



Clegg backs Mode 4

Free movement of labour between India and EU

Liberal Democrat leader Nick Clegg has gone public in support of Mode 4, a method of providing employers with an endless supply of highly skilled workers from countries with much lower rates of pay.

The deputy prime minister used a trip to India, accompanied by business leaders from education, retail and arms companies, to call for an end to visa rules for students and Information Technology workers from non-EU states particularly India.

report by **Brian Denny**

The millionaire former MEP also called for overseas science and engineering graduates to be given more than the current three months to find well-paid jobs in Britain. He said that visa 'rigidities' had to be removed.

Mode 4 makes up part of the proposed EU-India Free Trade Agreement which allows employers to bring in low-waged workers into the UK as well as big business access to India's huge retail market.

Many Indian unions have expressed opposition to the trade deal as it would decimate entire industries as Western monopoly capital moves in to re-cast India's economy in their interests.

Mode 4 provisions are enshrined in The General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), a treaty of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) which extends the multilateral trading system to the service sector, in the same way the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) provides for trade.

The GATS agreement substitutes the authority of national law with that of a GATS Disputes Panel conducted in

closed hearings. WTO member-governments are obliged to dismiss any criticism because of prior commitments to the commercial principles of neo-liberal competition.

While national governments have the option to exclude any specific service from liberalisation under GATS, they are also under pressure from international business interests to refrain from excluding any service "provided on a commercial basis".

This definition defines any public service, including transport, water, electricity, health and education as being "provided on a commercial basis".

This privatisation or marketisation of large parts of what are considered public services also includes such areas as police, the military, prisons, the justice system, public administration, and government.

Clegg's call for a de-facto extension of EU 'free movement' rules to countries like India is also supported by leading Europhile Lord Heseltine who is currently embroiled in a battle within the Tory Party which has indicated it may limit immigration.

Many voters already have deep concerns about EU 'free movement' rules as over a million extra workers from across the EU compete in the increasingly difficult jobs market in this country.

Ultimately 'free movement' removes the right of states to control their own borders and creates the conditions for instability and, most importantly for workers, drives down wage levels.

Clegg's Lib Dems are expected to be decimated at the next election in 2015 so it appears he is positioning himself for another unelected role to promote the right wing EU corporate agenda.



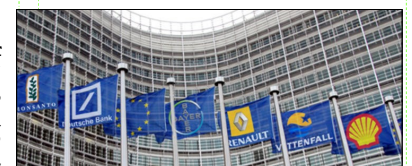
US sanctions against Russia hurts EU especially Germany says Chancellor Merkel and doesn't want Ukraine in EU



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Nations and nations states versus
crypto imperialism - Editorial p3



Gove has gone, free market
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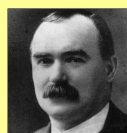


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Germany joins Britain and France in EU militarisation of Middle East

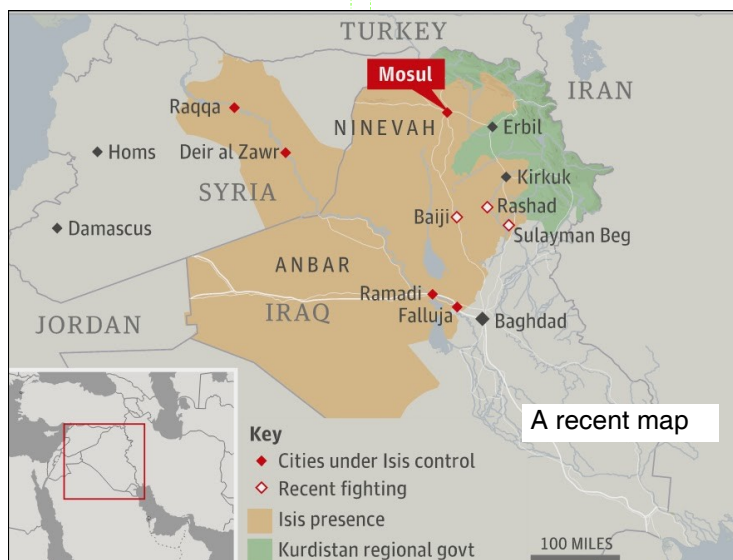
Telling the US this is the EU's 'backyard'

Because of the continued conquests of the terrorist organisation, the "Islamic State of Iraq and Syria" (ISIS), the German government has announced that it will supply Iraq with military equipment. To stop this onslaught, the Kurdistan Regional Government's armed forces are to serve as ground troops in tangent with the US Air Force. This week, Berlin may deliver armoured vehicles, night vision instruments and body armour to northern Iraq. A growing number of politicians are favouring also furnishing lethal weapons. However, this is yet to be decided. Even demands for the Bundeswehr to participate in military strikes against ISIS are being raised. Experts point out that the US is quite capable of making aerial raids and equipping the Iraqi Kurdish armed forces. However, it would, be appropriate to send "a

signal to the USA" indicating the readiness to participate in military activities in the EU's "neighbourhood". A campaign launched by the Berlin establishment, including President Gauck, aims at just this type of engagement—particularly in North Africa and the Middle East - to obtain more influence also in those regions.

(German Foreign Policy .com 18.8.14)

Footnote: ISIS has for years been funded by wealthy donors in Kuwait,



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Nations and nation-states versus crypto-imperialism



“Attempts to stifle democracy and the nation state through the Treaty on European Union and Euro-federalism, the EU Constitution, regional policy and free competition through unregulated free movement of capital, goods, services and labour must be opposed. [CAEF is also opposed to TTIP and CETA] We will work to persuade the peoples of Britain and especially the labour and trade union movement and young people, to declare the right to self determination to be essential to national democracy. All nations within the United Kingdom should have the right to self determination if they so decide.”

Aims and Objectives of the Campaign against Euro-federalism.

Two important and separate matters, class and the national question have been mixed up by some in the labour and trade union movement. These are the struggle for and right of nation-states to self determination, national independence and democracy which is superior in all but a few cases to class. Proof of this is within these islands.

Doesn't the right of Ireland to be united override splitting the Northern Ireland 'British' working class from those in the other three nations? This is a question avoided as though it did not exist and raises fundamental issues which must be addressed today.

If the peoples of Scotland decide they want to be independent then all power to their campaign for a 'yes!' vote which should be supported by all progressives. The same applies to Wales and to the whole island of Ireland to be united after over 800 years of struggle.

An independent Scotland could provide the opportunity to disengage from the EU and NATO. This will be of benefit to that nation state's rational development. This is a primary task for the working class, labour and trade union movement in Scotland, with other progressive nationalists, to achieve when they gain independence. It is the struggle for democracy. Everything can't be done at once.

It was James Connolly, a Scot who went to Ireland, who made crystal clear that to achieve socialism you must have the right to self determination - in other words national independence and democracy.

The nation state and national governments are the way the world is still organised. National government powers can and must be used to curb and clip the wings of the transnational corporations and banks. That is the struggle for all forms of democracy within nation states.

This applies to the secret negotiations setting up the: EU-US Transatlantic Trade and Investment Pact (TTIP); Canada-EU pact (CETA), US Pacific pact; India-EU pact; and pacts with former European colonies which form the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries (ACP). The highly secret pacts are dominated by the transnational corporations and banks driven by the US and EU in particular and is crypto-imperialism. They need exposing and opposing precisely because they are a serious threat to nation states, all forms of democracy, trade union rights, jobs and will deepen austerity.

The clear objective of the transnationals and all their pacts is to bring an end to nation states and the powers of governments, parliaments and electorates. If nation states are culled then democracy itself, which only functions within nation states, will be lost.

Transnationals want to sweep away the powers of national governments which can legislate to pass laws for social advance and all forms of democracy. The latter includes: formal democracy at the ballot box; informal democracy to lobby parliament and demonstrate on the streets; transfer taxes from rich to poor areas and people and much more.

The Israeli war on Gaza, the long struggle for Kurdistan to have independence and right to self determination of Syria are several of many illustrations that the rights of nation states remains paramount. This is especially so today within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. An examination of the UK Government's foreign policy shows its appalling record regarding the sovereignty of nation states apart from Iraq, Libya and the Balkans. Bombs, troops, imperialist interests and profits come first at our expense.

One danger is that the far right is taking up the national question to lead people in the wrong reactionary direction.

Another danger is mixing up international solidarity with internationalism. European or world-wide revolutions are notions promoted by the ultra-left or the misguided. These are dangers which must be avoided by the left and the labour and trade union movement based on a clear understanding of the national question .

Acronyms

CETA

(Canada/EU) Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement

ISDS

Investor State Dispute Settlement

NAFTA

North American Free Trade Agreement
(Includes Canada, USA and Mexico)

TTIP

Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership

TTIP false promises

When NAFTA was introduced forecasts were made of many more jobs and economic benefits. In Canada jobs were lost as industries were stripped out and transferred elsewhere.

Forecasts by authorities and think tanks make clear that increased economic activity is wide of the mark. In addition they say that jobs will be lost rather than gained.

A thrust of TTIP, CETA and ISDS is to consolidate privatisation. The NHS will be seriously threatened. Recent Con-Dem legislation has paved the way for TTIP, CETA and ISDS to mop up what has not already been salami sliced from the NHS.

The secrecy surrounding this Treaty belies anything of benefit to the peoples involved across the EU, Canada and US.

'STOP TTIP' website

www.stopttip.net

This site has lots of information and links to other websites with plenty of videos as well as more data.

Break secrecy around

"TTIP or CETA will be suicidal for as well as countering

As negotiations on the US/EU 'trade' deal continue, resistance to it continues to grow, in parallel. Now, Trade Commission bureaucrats are proceeding with a sleight of hand move that is contemptuous of the concerns of the European citizens they are paid to serve.

A very widespread concern about the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership agreement (TTIP) is the inclusion of investor state dispute settlement (ISDS) in this agreement. This will allow corporations to sue governments not only for direct expropriation, such as renationalising, but also indirect expropriation. The latter may result from any regulatory action that negatively affects anticipated corporate profits, which is most likely to be social, environmental or labour regulation protecting the public from corporations.

Global tobacco company Philip Morris International is currently suing the Australian government for its cigarette plain packaging legislation under ISDS commitments in an Australia/Hong Kong Bilateral Investment Treaty.

As well as the public, governments also have concerns about ISDS in TTIP, particularly the German government. It is currently being sued by Swedish nuclear plant company *Vattenfall* for the phasing out of the German nuclear energy programme, subsequent to the Japanese nuclear accident.

This high level of concern forced the Trade Commission to hold a three-month public consultation on ISDS in TTIP that closed in mid-July. So great was the volume of responses that the system crashed at one point and the

closing date had to be extended. Although the online consultation, with its 13 technical questions, overall seeking feedback on the intended tweaking of ISDS in TTIP, people took the small window of opportunity in one question to say 'no ISDS'.

In fact 150,000 responses were received, many more than for any other Commission consultation – and this was on a provision in a secretive and technical international 'trade' agreement.

A preliminary analysis has been issued, but along with the intimation that collation will focus on 'quality of arguments' not quantity. The collation method was not specified before, or during the course of, the consultation, so it appears to be an afterthought, allowing for manipulation at this stage to suit the Commission's purposes.

Importantly, the actual analysis, with action leading on from it, will not appear until November.

In the interim, a very dirty trick indeed is being brought to bear.

The Canada/EU Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) has been negotiated for some years, also secretly. It also includes ISDS and in fact the draft CETA ISDS chapter was issued as background to the TTIP ISDS consultation.

In October 2013, there was a phoney sign-up of CETA, coinciding with a scandal in the Canadian government that the Canadian Prime Minister, Stephen Harper was keen to eclipse. This was followed by the issuing of a 'technical paper' in Canada, which could not be relied upon to reflect ac-

two new treaties

National and even EU sovereignty corporate power"

curately what was in the agreement, but was nonetheless used as the basis for a road show around the Canadian provinces intended to buy their support for CETA (literally, with compensation packages).

But in fact CETA differences were unresolved at that point, negotiations continued and the negotiating text remained secret.

Meanwhile, awareness has grown of how the CETA, with the background of the North American Free Trade agreement (NAFTA), is in effect a 'way in' for TTIP, and particularly of how US corporations will be able to utilise ISDS in CETA against EU governments.

Now, suddenly, there are official announcements from both sides of the Atlantic that there will be a sign-up of CETA at a Canada/EU summit on 25th September this year. It will be the formal first – step to initialise all pages of the agreement before the 'legal scrubbing' process and the translating of the final text into all EU languages, towards the presentation of the agreement to the European Parliament for its assent.

This completely overrides the concern of the EU public – specifically about ISDS – expressed when the opportunity was there. The timing with the CETA sign-up in September is the ultimate cynical exercise, as this will be two months before the analysis and any course of action in relation to the TTIP ISDS consultation process is produced.

Fortunately, since the sign-up an-

nouncement there has been a leak of the full CETA final draft text, intended for the EU Trade Policy Committee, which is made up of member state trade bureaucrats and the Trade Commission. The first leak was of the core text, and subsequently the annexes were also leaked.

It appears that there is much in this long agreement text to draw to the attention of those who will be negatively affected by the deal between now and the sign-up time. Canadian provinces relying on fishing will see not only their fishing grounds opened up but also fish processing. The public procurement of Canadian provinces will be forced open transnationally, and drug prices will increase as *Big Pharma* gets its way on extending patents on medicines.

For people in the EU, this contemptuous move is also an attempt to undermine the public fight against the big TTIP agreement of 'regulatory harmonisation'. This is in effect deregulation to suit and increase the power of transnational corporations, is the core, backed by ISDS.

Neither the US government nor any US corporation has ever lost an ISDS case. Entering into ISDS agreements with the US, either in the direct TTIP agreement or via the backdoor CETA agreement, is suicidal. This is especially so for national and even EU sovereignty as well as countering corporate power.

TTIP and CETA has to be exposed and opposed



Gove has gone, free market EU ideology hasn't

Teachers and parents everywhere welcome the news that Michael Gove has been sacked as education secretary.

But while education professionals and local government figures of every party and members of the Commons education select committee may celebrate this news, the free market ideology Gove doled out certainly has not.

Why? Because it's enshrined in EU dogma called, grandly, the Bologna Process. This commits member states to "harmonising the architecture of the European Higher Education system".

This writer is not an academic or a teacher but has studied EU policy in a number of areas and industries and there is one common theme, economics, or more accurately, neo-liberal economics.

For instance EU transport 'liberalisation' rules force member states to introduce 'market competition' to outsource and privatise transport networks across ferry, bus and rail, attacking the fundamental concept of 'socialised' public transport.

The privatisation of transport infrastructure and services with other key national assets is a core demand of the IMF/EU/ECB troika now imposing austerity and privatisation on Greece and Portugal.

EU Commissioners plan to create a "single European transport network" dominated by private sector monopoly interests that will lead to job cuts, low pay, more expensive services for passengers and maximum profits for big business.

You can apply this rather dogmatic approach to any industry. This is because the European Roundtable of Industrialists, a grouping of Europe's largest transnational corporations, largely writes the treaties and directives that govern EU policy. Just go to ERT's website which boasts about how much

influence it has over EU policy and, thanks to the Lisbon Treaty, overrides national policies.

Having understood this, it may not surprise you that the basic idea behind the so-called Bologna Process, first promoted in 1999, is economic. This planned enlargement of scale of the European systems of higher education is based on the concept of enhancing 'competitiveness' by cutting down costs.

They are remarkably similar to WTO and GATS proposals that would effectively erode all effective forms of democratic political control over higher education.

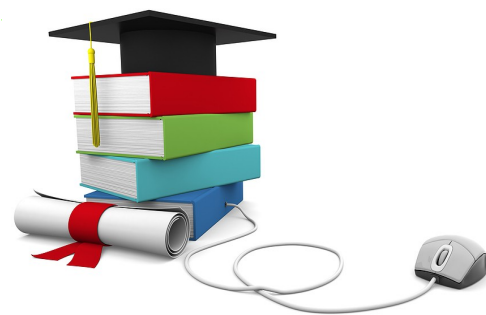
Remember these organisations overlooked 'structural adjustment' programmes in Africa in the 1970s. If you want to see what the results of so-called 'structural adjustment' just look at Africa today.

One educational expert Chris Lorenz of Free University Amsterdam openly says the Bologna Process "represents an extension on a European scale of neo-liberal policies that have been 'implemented' since the 1980's.

"These policies can be summarised under the labels of: commodification of knowledge; marketisation of higher education; enlargement of scale as the primary policy to cut costs;... the 'managerial colonisation' of higher education and simultaneous de-professionalisation of the faculty," he says.

So what do many academics have to say about this process? Well, not a lot really. It is the environment they work in and, rather like the frog in slowly boiling water, they get on with it and who can blame them?

Moreover, the Bologna Process constitutes an intergovernmental agreement without the status of EU legislation. It is not a treaty or convention and there are no legal obligations for the signatory states so



participation and cooperation is completely voluntary. However the unelected European Commission plays an increasingly important role in the implementation of this Orwellian 'Process'.

Today the 'Process' is now moving away from a strict convergence in terms of time spent on qualifications, towards a competency-based system. This will have an undergraduate and postgraduate division, with a bachelor's degree in the former and a master's and doctorate in the latter.

In Europe five-year plus first degrees are common. This leads to many not completing their studies. Many of these countries are now introducing bachelor-level qualifications and is changing rapidly as the Bologna Process is implemented.

It's not a conspiracy theory but a way of removing democratically-elected governments from the educational process just as EU rail directives remove them from the running of national transport networks.

While it may amuse Europhiles to dismiss such rhetoric, the reality is that the market is seeking to take over educational services and the EU is the conduit to make it happen through co-operative neo-liberal governments in the member states.

Politicians of all parties scoffed at the RMT's exposures of how EU directives were destroying democratically-run, nationalised railways in favour of an extremely dangerous private model based on the development of huge Europe-wide private monopolies.

Today politicians of all hues, including UKIP, support EU directives that hand rail to the private sector as they claim there is no alternative. Do you really want education to be treated in the same shoddy and underhanded way?

First World War

Imperialist parallels then and now

Part IV 1914-1916 Opposition, war and conscription

A girl asks her father "Daddy what did *you* do in the Great War?" "I tried to stop the bloody thing , my child" replied Robert Smillie, Scottish miner's leader.

A Democrat insert

We are being bombarded with books, papers, radio and TV programmes, and events to mark the First World War. The bulk of this material concentrates on the war and carnage in the trenches. Our objective is to put a different point of view.

Note: The discussion covers the position in Britain, Ireland and Germany and suffragettes supporting Sylvia Pankhurst. Enlistment of a million troops from the colonies and China and conscription was used to fill the gaps in the trenches caused by the carnage of fatalities, physical and mental casualties and use of troops as cannon fodder

The Cabinet just before Britain declared war

Within the Cabinet, among those opposed going to war, was John Burns a Liberal and leader of the 1899 dock strike. He resigned from the cabinet. Foreign Secretary, Edward Grey, was publicly ambivalent. Winston Churchill was an advocate for war. The Cabinet was split over whether or not to go to war and was mainly preoccupied by the situation in Ireland.

On 2 August King George V stated to the Foreign Secretary that it was "absolutely essential Britain go to war in order to prevent Germany from achieving complete domination of this country". Sir Edward Grey pointed out that the Cabinet was split and had yet to find a justifiable reason to enter the conflict. The King replied: "You have got to find a reason, Grey."

On the same day an anti-war demonstration was held in Trafalgar Square where they sang the 'International'. Respect was given to the assassinated French socialist leader, Jean Jaures. The meeting reflected widespread antipathy to the war. Keir Hardie attacked the absurdity of the impending prospect of mutual slaughter among workpeople of Europe and in his address said:

"Tonight there are millions of hearts in every country in Europe filled with sadness and foreboding. What is the cause of the war? You have no quarrel with Germany. German workers have no quarrel with you. German workers have no quarrel with their French comrades. Then why are we on the verge of the greatest calamity Europe has ever seen...."

"Are we going to allow the Courts and the ruling classes to make treaties leading to war without our having a word to say?" Our shores and liberties are not being attacked. The only class which can prevent the Government going to war is the working class..."

Arthur Henderson in moving the official resolution for the meeting, drawn up by Ramsey MacDonald, declared that it was: "a day of humiliation for the democracy of Britain".

On 3 August letters to King George V from the President of France, Raymond Poincare, urged participation in the war and King Albert ranted on the violation of Belgium. These letters were sent to Grey with a note stating there was now "reason enough to go to war". This was just another clutch of straws for the war camp and resulted in a declaration of war on 4 August.

The Labour Party then voted to support the war. Ramsey McDonald resigned as leader in protest along with Keir Hardie the founding leader. As an MP Hardie fervently opposed the war in Parliament and put his health in jeopardy. He worked 'hand in glove' with Sylvia Pankhurst and brought together opposition to the war, women's emancipation, democracy, socialism and Home Rule for Ireland.

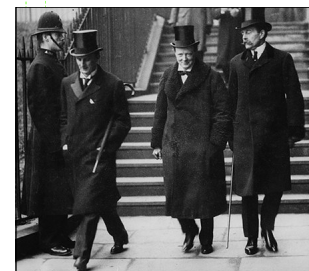
On 6th August 1914 ILP's journal, *Labour Leader* urged: "Workers of Great Britain, down with war. You have no quarrel with the workers of Europe. They have no quarrel with you. The quarrel is between the ruling classes of



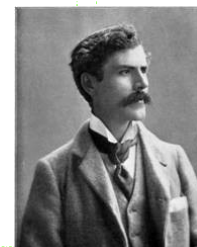
John Burns addressing a meeting of dockers



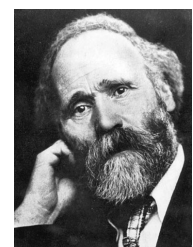
King George V
But, what were the medals for?



Grey, Churchill and Lord Crew



Keir Hardie



Ramsey MacDonald

Arthur Henderson



Europe. Don't make their quarrel yours..." The ILP was affiliated to the Labour Party.

After war was declared Henderson, now leader of the Labour Party, switched to supporting the war and took most Labour MPs with him and he joined the coalition war cabinet. The LP Executive and most Labour MPs joined in and took part in the recruiting campaign. However, one section, the Independent Labour Party (ILP) kept its opposition to the war and militarism.

Jingoism was whipped up and Labour Party members, trade unionists and socialists were amongst the ranks that decided they had "to see it through". International solidarity and anti-war policies were overturned or set aside without mandate or any proper discussion.

Legislation was passed to prevent and suppress agitation against the war.

The British Expeditionary Force (BEF) sent to France was made up of volunteers of those who had enlisted. Between August 1914 and February 1916 those who enlisted totalled over three million or a third of the workforce. This included over 1,743,000 from manufacturing (28.3%) and was the reason for women being employed in factories. A further 313,000 enlisted from mines and quarries or nearly 25% of this workforce. This in itself weakened the labour and trade union movement. Employers and the government pressed for and obtained longer hours and no-strike deals.

As the war progressed there were not enough troops to fill the gaps of those killed and maimed. A campaign to recruit volunteers was mounted and led by Secretary of State for War, Field Marshal Lord Kitchener in the infamous finger pointing poster along with white feathers and other intimidation.

The Boy Scouts, Boys' Brigade and Church Lads' Brigade had military trappings and drill. Viscount Haldane, as Secretary of State for War between 1905-1912, tried to persuade the Scouts and Boys' Brigade to combine them in a national cadet force but they declined.

Later, the South African imperialist Baden Powell had taken the opportunity and grabbed hold of the scout movement. He offered the War Office the Boy Scouts as the fifth line of defence if Britain were invaded. About 40% of the army were made up of former members of these youth organisations.

In September 1914 the ILP National Administration Council declared: "In our view the operation of a sort of moral press-gang will be inequitable and unjust. We must also protest against all attempts to force men into the ranks by withholding assistance from them, or dismissing them from their employment..."

Financial, government and intense social pressure was put on men to enlist to serve their country. Employers threatened that if employees did not enlist they would be sacked. This included large estate owners, especially by the aristocracy, where there was tied accommodation.

The enlistment of millions of men subjected to the slaughter and carnage in the trenches meant they were simply cannon fodder at one end of the manufacturing industry and coal miners and women in factories and other jobs were at the other. Huge profits were made out of the war whilst wages were pressed down.

An organisation of suffragettes led by Sylvia Pankhurst was widened to deal with the plight of families left at home whilst men were at the front. This included the East London Federation of Suffragettes (ELFS). Meanwhile the main suffragette organisation led by Emmeline and Christabel Pankhurst, put all its efforts into promoting and supporting the war and dropped votes for women.

Volunteering dried up and resistance to the war in Britain mushroomed in 1915 especially as food prices and rents increased. This resistance grew rapidly when conscription in Britain took place on 2 March 1916 with the Military Service Act.

To further bolster troops and supplies to the front an additional million soldiers were recruited from the colonies and even China. Some of these carried out the



Jingoism



Sylvia Pankhurst addressing an anti-war meeting



Colonial troops

'dirty' jobs of digging trenches, moving supplies and munitions to the front. Some in this enlistment from the colonies were not used to fight in the trenches because they were 'black' or 'coloured'. The French military command had no such qualms and used 'black' troops alongside the French which suffered severe losses. There was opposition to the war in parts of the British Empire based on their objective of independence and an end imperialist rule. This warrants a study in itself

Ireland

Resistance against the war was strong and the Irish Citizen Army led by James Connolly, was epitomised in one of the best slogans ever: **"We serve neither King nor Kaiser but Ireland"**. This army was based on the Irish TGWU at Liberty Hall in Dublin.



Sylvia Pankhurst who worked with Keir Hardie supported Home Rule for Ireland, worked in solidarity with James Connolly and had seen the Irish Citizen Army. In 1913, following brutal police attacks on suffragettes, a Citizens' army was set up and drilled in Victoria Park (known locally as the People's Park and now in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets). The primary purpose was to protect suffragettes but Sylvia and others around her no doubt had other long term purposes in mind!

Picture from Women's Dreadnought and can be seen on the excellent DVD about Sylvia Pankhurst



Because of the opposition to both the war and conscription by the republicans, along with agitation for Home Rule, the Asquith government did not introduce conscription into Ireland. Although Connolly warned it would be introduced piecemeal into the provinces starting with the Unionists in Ulster.

Home Rule had been promised and legislated for but was dropped by the Asquith government. This revealed the British government had no real intentions for Ireland which further antagonised Irish republicans.

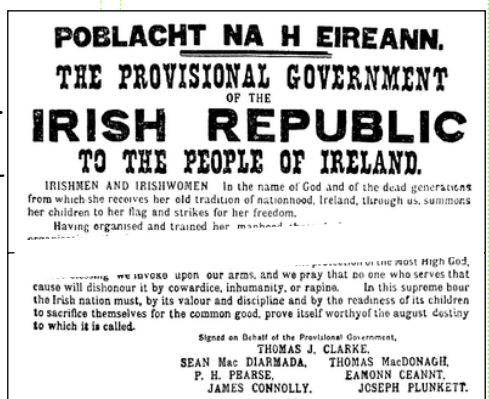
Trade unionism grew across the country. Because civil rights were under serious attack, along with the threat of conscription, democratic forces came together. The struggle for democracy, national and civil, was conducted in conjunction with the workers' economic demands.

Connolly and others believed the interests of labour demanded a national revolution. Despite many political and practical difficulties they decided to take the opportunity of England's engagement with the war to establish an independent Ireland. This culminated in the Easter Rising of 1916 but well laid plans fell apart due to divisions and broken agreements. However, the Citizen Army and Volunteers took up positions around Dublin Castle, took over the GPO above which the Irish tricolour was hoisted.

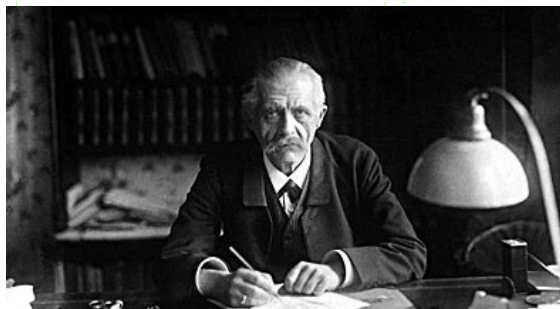
A declaration for independence headed "The Provisional Government of the Irish Republic – to the people of Ireland" was read out on the steps of the GPO and posted up around Dublin.

The details and history surrounding this momentous event are well documented. Suffice to say the uprising was put down by the British Army with the aid of a Royal Navy warship *Helga* which sailed up the Liffey to shell the GPO and other positions held by the republicans. Property was destroyed but class power is more important than class property and a lesson for today! Fifteen leaders of the revolt were arrested and assassinated, including Connolly who was wounded and strapped in a chair.

However, the key historical and political point about Easter 1916 is that it was the climatic point of the First World War, even though at first sight it appeared to have failed and labelled by some, even today, as a 'blood sacrifice'. It was then that the war ran into crisis. The lead had been given to the popular forces throughout the world which began to take the offensive. The British and other Imperialists must have sought out clean underwear!



British troops firing at the GPO



Friedrich Naumann

Sources used in this supplement include

DVD film: *Sylvia Pankhurst-Everything is Possible*: www.worldwrite.org.uk
 Torquil Cowan: *Labour of Love, The Story of Robert Smillie*
 Douglas Newton: *The Darkest Days, The truth behind Britain's Rush to War, 1914*.
 Peter Simkins: *Kitchener's Army, The raising of the New Armies 1914-1916*
 Interview note between King George V and Edward Grey (*Daily Telegraph* 18.8.14)
 C Desmond Greaves: *The Life and Times of James Connolly*

Next issue—Part V End of the war, Armistice and failed Peace Treaty, growing opposition to war, conscientious objectors, US entry into the war and campaigns for peace.

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Germany

At the end of 1914, the German peace movement started its first steps after its total defeat at the beginning of the war. In November 1914, activists founded the Bund Neues Vaterland (New Fatherland Association) which acted in favour of an immediate peace agreement. On 2 December 1914, SPD member Karl Liebknecht was the first German representative to vote against new war credits in the Reichstag (German parliament).

In 1915, opposition against the war rose remarkably in the SPD. Police repression rose as well. Pamphlets published by the Bund Neues Vaterland were banned; in 1916, Lilli Jannasch, the secretary of the organisation, was sent into prison. Liebknecht was taken to court and imprisoned as well after taking part in a demonstration on 1 May 1916. On this occasion, Liebknecht had shouted: "Down with the war! Down with the government!" It led to his being arrested immediately.

In 1915, the public debate on the German war aims focussed to a high degree on a book published by the famous liberal politician Friedrich Naumann. His book which proved to be quite influential even in later times had as its title *Mitteleuropa* ("Central Europe"). In it, Naumann promoted an economically united federation of European states created around Germany and Austria-Hungary as its core. According to the author, more and more countries especially in eastern and south eastern Europe had to be integrated into this economic union which would enable German companies to expand to the Black Sea and the Middle East. Naumann was very clear in his aim that the German Reich should hold homogenous power in the "Mitteleuropa" federation, at least informally - shades of the EU!

Whereas hundreds of thousands of soldiers lost their lives at the eastern front and in the trenches in the occupied French territories, the social situation inside Germany deteriorated rapidly. In January 1915, the government took first measures to ration food; there was only limited access to bread and to flour and, starting from the spring of 1916, even to potatoes. Prices rose sharply: In 1916, butter prices had doubled compared to the summer of 1914; eggs cost three times as much as before the war. Poverty rose parallel to the prices. Most families of soldiers were suffering from malnutrition, reported a trade union motion in Erfurt already in October 1915. The first hunger revolts of the war started in the same year.

So far the war for Germany, cynical as it is, produced not only millions of dead bodies and mass poverty, but also big winners: the owners of the German arms industry. Rheinische Stahlwerke, for example, increased profits from 2,8 millions Marks in 1914/15 to 8,1 millions Marks in 1916/17. During the same time, Hoesch AG increased profits from 1 million Marks to 17.5 million Mark. In spite of this, until 1916, arms producers did not have to pay taxes on their war profits at all.

Conclusions

The labour movement in all three countries largely abandoned socialist and democratic principles. International solidarity was set aside. Those who worked hard to oppose the war and took part in the alleviation of financial and social problems kept their principles.

German theorists were working for a financial and economic union which are part of the roots of the EU.

Book Review by Tony Grace

With Friends Like These... Why Britain should leave the EU - and how*

The introduction is essentially a potted history of the development within the Tory party of the "heresy" of opposition to the surrender of Britain's sovereignty to the European Union; Nigel Lawson's statement (7th May 2013) is quoted in which he accused the EU Administration of trying to enforce Fiscal rules (Regulatory activism- his words) to hinder the expansion of London's growing money markets into a world financial centre, "more important than the rest of Europe put together," and to utter an explicit condemnation of: "a bureaucratic monstrosity."

Two days later, the former MP and railway enthusiast, Michael Portillo, joined in with:

"The Euro is disaster. It has created hardship, unemployment and division on a dangerous scale. It is disingenuous to suggest that this fundamental mismatch can be resolved by a little renegotiation."

The first chapter seeks to demonstrate that the driving force behind the expansion of the EU is nothing less than what is described by the author as Pan-Germanic.

This, it appears, is the ultimate rationale of the Super-state whose origins can then be traced from that first German State created by Bismarck through to the first attempt to dominate Europe under the Kaiser in the First World War. The detailed plans by Imperial Germany to rule the continent are cited as evidence as are the NAZI's proposals for a European customs union and other fiscal arrangements to enable Germany to challenge the US once victory had been achieved and consolidated on the continent.

The last word could be left to Nicholas Ridley: "This is all a German racket designed to take over the

whole of Europe....This is essentially about political accountability...being bossed by a German ... would cause absolute mayhem in the country. There could be a bloody revolution." For that outburst he lost his job in the Thatcher government.

The second chapter itemises in eloquent detail the multifarious costs and disadvantages which far outweigh any spurious benefits. The main section covers the effect of the EU fiscal proposals on the UK's financial centre, and while it is too early to give a precise account of the potential damage this has not deterred the author from predicting the results of caps on bankers' bonuses, new corporation taxes and of course the effect on unemployment of the EU's free movement of labour policy.

The main theme of the third chapter is a carefully constructed demolition of the argument that Britain must remain in the supranational state to guarantee its security.

The europhiles' claim that because NATO's role has been severely diminished due to the end of the Cold War, then the UK will lack the military protection it would need from a superpower and will be weak and vulnerable if it does not contribute to the formation of the European state which will replace NATO forever. The author asserts that NATO is unlikely to disappear while new threats to America's interests are surfacing on the continent.

This means that the US will need the support of an independent Britain which for the most part has given unstinting help, exemplified by the Libya campaign in which Germany failed to assist.

The author concluded this chapter with the declaration that: "The ultimate political cost to Britain of EU



membership is the surrender of Parliamentary sovereignty and political freedom."

The final chapter: "Britain's best Way out of the EU", discusses the various relations with the EU of countries outside its political control like Norway, Turkey and Switzerland. The author suggests that Britain should emulate the German strategy:

"It would be a supreme irony should Britain regain the powers that it has lost to the EU by adopting the same stratagem as was successfully employed to recover lost German sovereignty... Recourse to the Adenauer gambit would form a supremely fitting way for Britain to end its membership of the EU upon the best possible terms."

One cannot help but feel that this conclusion is somewhat less than a return to complete political independence as set out in the heading to this final chapter, and one also senses that he may see the whole deadly process of our loss of national sovereignty as little more than a game of chess.

Apart from these criticisms the book is well worth reading and deserves a place on the shelf by those who oppose the EU and want Britain to withdraw.

* David Conway: published by CIVITAS: 157pp paperback: List price £7.00

Respect for the truth in the West no longer exists

BBC and EU included

Paul Craig Roberts August 18, 2014*

The Western media have proved for all to see that it comprises either a collection of ignorant and incompetent fools or a whorehouse that sells war for money.

The Western media fell in step with Washington and blamed the downed Malaysian airliner on Russia. No evidence was provided. In its place the media used constant repetition. Washington withheld the evidence which proved that Kiev was responsible. The media's purpose was not to tell the truth but demonise Russia.

Now there is the media story of the armoured Russian column that allegedly crossed into Ukraine and was destroyed by Ukraine's rag-tag forces. British reporters fabricated this story or were handed it by a CIA operative working to build a war narrative. The disreputable BBC hyped the story without investigating. The German media, including Die Welt, blasted the story throughout Germany without concern at the absence of any evidence. Reuters news agency, also with no investigation, spread the story.

I am told CNN has been broadcasting the fake story 24/7. Although I cannot stand to watch it, I suspect Fox News has also been riding this lame horse hard. I am also told that my former newspaper, The Wall Street Journal, which has fallen so low as to be unreadable, also spread the false story. I hope they are wrong as I hate to see the complete despoliation of one's former habitat.

The media story is preposterous for a number of reasons that should be obvious to a normal person.

First is that the Russian government has made it completely clear that its purpose is to de-escalate the situation. When other former Russian territories that are part of pre-



sent day Ukraine followed Crimea, voted for their independence and requested reunification with Russia, President Putin refused. To underline his de-escalation, President Putin asked the Russian Duma to rescind his authority to intervene militarily in Ukraine on behalf of the former Russian provinces. As the Russian government, unlike Washington or EU governments, stresses legality and the rule of law, Russian military forces would not be sent into Ukraine prior to the Duma renewing Putin's authority so to do.

Second, the story is obviously false because if the Russian government decides to invade Ukraine, Russia would not send in one small armoured group unprotected by air cover or other forces. If Russia invades Ukraine, it will be with a force capable of rolling up the rag-tag Ukrainian forces, most of which are semi-private militias organised by nazis. The war would last a few hours, after which Ukraine would be in Russia's hands where it resided for hundreds of years prior to the dissolution of the Soviet Union and Washington's successful efforts in 1991 to take advantage of Russian weakness to break apart the constituent provinces of Russia herself.

Third the story is obviously false as not a single Western news organisation hyping the story has presented a shred of evidence on its behalf.

What we witness in this fabricated story is the total lack of integ-

rity in the entire Western media.

A story totally devoid of any evidence to support it has been broadcast worldwide. The White House has issued a statement saying that it cannot confirm the story, but nevertheless the White House continues to issue accusations against Russia for which the White House can supply no evidence. Consequently, Western repetition of bald-faced lies has become truth for huge numbers of peoples. As emphasised in my columns, Western lies are dangerous, because they provoke war.

The same group in Washington and the same Western "media" are telling the same kind of lies that were used to justify Washington's wars supported by Britain in Iraq (weapons of mass destruction), Afghanistan (Taliban = al Qaeda), Syria (use of chemical weapons), Libya (an assortment of ridiculous charges), and the ongoing US military murders in Pakistan, Yemen, and Somalia.

The city upon the hill, the light unto the world, the home of the exceptional, indispensable people is the home of Satan's lies where truth is prohibited and war is the end game.

After pretending the Russian humanitarian truck convoy contained a hidden invasion force, the stooge Kiev government was forced by facts to officially acknowledge that the trucks only contained aid for those that the Kiev government had been bombing and attacking with artillery.

**Dr. Paul Craig Roberts was: an Assistant Secretary of the US Treasury in the Reagan Administration; associate editor and columnist with the Wall Street Journal. He is author of How America Was Lost: From 9/11 to the Police/Warfare State.*

US sanctions – an economic war against European “partners”?

by Rita Müller-Hill, historian



“German car manufacturers feel Russian crisis” and drop in sales and “doubts effectiveness of sanctions.” This was the headline in *Franfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* of 2 August. The article clearly states that Russia is not damaged by the sanctions. Neither are the Russian banks. So, who then is damaged by them? Let’s take a look back at economic sanctions against Iran.

France has traditionally had good economic relations with Iran. Those were the “remnants” of General de Gaulle’s once independent foreign policy, discredited by USA and Brussels. Under pressure of the transatlantic ‘friend’ this has now been abandoned by the new compliant French elites, on the pretext of fighting Iran’s production of a nuclear programme. This was, to a large extent, detrimental to the French economy. French media saw the preparation of a future sales market for the US therein.

In April 2012 *Peugeot* withdrew from the Iranian market because of the pressure by the new partner *General Motors* and lobby group “United Against Nuclear Iran” (UANI). Thereafter, France slipped from the 4th place to the 15th place in the ranking of trading partners with Iran. Since 1978 *Peugeot*, with 30% of market shares, was well represented in the Iranian market and in 2011, via its Iranian partner company *Iran Khodro*, *Peugeot* sold 458,000 cars in parts, which were assembled in Iran.

In France, *Peugeot* sold about 440,000 cars at the same time. In the course of its merger with *General Motors* *Peugeot* was forced to suspend the supply of spare parts to Iran. *Le Monde* asked the Iranian ambassador in France about this. *Ali Ahani* confirmed that *General Motors*, which is close to UANI, had exerted pressure on its French part-

ner. On 26 July 2013, *Renault’s* General Manager announced that “President Obama gave the order to cease activities in Iran”.

Renault was going to increase its market shares (10%) in Iran, and had announced to remain there after *Peugeot’s* withdrawal, a fact that counteracted the sales slump in the American and European market (24% in France). But less than a year after *Peugeot’s* withdrawal from Iran, *Renault* then also left, despite its announcement of wanting to stay there. On 23 July 2013 *Iran Khodro* had still announced the conclusion of a contract for the construction of the small car ‘Clio’ in the country. The EU’s decision to refuse the Iranian banking sector access to the new network *Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication* (SWIFT) aggravated the situation.

These decisions show the American strategy to close the Iranian markets for foreign, especially French companies. On 3 June 2013, a few days before *Hassan Rohani’s* election, the US initiated a new law: President Obama signed an Executive Order Act 13645, focusing on the automotive sector. *Michel Makinsky* of the *France Business School* in Poitiers believes that the interests of the French automotive industry were directly targeted and that it is Obama’s goal to purge the Iranian market of any foreign competitors on the offchance that a rapprochement between Washington and Tehran might be achieved.

A French negotiator confirmed to *Figaro* that Obama, with this Executive Order, “aims at a real cleansing of the Iranian automotive market, which already prepares itself for American industrialists be-

Chancellor Merkel does not want Ukraine as an EU member as sanctions against Russia damage German industries and would affect gas supplies. The Chancellor has further stated that Ukraine is “free” to join the Eurasian Union with Russia and that NATO is “not on the agenda”.

This will not please the US or UK but means these steps should lead towards peace and a neutral Ukraine.

fore the political trade between Tehran and Washington” is concluded. By examining the composition and strategy of the powerful lobby group UANI the American strategy becomes clear. This organisation is composed partly of former high-ranking politicians and neoconservative military members (among others *Richard Holbrooke*, *Jim Wolsey*, CIA) who have close ties to the American intelligence service, as well as to the British, German and Israeli secret services. This is what *Alexandre Mandil* said in his article for the *Fondation Prometheus*.


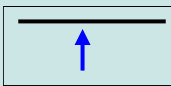
The consequences for *Renault* were not long in coming: The 746 million profit in the first trimester of 2012 declined to 39 million in the same period in 2013, because a commission of 512 million euro had to be paid for ceasing the activities.

The automotive sector is not the only sector affected. *Total* too, had to pay \$400 millions to the American authorities on 29 May 2013, so that the latter withdrew their corruption accusations in the framework of the Treaties with Iran. At the same time the US is feathering its own nests. The American exports to Iran have increased by 50% in recent years, while those of Europe decreased by half, since establishing of the oil embargo. Via Turkish middlemen the Americans sell computers, telephones, *Coca-Cola* and other consumer goods.

Comission's
trade figures

Quiz No. 142

What are the following?
All are to do with schools

1. peep peep
2. PLAN 
3. Perfume The Head
 The Head
4. Your Grapes
5. 
6. doctor teacher
 dentist teacher
 lawyer teacher
 fireman teacher

Answers No. 141

1. Fall in love forever
2. An inside job
3. Romantic
4. Cupids
5. Emergency
6. Chickinpox

Apologies to readers

This issue is late due to several reasons including: the rapidly changing political situation in many spheres to do with the EU; holidays; enjoying the sunny weather and other human factors.

Crossword answers to puzzle 141 will be published in the next issue along with a new crossword.

**Oppose all
Con-Dem cuts
and
austerity
policies.
They
emanate
from
Brussels**

Appeal for donations and subscriptions

We thank those of you who have sent a donation and their subscriptions over the past period which included some very generous gifts.

However, our Campaign and paper still faces a minor financial situation where we are spending more money than is coming in.

One way this could be resolved is if members and Democrat subscribers renewed their annual subscriptions. Renewals are indicated by the letter 'R' or 'RD' on right of the first line in the address on the label. It costs us 52p to send a reminder. If you have resigned please let us know.

Standing or banking orders are a way of near painless monthly payments of a few pounds. Ask for our bank details to make or a standing order.

What is CAEF up to?

The *Democrat* supplements on the First World War are proving very popular because it presents a perspective which nearly all books TV broadcasts, lectures fail to cover. After this current supplement there will be one more covering the period from 1916 to the Armistice, a cease fire, in 1918 and the failed Peace Treaty in 1919. What is not pointed out by most 'experts' is that the period between the 1918 Armistice and the outbreak of World War Two was *de facto* a cease-fire period.

Democrat Press will publish all five supplements as a pamphlet.

CAEF speakers have been invited to address organisations and meetings on our policies, the EU and the secret treaties of TTIP and CETA.

Further new leaflets will be available to print down from our website. These will be PDF files that can be printed in colour or black and white. These leaflets will include key *Democrat* articles and editorials.

How you can help

Taking leaflets and pamphlets for sale to meetings. Raising questions about the source of austerity and EU policies on a range of issues. Ask us for speakers or material.

Let the *Democrat* know of your success, problems and arguments you encounter.

Whose job is it?

This is a story about four people
Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and
Nobody.

There was a job to be done
And everybody was asked to do it.

Everybody was sure Somebody would
do it, Anybody could have done it but
Nobody did.

Somebody got angry about that
because it was Everybody's job.

Everybody thought Anybody could do
it but Nobody realised that Everybody
would not do it.

It ended up that Everybody blamed
Somebody when Nobody did what
Anybody could have done

A new plot called TTIP

Adapted from "I live in Trafalgar Square" composed by Clarence Wainwright Murphy in 1902, a staple of old time music hall This can be heard by various singers and groups on YouTube. The new words are by Tony Grace.

They've hatched a new plot called TTIP
We'd like to know more but I don't think we could.
They're afraid we shall find they're up to no good
It's a bit like a chef with a new recipe

Refrain:

Democracy is out
Secrecy is back
Workers watch out
for corporate flack

When the secret of their scheme leaks out
They'll tell You worry not; it brings prosperity
but for us who must labour there is no doubt,
TTIP is the herald of austerity

Refrains

Democracy is out
Autocracy is in
Our laws they flout
Let's make a din

How shall we fight these faceless few
who exploit our ignorance - we must learn more.
Their disdain for our rights we shall make them rue
for national protest they can not ignore.

Refrain

Democracy is out
Concealment is all
Workers strike out
their system must fall



Campaign against Euro-federalism

To join the *Campaign* I enclose £15 membership fee (£10 for unwaged)

Please make cheques or POs to **CAEF**

Name Date / / 2014

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I agree to abide by the rules of the *Campaign*

CAEF objectives, aims and rules can be found on the CAEF website or by request

As a member you will be sent copies of the *Democrat*

Return to CAEF, PO Box 46295, London W5 2UG

[d130]

Useful Websites

CAEF does not necessarily agree with everything in these sites

Campaign against Euro-federalism with data from current issue, many feature articles and back issues of the *Democrat*.

www.caef.org.uk

EUobserver reports daily on EU matters with links to other newspapers and sources.

www.euobserver.com

Scottish CAEF:

homepage.ntlworld.com/foster-prendergast/scaef/index.files

Stop TTIP committee

stopttip.net

Trade unionists against the EU Constitution (TUAECU):

tuaecuc.org

No2EU yes to democracy:

NO2EU.com

TEAM the European alliance of EU critical organisations.

www.teameurope.info

Democracy Movement, a broad movement with a large number of supporters:

www.democracymovement.org.uk

Campaign for an Independent Britain (CIB):

eurofaq.freeuk.com

Labour Euro-Safeguards Campaign, for Labour Party members:

lesc.org.uk

Peoples' Movement Ireland:

people.ie

National Platform of Ireland:

nationalplatform.org

German foreign policy group of journalists:

german-foreign-policy.com

Open Europe—an influential think tank of leading business people:

openeurope.org.uk

Corporate Europe Observatory (CEO):

eulobbytours.org

Data on other sites welcome

Campaign against Euro-federalism

The Campaign opposes:-

- the EU Constitution which hands over more powers to unelected and unaccountable bodies and reduces further the influence of Britain in the EU;
- the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, part II of the Constitution, because it takes rights away;
- the introduction of a Common Foreign and Security Policy and an EU Foreign Secretary;
- the formation of a European Army and battle groups as part of rapid reaction forces would be a threat to peace.

The Campaign is a democratic organisation and primarily oriented to the labour and trade union movement and people whom these organisations normally represent, including democrats, socialists, trade unionists, students and pensioners.

The Campaign is for democracy and accountability, independence, jobs the pound and against racism.

The Democrat

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Double Standards and Lie Ability

by Arthur Smelt

When the second world war ended and the full extent of the holocaust became known, sane and civilised human beings had difficulty grasping what had happened. Not only had mass murder of Jews taken place, but trade unionists, socialists and anyone who did not conform to Nazi intentions were also killed. Even mentally handicapped people were reportedly put to death.

Films about the war were on cinema circuits in profusion. One film depicting actions of the Nazi military showed scenes where a military band played music entitled *Deutschland uber alles* which summed up the intentions of Nazism to dominate.

Sadly this kind of striving for dominance of one group or nation over others has continued and goes on *ad infinitum* accompanied by the same sort of propaganda and lies used by the Nazis.

Successive governments in the USA and UK seem to have the idea that they can go almost anywhere and interfere politically, economically and militarily in countries thousands of miles away. The USA is said to have something like 1000 military bases scattered around the world. There has been US involvement in South and Central America, Asia, Africa, Europe and elsewhere.

The latest mess in the Middle East where thousands of innocent men, women and children are being killed and maimed, has involved amongst other things, massive support in arms and finance for an Israeli government hell bent on occupying land which does not belong to it in order to build up a dominant military and nuclear power. This is not a case of being anti Jewish. There are many Jews who do not agree with the Israeli regime. Maybe the music title should be applied to Israel and the USA *uber alles*.

Coming nearer to home we have the EU. The name and the accompanying propaganda make it sound like a union for the common good. An organisation aimed at the unselfish concern for the



welfare of ordinary citizens and working together with those aims in view.

The Nazis failed to dominate Europe by force of arms, but what we are witnessing now is a cunning attempt to dominate Europe by stealth for the benefit of oligarchic interests. We are told membership of the EU is necessary for trade, employment and to avoid being regarded as isolationist.

The propagators of such tosh must think they are addressing morons unable to see that widespread unemployment exists throughout Europe. As for trade, we import from the EU far more than we export there by creating a serious balance of payments deficit. They seem to forget that Switzerland in the very heart of Europe but not a member of EU, is a prosperous country with high employment rates. Britain's latest deficit figures for June were reported to be £9.4 billion, up on figures for May which were £9.2 billion. An early change in this situation seems highly unlikely. Trade sanctions imposed on Russia have exacerbated the already precarious trade situation in the EU.

Germany which is said to have the strongest economy in the EU, experienced a downturn from 0.7% in the first three months of the year, to 0.2% in the second quarter. France the second largest economy is stagnating with no growth for the last two quarters. Italy the third eurozone economy is in double dip recession after shrinking for two consecutive quarters. In some circles the view is expressed, is the eurozone going into double dip recession. Some countries have experienced slight growth to their depressed economies.

This toxic desire to control others did not go away with the defeat of Nazism. Unless human beings use what they regard as their superior intelligence to eliminate gross inequality, self interest and greed, little is going to change for the better.