BREXIT Seven alternatives to EU membership.





Dr David Rees

Referendum results

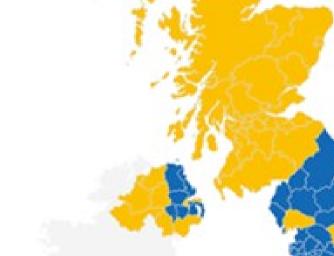
Local result

Majority leave

Majority remain

Tie

Undeclared

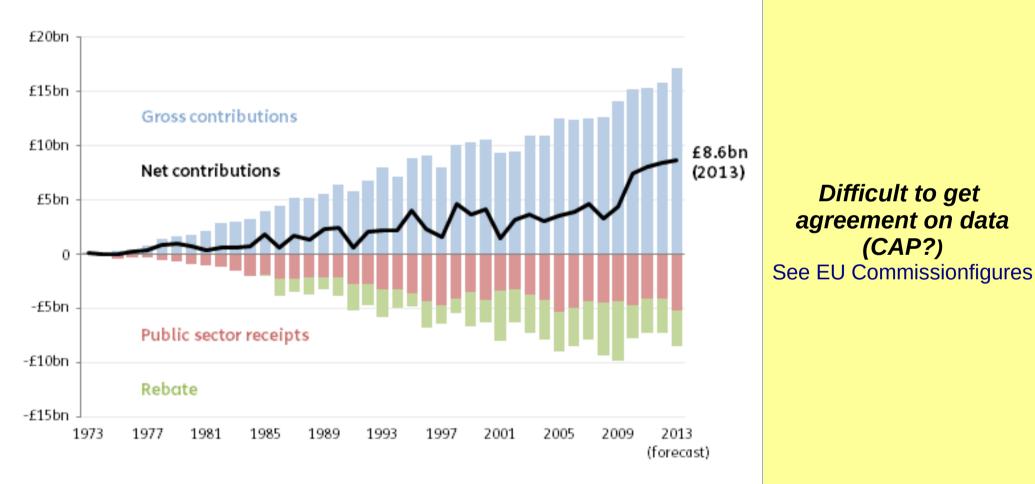




UK budget contributions

UK government contributions to the EU budget

UK gross contributions to, rebate, and public sector receipts from the EU budget

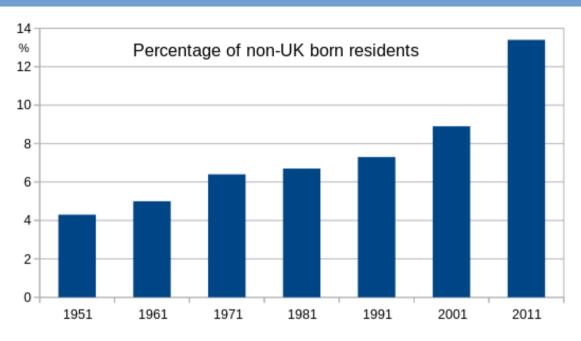


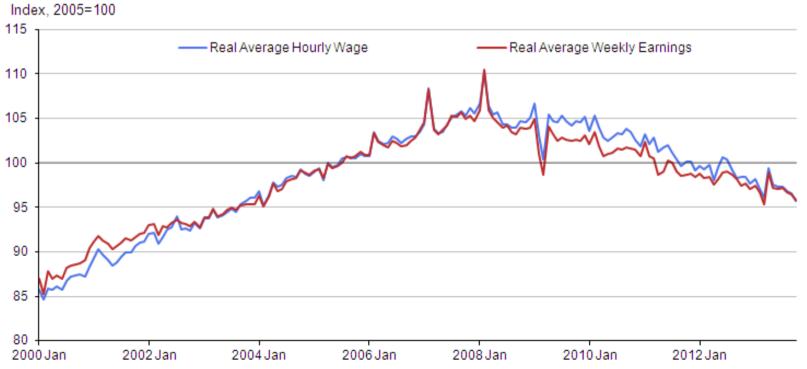
Difficult to get

agreement on data (CAP?)

By Full Fact using HM Treasury European Union Finances 2013 and House of Commons Library analysis: "The economic impact of EU membership on the UK"

UK immigration and salaries





Option 1.

Customised relationship with the EU

Procedure: article 50(2) TEU. Intent to withdraw. Max. 2 years.

Pick and choose favoured / unfavoured policies.

e.g. maintain free trade but refuse immigration of EU workers

EU Commission would oppose this approach – one package; avoid the thin end of the wedge and model for others

Option 2. UK joins the EEA (European Economic Area)



Blue: EEA / EU member

Green: EEA member (Norway, Liechtenstein + Iceland)

Yellow: Provisional EEA member (Croatia)

Red: Former EEA member (Switzerland – left in 2014 - immigration disagreement)

Option 2. UK joins the EEA (European Economic Area)

To join the EEA, the UK must join EFTA.

Technically easy.

Must pay (about the same as EU membership)

Not 'real' UK sovereignty

Access to the European Single Market

Doesn't have to accept other policies (agriculture, fisheries...)

UK would have to accept all single market laws

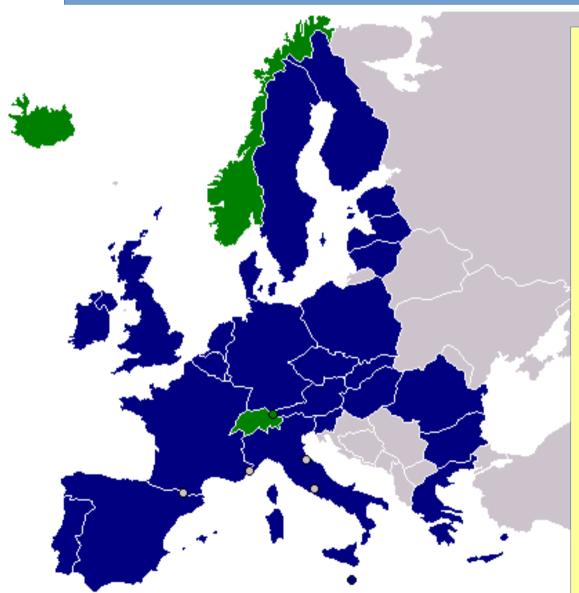
EEA/EFTA members speak with one voice

Must accept 'rules of origin'

Has to accept free movement of EU citizens

EEA membership has to be approved by all (30) EEA countries

Option 3. UK joins EFTA but not the EEA



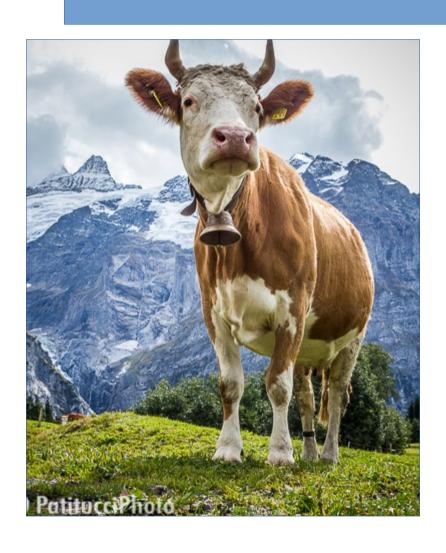
Switzerland is in EFTA but not in the EEA. It has bilateral agreements with the EU.

EFTA covers trade for fish and some Agriculture, no services.
UK would be excluded from EU

UK would be excluded from EU External Free-Trade agreements.

Not interesting as an option

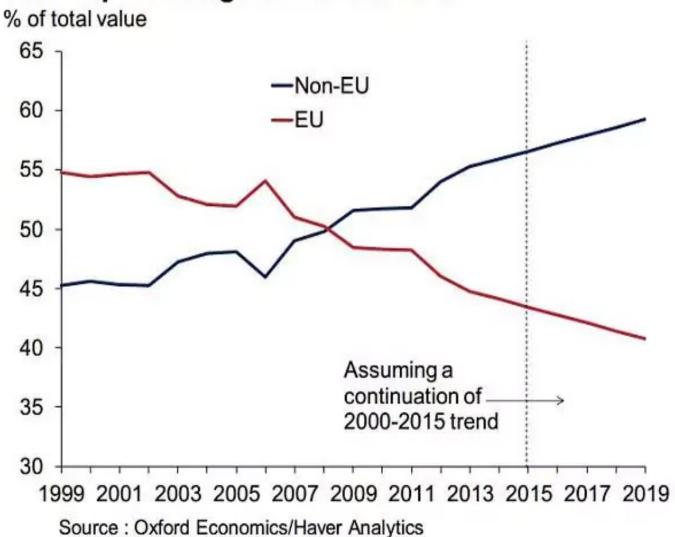
Option 4. UK follows the Swiss model



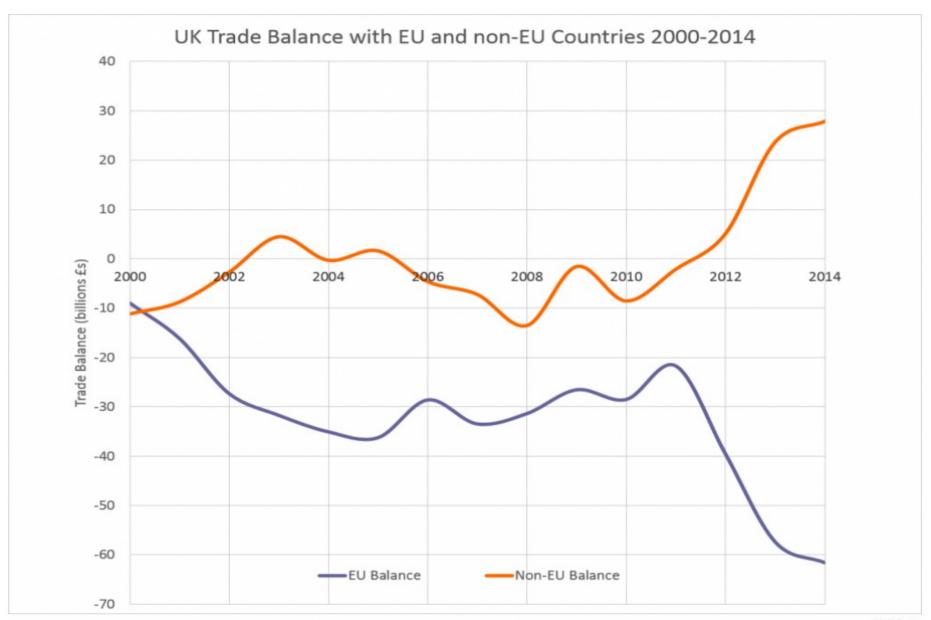
Switzerland has 120 sectorial agreements that took many years to negotiate.
Services are not included (NB UK banking) EU is unhappy with Swiss agreement.
Would be very difficult for the UK and not very beneficial.
Must allow the free movement of EU citizens (Switzerland already fined)
New tougher negotiations started in 2014.

Option 5. UK-EU Free Trade Agreement

UK: Exports of goods & services



Option 5. UK-EU Free Trade Agreement



Option 5. UK-EU Free Trade Agreement

Most likely option but takes time to negotiate.

UK government needs negotiators

UK would still be bound by EU Single Market regulations: health and safety, competition policy, product standards consumer protection, technical specifications...

UK financial services faced with problem of potential Financial Transactions Tax

Option 6. A customs Union (like EU-Turkey)

Customs Union: Single Market (sectorial) with the same external customs duties. If the EU has an import tariff (eg 0€10/l ethanol), then Turkey has to apply the same tariff.

The UK would not be free to set any different tariffs, hence no trade sovereignty.

UK would have no intervention in EU trade negotiations - eg recent S. Korea / EU FTA means S. Korea has automatic access to Turkish market, but Turkey has no access to S. Korean market.

Option 7. Rely on WTO rules for trade



The WTO sets limits on maximum tariffs.

The UK would have to establish customs controls (including Ireland)

UK goods would face EU import tariffs (eg car engines 10%)

WTO no longer works – bilateral FTAs are what happen (following the breakdown of the Doha round of talks)

UK would be excluded from EU FTA agreements with about 60 non-EU countries.

UK has lost negotaition skills and people.
UK has much less bargaining power than the EU

ALSO

British living / working in the EU (2m) would become non-EU citizens
EU citizens living/working in the UK would also change status
UK students would be deprived of ERASMUS
UK might be excluded from European research agreements
Defence agreements might change
External policing agreements might change

BUT

Maybe the Brexit will wake up the EU Commission, Council and Parliament that there are serious problems in the EU.

The EU with 11% unemployment in not viable, hence the rise in nationalist parties and anti-European feelings.

FINALLY

What will be the situation of Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland)

If Scotland quits GB to remain in the EU?

What will be the situation of Ireland and the N. Irish – could they join up with Ireland (despite their tragic past)?

Would Wales then follow with a referendum and leave England all alone?