

Don't believe those who are talking Britain down – here's what the experts say:

**Does the EU keep us safe?**



**Sir Richard Dearlove**, former Chief of MI6

"Brexit would bring two potentially important security gains: the ability to dump the European Convention on Human Rights ... and, more importantly, greater control over immigration from the European Union."

**Would jobs be at risk?**



and many more companies who say they will stay

EU regulations make it harder for British firms to hire staff. Major employers like Toyota, Nissan, Vauxhall, Honda, Unilever, GE and Airbus have all said they'll stay in the UK whatever the result of the referendum.

**Does the EU mean lower prices?**



**Tim Martin**, Chairman of Wetherspoons

"The EU places tariffs on goods from outside the EU, which is bad for British shoppers and the developing world. And the EU forces us to charge VAT on goods, pushing up bills for working families."

**Will we be better or worse off?**



**Nigel Lawson**, former Chancellor of the Exchequer

"As Chancellor, I became increasingly aware that, in economic terms, membership of the EU did us more harm than good. Outside the EU, we would prosper, we would be free, and we would stand tall."

**What's best for business?**



**John Longworth**, Director General, British Chambers of Commerce, 2011–16

"The EU interferes with UK firms and stacks the rules in favour of a select number of big businesses. If we Vote Leave, jobs will be safer. We can have faster growth and greater prosperity in the future."

**Does the EU protect workers' rights?**



**Gisela Stuart**, Labour MP and Chair of Vote Leave

"The rights we have won for British workers came from our Parliament, not the EU. The EU is run in the interests of the big corporations who spend billions lobbying to make it work for them."



Referendum Communication

The EU costs us **£350 million** per week – we could spend that on the NHS instead.

There are risks in voting either way – but we think the safer option is to **Vote Leave**

**OPEN UP TO FIND OUT WHY**

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# THE UK AND THE EUROPEAN UNION: THE FACTS

**On 23 June we face a choice: is it safer to stay in the EU permanently or to vote 'leave' and take back control? It's a big decision – and there may not be another chance to vote for years. Here are some facts:**

- **Over a quarter of a million people migrate to the UK from the EU every year.** This is the equivalent of a city the size of Newcastle every year. EU law means all members must accept 'the free movement of people'. Many immigrants contribute to our society. They also have an impact on public services. Experts disagree on the overall effect.
- **The EU is expanding to include: Albania, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, and Turkey.** When we joined, there were just 9 member states. Now there are 28, the most recent being Romania, Bulgaria and Croatia. Five more countries are in the queue to join, including Turkey, totalling **89 million people**. When they join, they will have the same rights as other member states.
- **The European Union has changed enormously since the UK joined the 'Common Market' in 1973.** The EU has taken control over more and more areas such as our borders, our public services, and VAT. The need to prop up the Euro means that more and more powers will be taken by the EU.
- **EU law overrules UK law.** This stops the British public from being able to vote out the politicians who make our laws. EU judges have already overruled British laws on issues like counter-terrorism powers, immigration, VAT, and prisoner voting. The new 'deal' David Cameron negotiated recently can be overturned by the European Court after our referendum.
- **The EU costs us at least £350 million a week.** That's enough to build a new NHS hospital every week. We get less than half of this money back, and we have no control over how it's spent – that's decided by politicians and officials in Brussels, not by the people we elect.
- **You don't have to be a member of the EU to trade with it.** Countries across the world trade with the EU without being members of it. Switzerland is not in the EU and exports even more to the EU than we do. Some big banks and multinationals think the EU is in their interests. Small and medium-sized businesses think differently. Only 6 per cent of UK firms export to the EU, yet *all* have to obey EU rules.
- **While we're in the EU, the UK isn't allowed to negotiate our own trade deals.** This means we currently have no trade deal with key allies such as Australia, New Zealand, or the USA – or important growing economies like India, China or Brazil. Instead of making a deal which is best for the UK, we have to wait for 27 other countries to agree it. Most small businesses say that Britain should take back the power to negotiate our own trade deals which we cannot do inside the EU.
- **There are risks in voting either way.** Experts, politicians, and businesses are divided. People have to weigh up the risks and potential benefits of each course of action for themselves.

Want to know more? Visit [voteleavetakecontrol.org/choice](http://voteleavetakecontrol.org/choice) or text **FACTS** to **88802** (standard charges apply).