



UK Independence Party

Britain: Better Off Out

A talk in Bournemouth
to the UKIP Branch,
at Wessex Hotel on 20th June, 2012

The coming referendum debate

– two big questions will come up repeatedly

- Can Britain survive outside the European Union?
- What is the right long-term economic strategy for our country?

The European Union is an economic failure

We must destroy two myths,

- *The “three million jobs” myth, and*
- *The “50% of exports” myth*

The post-1945 world 1.

- Atlantic Charter of 1941 as the ‘Magna Carta’ for the post-1945 world
- United States & Britain, then speaking for ‘the Empire’, foreswore any territorial acquisitions, despite – when combined – having clear military superiority over other powers.
- They also committed themselves to supra-national institutions (the UN, IMF etc.) which *both* endorsed self-determination of small nations *and* repudiated discrimination (in trade, payments, etc.) between nations.

The post-1945 world 2.

- Principle of self-determination of small nations foreshadowed independence movements in the colonial world. Supra-national organizations were also to respect all nations' self-determination ('independence'). No attempt at one world government.

Citizens of small nations did *not* need to fear being disadvantaged relative to the citizens of large nations.

'Great power guarantee' – vested in UN Charter, but really from the USA – implied that small countries no more vulnerable to invasion (and instability, with loss of life & property) than large nations.

Can Britain survive outside the EU? 1.

This is an idiotic question. Most of the world's countries do not belong to the EU, and are perfectly happy and relaxed about their status. Membership of the EU is no more an imperative for the UK than it is for Mongolia or Haiti, or – more plausibly – say for New Zealand.

Can Britain survive outside the EU? 2.

Although the question is idiotic, it is implicit in phrasing which is common in speeches from enthusiasts for EU integration, e.g., from Clegg or Mandelson. Britain said to be 'isolated', 'on the margin' or 'peripheral' if not an EU member. But – on that basis – over 160 countries, accounting for more than 80% of world output, are 'isolated', 'on the margin', 'peripheral', etc.!

Some examples of 'isolation' jibe

- 'Staying out of the euro will mean progressive economic **isolation** for Britain.'

Lord Peter Mandelson,
writing in *The Sunday Mirror*, 18th May 2003.

- 'Leaving the EU would be leaving 'the world's largest borderless single market with 500 million consumers right on our doorsteps...**Isolation** costs jobs, costs growth...'

Nick Clegg – Today
programme on BBC Radio
Four, 31st October 2011

How to answer the 'isolation' jibe 1.

- If the UK outside the EU would be 'isolated', then 160 countries accounting for 90% of world population and over 80% of world output are 'isolated' at present.
- If the UK outside the UK would be 'isolated', so would the USA, Japan, Canada and Australia.
Most nations do not belong to the EU.
- Leaving the EU is not 'little England'-ism. On the contrary, it is remembering that the UK belongs to a larger world of which the EU/Eurozone is only one part – and a diminishing part at that.

How to answer the 'isolation' jibe 2.

Let me repeat:

If the UK outside the EU would be 'isolated', then 160 countries that are non-EU - accounting for 90% of world population and over 80% of world output - must also be 'isolated' at present.

Mandelson and Clegg are talking nonsense.

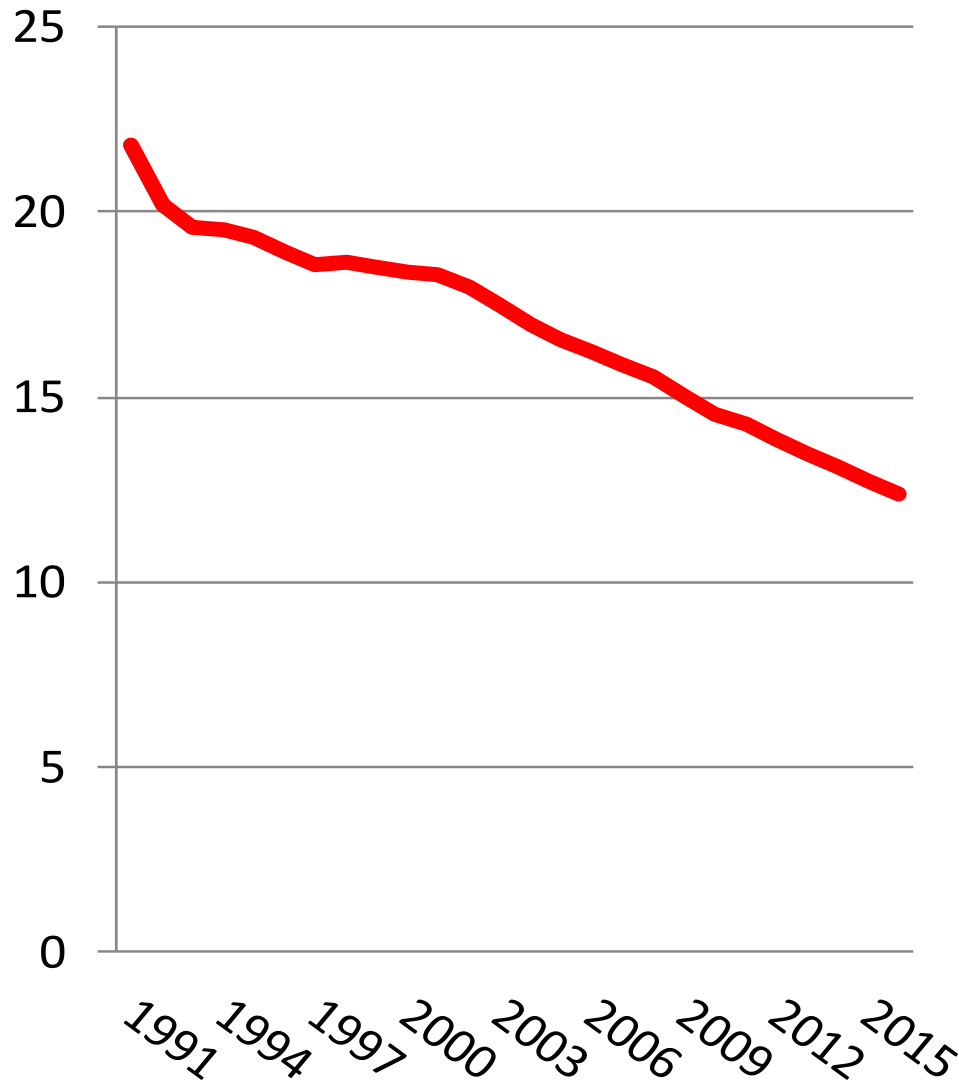
What is the right long-term economic strategy for our country?

NO QUESTION IS MORE
FUNDAMENTAL TO THE U.K.'s
POLITICAL DEBATE

Roughly speaking, the Eurozone comes to much the same thing as the European Union without the UK.

SO THE CHOICE IS BETWEEN AN ASSOCIATION WITH THE EUROZONE AND BEING UNATTACHED TO THE EU, LIKE EVERY OTHER COUNTRY IN THE WORLD, = THE REST OF THE WORLD

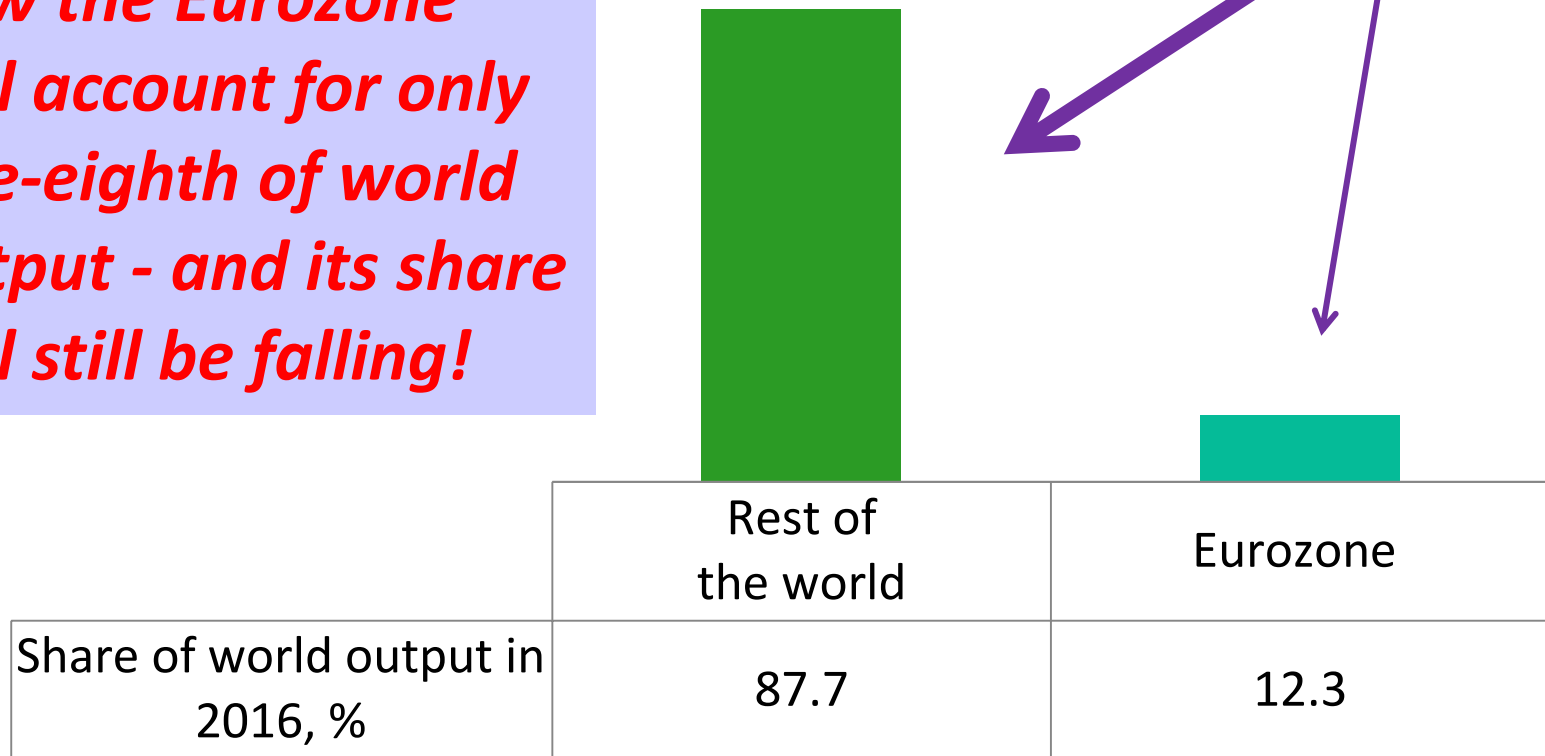
% share of world output



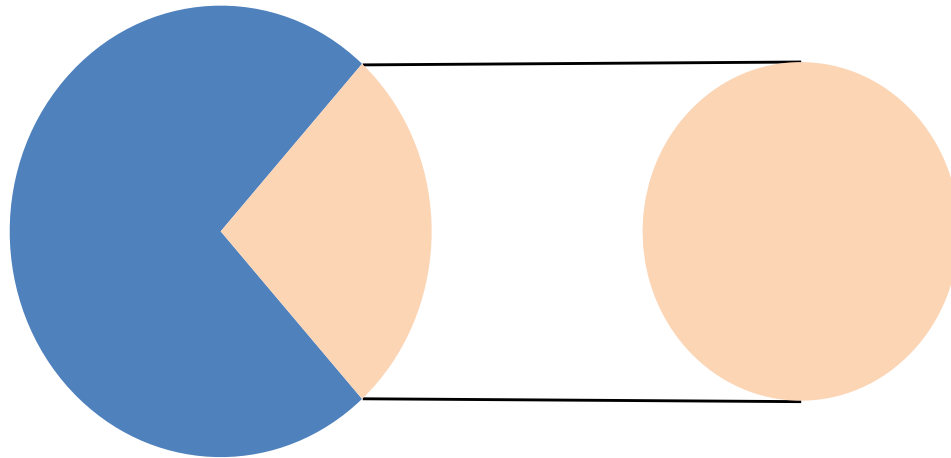
The decline of the Eurozone

Between 1991 (when the single currency was first discussed) and 2011, the Eurozone's share of world output fell from 21.8% to 14.3%. The IMF expects it to fall again, to 12.4%, by 2016.

A few years from now the Eurozone will account for only one-eighth of world output - and its share will still be falling!



2016



■ Wider Anglosphere

■ Eurozone

According to IMF forecasts, in 2016 the Eurozone will account for just under 12 1/2% of world output, whereas the wider Anglosphere - which includes India, South Africa, Malaysia and Nigeria - will account for over 35%.

The coming collapse of the EU's relative economic importance

- So the Eurozone will by 2016 represent only an eighth of world output. But it is important to realize that - with a declining population and other nations catching up – its relative economic importance will fall in later decades.
- If the 2%-a-year growth differential between the Eurozone and the rest of the world seen in the 2000 – 2015 period were to continue, by 2050 the Eurozone would be a mere 5% of world output. (Yes!)
- **It would be crazy for the UK to base its long-run economic strategy on a permanent association with an area in severe relative economic decline.**

The UK's options in the 21st century

- Open Europe recently described our options as
 - The Norwegian option
 - The Swiss option
 - The Turkish option
 - Leaving the EU altogether
 - Full membership

Etc., with 'leaving' as in some sense an extreme.

- **THIS CHARACTERISATION OF THE UK'S GEOPOLITICAL POSITION IS *BUNKUM*.**



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Britain has a great economic future in the 21st century, **as one of the leading nations of the English-speaking world**