be fought through the courts, often with little chance of success. The Napoleonic Code is now called *Corpus Juris* and is the EU-wide system of justice that we will suffer under.

**Plans to install Corpus Juris have been under way for years and can now be implemented in the UK.
Our rulers will, of course, pretend it is all their idea but who do they think they are kidding?**

Background

The European Union will soon be a single legal area with unelected prosecutors based in all the member states. Parliament will have no say over their selection or how they operate. The protections we once enjoyed from unlawful arrest, detention without trial, and judicial persecution during a trial will all go. The Labour government took steps in this direction by accepting the European Arrest Warrant and passing the Criminal Justice Act 2003 which enables criminal trials without juries.

As the *Brits at Their Best* website makes clear: "The implications for our legal system and individual rights are immense. The EU's own official book, *Corpus Juris*, makes this astoundingly clear: "What we propose is a set of penal rules. . .designed to ensure. . .a more efficient means of repression" (CJ, Page 40)". Repression!

Question 11

If we quit the EU, won't farmers lose out massively as subsidies and set-aside disappear?

Answer

UKIP has a raft of policies to ease key worries in agriculture, breathe new life into the rural economy and enhance the countryside. Once we withdraw from the EU and the Common Agricultural Policy, UKIP will ensure there is no sudden loss of farming subsidies such as single farm payments (already paid for by British consumers and taxpayers).

We will retain Britain's seat at the World Trade Organisation so the UK can pursue agricultural trade policies that are directly in the national interest - and the interests of British farmers.

Over time, UKIP will use labelling and advertising campaigns to promote British produce and fairer food prices. This will replace the need for many subsidies.

Background (other Policies from UKIP Manifesto 2010)

- Support GM foods research and require all imported produce to be labelled so consumers can make informed choices. In the meantime, we will continue to oppose production of GM foods and be open to evolving scientific advice.
- Introduce labels that differentiate between ethically-produced and non ethically-produced food products, backed by significant consumer advertising. This will empower the consumer and demonstrate the high quality of British produce and UK animal welfare standards
- Review all EU imposed rules, directives, regulations, quotas, targets and requirements, and repeal or reform them as necessary under British law. This will, for example, ease the present unrealistic EU Nitrate Directive threshold and abolish it if necessary.
- Change legislation to allow the formation of a greater number of producer co-operatives, putting food producers on a more equal footing with supermarket buyers
- Support the new Supermarket Ombudsman to ensure producers receive a fair share of retail prices
- Allow county referendums to reverse the hunting ban at the local level

NB You can download the full Food, Farming & Countryside policy from the Policies section of www.ukip.org

Question 12

UKIP is always criticising the EU. Are there no good things about it?

Answer

A good question. It often seems to me that we have taken in many of the bad things from the continent but few of the good. For example, most European countries have far better health care than we do. No European would dream of waiting months for an operation as we have to do here in Britain.

The reason is that we are one of the few countries left in the world with an old-fashioned Stalinist system. On the continent, they have compulsory insurance-based systems where there is no difference in the medical treatment people receive - only in the 'hotel' aspects. So people can choose, for example, to pay insurance based on sharing a ward with no more than two or three people or take the cheaper option of being in a large ward. Because there are many insurance companies competing for the business, and volumes are high, the cost of insurance is much lower than private insurance here. Also, poor people have their insurance paid by the government while everyone else pays it themselves. Everyone - rich or poor - gets the same medical treatment. Delivery is in the hands of private doctors and hospitals who also compete for business, so driving standards up. It's a much better system. But we don't have to be in the EU to have it - we can simply do it.

Background

Although the EU forces us to do many things which are bad for the country, when it comes to matters we can control, like the NHS, there is not a sliver of difference between our main political parties. All are committed to keeping this Stalinist monster in place. With more than 1.4 million employees, only the Chinese People's Liberation Army, the Wal-Mart supermarket chain and the Indian Railways directly employ more people (source Wikipedia).

It's sometimes argued that health is too important to be left in the hands of private companies. But what about something even more fundamental to life - food? Why isn't this in government hands? Why are our supermarkets so efficient in meeting and exceeding our every demand? The simple answer is - competition.

All the main parties agree that monopolies are a bad thing as, by having little or no competition, they do not have to care about pleasing customers. It's take it or leave it. That's why there are laws to prevent monopolies in the private sector and this has produced productive and efficient businesses of which we can be proud. But, when it comes to health care, the main parties all want to keep the NHS as it is. Perhaps they fear that, without this body, there's not much left that they can control - or use to give fat jobs to their friends.

One thing we learnt from the experience of the Soviet Union is that you cannot run a huge organisation like the NHS from the centre. As layer on layer of bureaucracy prevents effective operation, the government sets targets for measures such as five-year plans then fiddles the figures to show they have been achieved. It doesn't work.

You cannot tinker with such a monolithic system - it has to be scrapped root and branch. There are many better systems in operation in other countries, most based on health insurance for all, and we need to choose one for the 21st century. But our politicians dare not. Only UKIP has a clear plan to modernise the system, rather than just tinkering with the out-of-date and inefficient NHS.

With fewer bureaucrats on their backs, doctors and nurses will be freed up to deliver the fine health care that they know they could.

Question 13

If we left the EU, which laws should we scrap first?

Answer

Once we leave the EU, there will be a huge amount of work to do in scrapping the mountains of legislation imposed on us in the last thirty years and reintroducing our own laws based on British Common Law and our traditions of justice and fair play.

For my part, I want to see a start by throwing out the disgusting Human Rights Act which protects murderers, rapists and thieves while denying justice to their victims. Remember the case of Mohammed Ibrahim who knocked down 12 year old Amy Houston and left her to 'die like a dog' under the wheels of his car? He was driving while disqualified and after killing young Amy committed a string of further offences. Immigration judges ruled that sending him home would breach his right to a 'private and family life' as he has now fathered two children in the UK. Amy's father Paul Houston branded the Act an 'abomination to civilised society'. He said: 'This decision shows the Human Rights Act to be nothing more than a career criminals' charter for thieves, killers, terrorists and illegal immigrants.'

My heart goes out to Paul - and hundreds like him. The only way forward is to get out of the EU so we can make our own laws to punish criminals and protect our own, innocent people.

Some UKIP policies in short (read more on the UKIP website at <http://www.ukip.org>)

Fishing

UKIP deplores the decision to sign over control of British fishing grounds - which contain nearly 70% of Europe's fish - to the EU's Common Fisheries Policy (CFP). The CFP has driven the British fishing industry and many fish species to the edge of extinction while non-EU nations.

Pensions

Britain's pensioners deserve better. They are suffering not just from complexity in benefits and EU-driven energy price rises but also from the great indignity of means testing. Meanwhile the UK is staring into a pensions black hole created by Labour's huge expansion of the public.

Criminal Justice

UKIP will ensure the British people have a government with the will to punish those who threaten and harm them. We believe victims' rights are more important than the rights and comfort of criminals. It is time to implement forthright law and order policies and to adopt zero tolerance on.

Defence

Over the years, successive governments have starved the British armed forces of money. This has meant insufficient equipment, overstretched resources and excessive tours of duty, which can badly damage the fabric of family life. UKIP has huge regard for our Armed Forces and the work they do. We are dedicated to support them.

Transport

UKIP believes the British people have a right to a reliable public and private transport system at an acceptable cost. UKIP will invest in a transport network that meets the needs of the British people and Britain's economy.

Foreign Affairs and International Trade

While UKIP is realistic about the difficult economic and political challenges Britain faces, we take a positive view of Britain's place in the world - a stark contrast to the defeatist and apologetic stance taken by other parties. UKIP will give the UK an individual voice in the world.

Housing and Planning

UKIP believes there is a lack of democratic decision making in current planning. Local concerns are too easily overridden by remote, unaccountable and undemocratic planning bodies and by major developers with large legal chequebooks, such as supermarkets. We will change the law to give power back to the people. □□

Question 14

Isn't a vote for UKIP a wasted vote? You have no chance of winning against the traditional parties.

Answer

To answer this question, we need to see what history tells us about the decline and fall of empires – and the parallels with today. From 1939 until 1945, Hitler's Nazi regime was kept in place by the Wehrmacht. Similarly, from 1945 to 1991, the Soviet Union was kept in place through the military might of the Red Army. In both cases, puppet regimes of like-minded locals were set up to give the illusion of self-government.

Looking at the examples of Hitler and Stalin, and recognising that military methods ultimately fail, EU leaders have chosen the political route instead. The will of the Franco-German alliance is thus exercised through a vast volume of laws which the puppet regimes in EU countries must obey. This is why most political parties look and sound much the same and popular support for them is falling away. To some extent, we have now reached the position of Poland in 1980 when Solidarity emerged.

Starting as a minor trade union, Solidarity quickly united popular opposition to its bureaucratic government controlled from Moscow. The government attempted to destroy it but in the end was forced to start negotiating. By the end of August 1989 a Solidarity-led coalition government was formed and in December 1990 Lech Wałęsa of Solidarity was elected President of Poland. The collapse of communism inspired other countries to follow Poland's example and, by 1991, the Soviet Union itself collapsed.

What a tiny Polish movement did to the Soviet Union, we are going to do to the European Union. By getting UKIP and like-minded democrats into positions of power, we will force the government to give the British people a Referendum on EU membership - and we all know how the people will vote.

Background (with thanks to Wikipedia)

Solidarity is Polish for: Independent Self-governing Trade Union. It is a Polish trade union federation founded in September 1980 at the Gdańsk Shipyard, and originally led by Lech Wałęsa. Solidarity was the first non-communist party-controlled trade union in a Warsaw Pact country. In the 1980s it constituted a broad anti-bureaucratic social movement. The Round Table Talks between the government and the Solidarity-led opposition led to semi-free elections in 1989.

The survival of Solidarity was unprecedented, not only in Poland, a satellite state of the USSR ruled (in practice) by a one-party Communist regime, but the whole of the Eastern bloc. It meant a break in the hard-line stance of the communist Polish United Workers' Party, which had bloodily ended a 1970 protest with machine gun fire (killing dozens and injuring over 1,000), and the broader Soviet communist regime in the Eastern Bloc, which had quelled both the 1956 Hungarian Uprising and the 1968 Prague Spring with Soviet-led invasions.

Solidarity's influence led to the intensification and spread of anti-communist ideals and movements throughout the countries of the Eastern Bloc, weakening their communist governments. The 4 June 1989 elections in Poland where anti-communist candidates won a striking victory sparked off a succession of peaceful anti-communist revolutions in Central and Eastern Europe known as the Revolutions of 1989. Solidarity's example was repeated in various ways by opposition groups throughout the Eastern Bloc, eventually leading to the Eastern Bloc's effective dismantling, and contributing to the collapse of the Soviet Union, in the early 1990s. In late 2008, several democratic opposition groups in the Russian Federation formed a Solidarity movement.

Although Leszek Kołakowski's works were officially banned in Poland, underground copies of them influenced the opinions of the Polish intellectual opposition. His 1971 essay *Theses on Hope and Hopelessness*, which suggested that self-organized social groups could gradually expand the spheres of civil society in a totalitarian state, helped inspire the dissident movements of the 1970s that led to the creation of Solidarity and provided a philosophical underpinning for the movement.

The Soviet Union finally collapsed in 1991 when Boris Yeltsin seized power in the aftermath of a failed coup that had attempted to topple reform-minded Gorbachev.

Question 15

Why doesn't UKIP support measures to protect the world from global warming?

Answer

In UKIP, we are suspicious of high-level attempts to by-pass democracy. Most of these are power grabs by the unelected – especially bureaucrats. So, the way to understand current issues is to see who is promoting them:

- Global warming is promoted by the United Nations – unelected bureaucrats.
- The EU is promoted by the Commission – unelected bureaucrats.

It's safe to assume that both want power at our expense and we need to be very suspicious of their motives.

When it comes to global warming, this originated in the UN and has been enthusiastically embraced by the BBC and other bureaucracies. As global warming stopped in 1998, and we are entering a cold phase, it's clear that the theory has lost credibility.

The same is true of the EU. We were promised economic prosperity through trade when we signed up. All we got was an adverse balance of trade in a declining continent - and the end of independence.

When we refuse to obey the diktats of these bureaucratic organisations, and restore power to the people, an independent Britain can become Great again.

Background

Cyril Northcoate Parkinson explained what drives bureaucrats in his 1950s book *Parkinson's Law*. He identified two driving forces:

- (1) "An official wants to multiply subordinates, not rivals" *and*
- 2) "Officials make work for each other."

He noted that the total of those employed inside a bureaucracy rises by 5-7% per year "irrespective of any variation in the amount of work (if any) to be done."

In 1986, Alessandro Natta complained about the swelling bureaucracy in Italy. Mikhail Gorbachev responded that: "Parkinson's Law works everywhere."

Speaking in March 2007, President Vaclav Klaus of the Czech Republic said:

"As someone who lived under communism for most of my life, I feel obliged to say that the biggest threat to freedom, democracy, the market economy and prosperity at the beginning of the 21st century is not communism or its various softer variants. **Communism has been replaced by the threat of ambitious environmentalism**... Man-made climate change has become one of the most dangerous arguments aimed at distorting human efforts and public policies in the whole world. Global warming is a false myth and every serious person and scientist says so."

He also criticized the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change as a group of politicized scientists with one-sided opinions and one-sided assignments. He has said that other top-level politicians do not express their doubts about global warming because "a whip of political correctness strangles their voices."

UKIP Policies

Appoint a Royal Commission on 'global warming' science and economics, under a High Court Judge to examine and cross-examine the science and economics of 'global warming'. Pending the report of the Royal Commission, UKIP would immediately:

- Repeal the Climate Change Act, and close the Climate Change Department
- Halt all UK contributions to the IPCC and to the UN Framework Convention
- Halt all UK contributions to any EU climate-change policy, including carbon emissions trading
- Freeze all state funding for scientific research into 'global warming'
- Repeal such EU directives as the Large Combustion Plant Directive, the Renewables Directive and Bio Fuel Directive
- Ban 'Global Warming' propaganda in schools.

Question 16

Why do you dislike Europeans so much?

Answer

We don't dislike Europeans. Many of us have lived and worked in Europe and have friends and families there. Although we have much in common, we love the differences - the people: their different cultures, different ways of life and, especially, their good food! We want to see all that preserved.

What we dislike is the European Union - that undemocratic monster that wants to make us all the same. We know that mono-culture does not work in agriculture; we need to recognise that it does not work in politics either.

**We believe that when the people of Europe are asked - in a genuine referendum - if they want to stay in the EU, the answer will be an overwhelming NO. But we are all denied that choice.
That is what we and the people of Europe want to change.**

Question 17

Is it true that the EU has made Britain a safe haven for terrorists?

Answer

I can do no better than quote this article from the Daily Mail of 4 February 2011:

Europe's judges have 'made UK a safe haven for terrorists'

European judges have turned Britain into a 'safe haven' for foreign terrorists, the independent reviewer of anti-terror laws warned yesterday. Lord Carlile said rulings by the European Court of Human Rights had undermined efforts to deport dangerous individuals intent on causing mayhem. The Liberal Democrat peer and QC attacked the court for refusing to allow the risk of harm to British citizens to be weighed in deportation hearings. Instead, only the human rights of the suspected terrorist can be taken into account.

'The effect [of the court's rulings] is to make the UK a safe haven for some individuals whose determination is to damage the UK and its citizens – hardly a satisfactory situation save for the purist,' he said.

His comments will heap further pressure on ministers over relations with the Strasbourg court. Conservative MPs are already in open revolt over plans to give thousands of prisoners the right to vote following the court's judgement that prisoners must have access to the ballot box.

Last night Dominic Raab, Tory MP for Esher and Walton, said European judges' law making was 'out of control'. He added: 'It is not the job of an international court to re-write British laws on deportation, parental discipline or prisoner voting. It is high time we drew a line in the sand.'

Under Article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights individuals are protected against torture, inhuman or degrading treatment. The clause allows foreign terror suspects to fight deportation on the grounds that they would be tortured in their home countries if returned. A string of terrorists have taken advantage of the clause.

Britain has argued that the courts should be allowed to take into account the risks posed to its citizens. But the unelected judges ruled, in the 1996 Chahal judgment, that the only factor of importance was the protection of the human rights of terror suspects. The European convention has been incorporated into British law in the Human Rights Act. British courts have to apply rulings of the European court.

Lord Carlile's comments make clear how Britain's efforts to deport foreign terror suspects have been hamstrung by the court.

The issue of human rights is potentially divisive for the coalition, with Tory MPs insisting the party should stick to its manifesto pledge to scrap the Human Rights Act, brought in by Labour, and replace it with a British Bill of Rights. This pledge was kicked into the long grass after discussions with the Lib Dems over forming the coalition.

Question 18

When Britain leaves the EU won't that be the end of UKIP?

Answer

Not at all. In many ways, a Britain out of the EU will actually increase the need for UKIP. We are now the **only** major party with a firm belief in democracy - meaning 'government of the people, by the people and for the people'.

The three main parties are united in their mistrust of the people, as demonstrated by their refusal on the 24th October 2011 to deny the people a Referendum on the EU.

This mistrust of the people was summed up by a Liberal Democrat when I asked him why he did not support democracy. His answer was:

'If we had democracy, then the people might vote for things I disagree with, like bringing back hanging.'

That's it in a nutshell. The 'elite' believe that the people are too stupid, uninformed or biased to make rational decisions. No matter what the evidence shows about the poor judgement of the 'elite' (see the euro, the EU, global warming scams etc) the people must not be allowed a say.

We believe the exact opposite. Without democracy there is dictatorship. This is why UKIP has a complete set of policies designed to reverse the drift away from democracy which Britain has pursued for the past forty years. We want to reassert the sovereignty of Parliament, setting it free from decisions made by unelected bureaucrats in quangos, international bodies and cosy clubs from which the people are excluded.

To see what this means in practical terms, go to our website at <http://www.ukip.org/>.

Once you've read our policies you will see why a Britain out of the EU needs UKIP more than ever.