

Why we should Vote to Leave the EU.

Isn't the EU a progressive cause? Well, the EU makes the rich richer and the poor poorer, transfers wealth from the young to the rich, forces slumps across Europe. What part of that is progressive?

As the President of the European Central Bank said, the European 'Social Model' has 'already gone'. Social Europe is dead and gone - if it ever existed.

The EU that is supposed to protect Greek workers instead demands the destruction of trade union rights as a condition of its bailouts.

When Greece joined the euro, the *Financial Times* said, "Membership of the Eurozone offers the prospect of long-term economic stability." Stability? Unemployment in Greece doubled. Half the young people are out of work. GDP, investment, wages - down down down.

The European Central Bank does 'whatever it takes' to save the euro, whatever the cost to the peoples of the EU. If Greek workers ever thought the EU protected their rights, they don't now. Syriza thought it could reform the EU. Instead the EU reformed Syriza into the EU's enforcer.

Some say, Another Europe is Possible, but Another EU is not possible. Some oppose the EU as it is, but want to stay in it for 'what it could be'. But you could want to stay in anything on those grounds - "I don't like Hell as it is, but want to stay in it for 'what it could be'." The only way we can influence the EU is to leave it.

Some say better Brussels runs our affairs than the Tories. But if you are worried about what the Conservative government might do, why vote for what it wants? Some say that if we left, the government would seize the chance to destroy workers' rights. But if we voted to stay in, we would give Cameron the green light to destroy us. And the EU would, as ever, do nothing to stop him. Cameron seems to be saying that only the EU can protect us from him.

The key workers' right is the right to work. Ask the Greeks, ask young Spaniards, young Portuguese, what the EU has done to protect their right to work. Since the Single Market began, its 12 founder members have had far more unemployment, far more long-term unemployment and far more youth unemployment than the three independent, non-EU-member European economies, Switzerland, Norway and Iceland. The EU causes mass unemployment. The EU is not the solution, it is the problem.

Some say that it would be nice if we had a reformed EU. Even its fans say it needs reform, how unacceptable it is. It is also unreformable.

Against the Treaties, we have zero influence: as European Commission President Juncker told us, "There can be no democratic choice against the European treaties." When we cannot change the laws, we have no democracy.

Against the 120,000 pages of the irreversible *acquis*, we have no influence. The EU changed the voting rules so that eurozone countries have the majority, so they can impose rules on every EU state, including us. We can't veto that. Influence, what influence?

We can't influence the EU from the inside – governments have tried and failed, or perhaps just talked and failed. Before we even joined the EEC, Harold Macmillan talked of reforming it. Thirty years ago, Neil Kinnock talked of reforming it. Cameron's recent failure to get a deal proved yet again that we have no influence and that the EU cannot change and will not change. No reform, no influence.

And what is the EU all about? The European Commission wants complete Economic Union, Monetary Union, Financial Union, Fiscal Union and Political Union by 2025, at the latest. This will 'be developed within the framework of the European Union', so it applies to us too. A new EU Treaty is planned for next year. As French President François Hollande asked, "Do you really want to participate in a common state? That's the question."

Is it internationalist, as some say? The EU runs the world's biggest trade tariffs against African farmers. These tariffs make food from Africa more expensive, so we cannot buy food as cheaply as we could if we were outside the EU. The EU forces EU farmers to dump their excess farm produce on African markets. African countries' access to EU markets is conditional on no support for local firms and opening public services to privatisation. EU trawlers Hoover up Africa's fish.

The result? Poverty, famine, diseases, war, and mass migration.

Counter-revolutions cause mass migration. Ten million have fled Eastern Europe's new EU dependencies in the last 20 years. They vote for exit, but only with their feet.

Wars also cause mass migration. The EU is not suffering a refugee problem, a migrants problem. Refugees, migrants, are not the problem. The problem is NATO. NATO starts the wars that cause the problems. The EU supports these wars, so the EU is also the problem.

Migration disperses and dissolves working classes. Empires used to 'divide and rule' – now they also 'disperse and rule'.

Our unions rightly oppose the EU's Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership. TTIP is not a trade agreement, it is a protection racket run by giant corporations, US and European. It is economic war against workers, against our NHS and against industry, and it is also economic war against the world's developing countries. So defeating TTIP would protect our unions, our NHS and our industry. Defeating TTIP would be an act of solidarity with developing countries.

A vote to stay in the EU would bring TTIP closer. President Obama tells us that leaving the EU means no TTIP for us. Thank you Mr President. If we were still in the EU if TTIP is ratified, we would be locked into it. Leaving the EU would sink TTIP, so voting to leave would be a vote to save our NHS. Voting to leave would be an act of solidarity with developing countries.

Before Norway's 1994 vote on joining the EU, the government said that investment, industry and jobs would vanish if they voted no. After the No vote, a paper wrote, "the pro-EU side's doomsday prophecies have been put to shame. ... Everything has gone better for the Norwegian economy since Norway said no to the EU ... growth has increased, the budget deficit has evaporated and investments are rocketing sky high."

This party was the first to call for a referendum on the EU, more than 20 years ago, before UKIP was founded, before the Tories first called for a referendum in 2005.

A referendum is not an election; it is not about voting for or against one leader or another. The referendum is part of a great debate about our future. People want more information, good, this means they want more control. The point of a referendum is that the whole people decide, it is sovereignty, it is democracy. It is control, it is power. We the people are in charge – but only for a day. It should be for longer. After the vote, we need to keep this control, to hold this responsibility.

A recent poll found that 12 per cent want ‘ever closer union’ which is the only Stay option actually on the table. 26 per cent want our relationship with the EU to stay the same. But there is no option of stay the same: the EU is charging towards ever closer union. 37 per cent want us to stay in, but reduce the EU’s powers. But there is no option of stay in and reduce the EU’s powers: the EU is still charging towards ever closer union. The only way we can reduce the EU’s powers is to leave it. If we are in the EU, we are run by the EU. The only way not to be run by the EU is to leave.

So, add this 26 per cent and this 37 per cent to the 18 per cent who want to Leave, then 81 per cent of us oppose the ‘ever closer union’ we would get if we voted to stay in.

The only way to get a trade-only deal with the EU is to leave it. The only way to get out of the EU’s political structures is to leave it. The only way not to be in a single state is to leave it. As François Hollande said, “The only road for those who are not convinced of Europe is to leave Europe.... It is the logical path.”

Europe’s commissioner for health wants the EU to control member states’ health policies. This is a clear threat to our NHS.

And David Cameron, the man who put Jeremy Hunt in charge of our NHS, tells us that our NHS is safe in the EU. The only way for Britain to keep our NHS safe is to leave the EU.

Inside the EU we are trapped in a falling, failing, unstable, unsafe, unfree, undemocratic, stifling bloc, where we are not free to change policies we oppose, where we are not free to vote out leaders we oppose. If we stay in, we stay on the conveyor belt towards ever closer union, a single EU state.

The EU is bad for Britain. Inside the EU our economy will get weaker. Inside the EU unemployment is up. Inside the EU we cannot protect our industries. Inside the EU, we are stuck with attacks on our NHS. Inside the EU, we are stuck into the job-destroying, NHS-destroying TTIP. Inside the EU, our trade is stifled. Inside the EU, we cannot control our borders.

Leaving the EU would be good for Britain. Outside the EU, our economy is stronger. Outside the EU, we can protect our industries, our NHS and jobs. Outside the EU, we stay out of TTIP. Outside the EU, we trade better. Outside the EU, we control our borders. Outside the EU, we can rebuild Britain.

If you like politicians, or not, vote leave. If you support a political party or not, vote leave. If you are for the government or against, or don’t care either way, vote leave. If you hate the Tories, vote leave. Whatever you think, vote leave.

Leave the EU is the right thing for us now and for future generations. Leave the EU for sovereignty, for democracy, for our NHS, for our industry and services, for progress. Vote for freedom, independence and a future, vote for Britain, Vote leave.