



Trade unionists Against the EU will take message to TUC

Trade unionists Against the European Union (tuaeu.co.uk) will take the fight to get out of the EU prison house to delegates at a fringe meeting during the Trade Union Congress meeting in Brighton.

Labour MP Kelvin Hopkins, will promote his new pamphlet *The EU: a view from the left*, points out that the EU is anti-democratic, anti-socialist and, as long predicted, is in a process of economic decline.

He writes that the Tories largely support the EU because it is precisely a force for neoliberalism and privatisation.

TUAEU spokesman Brian Denny will make clear those in the labour movement that currently support EU membership will not be claiming that 'social Europe' will protect workers from Tory attacks including its vicious Trade Union Bill. That is largely because 'Social Europe' has died a very quiet and strange death.

The EU is now imposing zero-hours contracts, casualisation and poverty pay as well as smashing up collective bargaining across Europe as part of its structural adjustment programme known as austerity.

He will point out that even the European TUC, which interestingly recently campaigned for a 'Yes' vote in the Greek referendum for more austerity, openly admits that "cuts in salaries, cuts in public services and weakening collective bargaining rights are all on the agenda".

Helle Hagenau of No to the EU in Norway, will warn that the EU was cur-

rently negotiating secret trade deals which institutionalise irreversible mass privatisation of public services, lower safety standards and abolish tariffs for the world's largest corporations.

Helle will emphasise that these treaties, currently known as Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) with the US and CETA with Canada, create secret courts that allow transnational corporations to sue nation states for huge sums of money.

Trade union lawyer John Hendy will make clear that the EU's neoliberal employment model openly calls for wages to reflect productivity, which means cutting wages even further allegedly to compete with the 'core' high-investment economies of France and Germany.

This has sparked unprecedented levels of unemployment particularly in so-called 'peripheral' countries.

The European Commission, IMF and the European Central Bank now directly intervene in national wage negotiations in Ireland, Greece and Romania in order to weaken collective bargaining.

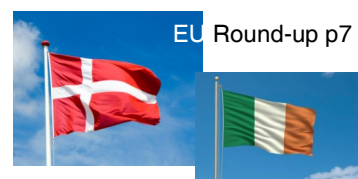
And it's working, for instance previously in Romania 98 per cent of workers were covered by collective agreements today that figure is around 20 per cent.

Brian Denny will warn that a new form of EU colonialism was developing whereby wealth was being directly transferred from the periphery to the core particularly in Greece and now Ukraine.

This colonial transfer of capital takes the form of interest payments on ever rising debt, creating permanent →



Germany-France and the euro crisis.
Horst Teubert p6



EU Round-up p7



Some EU myths of trade union and other rights—p 6-7



A new kind of Blitzkrieg? p8



What a world p12

Watch your language p9
Crossword and other puzzles p11

**The
European
Union**

**A View
from
the Left**
Kelvin Hopkins

See
Review
by
Tony
Grace
p9

Literature

The First World War: 100 years of Imperialism and Resistance



John Boyd and Brian Denny

From the imperialist's 'Scramble for Africa' to TTIP, ISDS and TNC's 'Scramble for the world'.

£3 post free or 5 copies £11

The National Question

Nationalism and Socialism
National sovereignty and defence
of the Nation State

C Desmond Greaves

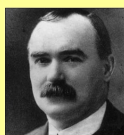


Commemorating
the centenary of
the birth of
C Desmond Greaves

and

75th Anniversary of

Connolly
Association



Introduction by
RMT General Secretary
Bob Crow

Democrat Publications
£2/£2.30

£2.50 post free. Five or more copies are £1.60 each post free

Social Europe is a Con



Introduction by RMT General Secretary Bob Crow
Contributors: Brian Denny, Alex Gordon,
Linda Kaucher and John Boyd (Editor)

£2.50 post free, 5 or more £1.60

Apologies for the lateness of this issue of the *Democrat*. This due to heavy commitments in the No! campaign.

→ austerity which enforces mass privatisation and allows the takeover of the colony's banking system and bank assets in order to transfer wealth to shareholders of the colonising country's private bankers and investors.

That is the structural adjustment model we are being asked to accept by the Europhiles yet working people don't want it, the labour movement is at a crossroads, embrace this imperialist nightmare or resist and say no more.

Trade Unionists against the EU

TUC fringe meeting 14 September

Vote No! to EU and EU's TTIP

Speakers:

Kelvin Hopkins *Labour MP*,
John Hendy *Labour lawyer*,
Helle Hagenau *No to the EU Norway*,
Brian Denny *TUAEU*

Monday lunchtime 12.30pm

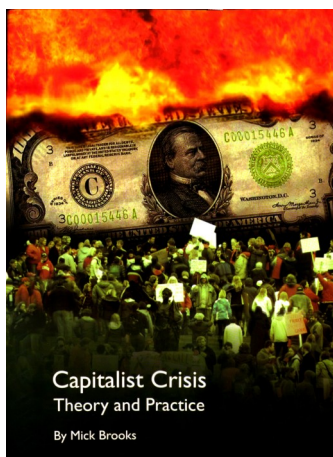
Venue:

The Old Ship Hotel, Kings Road,
Brighton, East Sussex, BN1 1NR

Advance notice of a TEAM public meeting on
7 November

Friends Meeting House Euston 10.30—16.30

There will be panels of euro-sceptic speakers from across
the continent of Europe and Britain



Available from Democrat
Press for £11 post free

The
European
Union

A View
from
the Left

Kelvin Hopkins

Labour Euro-Safeguards Campaign

Available from Democrat
Press for £1.50 post free



Pamphlet printed by and
available from Democrat
Press £1.50 post free.

An important aid to campaigning against TTIP

The Gauntlets are down on EU membership, TTIP and refugees

The EU is in yet another mess following hard fast behind the unresolved euro-crisis.

Now the EU has to square up to the consequences of interference in the Middle East by military forces and foreign policies from within the EU including Britain. Common sense speaks loudly about the reasons for the mass migration of refugees and asylum seekers attempting to reach a safe haven and work in the EU. War torn Syria and all the misery and loss of life need not have happened if the British and other governments had supported the sovereign government of Syria.

It is ironic that the southern EU Member States, especially Greece, who are subject to the euro crisis, are expected to solve the immediate problems they face caused by thousands of refugees. This is compounded by the abandonment of a long standing EU policy on free movement in the Schengen area. This area includes non-EU Members States - Norway and Switzerland.

A further irony is that even with her short period of terrible history, Germany has stated she will welcome and take 800,000 refugees largely from Syria. Even German football fans have waved banners welcoming the refugees. Germany did not take part in bombing Libya. Britain and France were largely responsible for that awful crime against humanity which followed the devastation wreaked on Iraq. This created a vacuum allowing IS/ISIS to step in and carry out what are tantamount to fascist acts and policies beyond comprehension.

Britain has always been a haven for refugees and asylum seekers and should continue to be so in a humane manner. Britain must take on its share of responsibility for those



seeking a decent life and allow these people the dignity of human beings.

TTIP and ISDS are further potential crises fraught with umpteen problems for labour and trade union movements and workers. The Referendum on EU membership must be used to stop TTIP which is planned to override governments, parliaments and electorates. TTIP is an extension of the EU which would bolt on the EU's single market on to the US market. It is plainly obvious that if one is against TTIP you cannot be pro-EU as that would be a complete contradiction.

CAEF fully supports and is part of the Trade Unionists against EU (TUAEU) which has made TTIP top of the agenda. CAEF is working in conjunction with the *Morning Star* by providing the paper with material including a weekly column 'How the EU Operates' by our CAEF Secretary. The *Star* is carrying plenty of material on the EU and TTIP and is the only daily newspaper to do so with full commitment and in any depth. This is part of the growing movement within the No! camp to both the EU and TTIP. Despite all the evidence the TUC and most trade unions against TTIP still retain the contradictory policy which supports Britain's EU mem-

bership.

Meanwhile the euro crisis gets worse as was bound to happen in the attempt to tie together EU Member States into a euro-zone. The major problem is that the European Central Bank controls interest and exchange rates. These key economic levers should and must eventually reside with national governments to control their economy. Greece has been turned into a colony within the EU as everything is turned over to privateers and run from outside this country. The Syriza government has turned out not to be left wing at all but at the beck and call of the euro-zone masters and has gone against the position and decision of its own electorate. These masters take the form of the ECB, European Commission, IMF and banks in Germany and France. The latter would be in serious difficulties, even bankrupt, if Greece dared exit the eurozone. This is why proposals are being tabled to have a government of the eurozone and all that goes with it.

It is time for Britain to get out of the EU and withdraw from the crises that are erupting from the attempt to bring about a superstate and Euro-federalism. Part of this can be achieved by obtaining as big a No! vote as possible.

Germany-France and the euro crisis

Horst Teubert of German Foreign Policy Group

As Greece has backed down her resistance against EU and IMF austerity dictats, a new quarrel is going on between Germany and France about how to solve the euro crisis in the long run.

France wants to introduce an economic government for the eurozone. The idea is not new at all. When at the beginning of the 1990s negotiations were being held on how to shape the common EU currency, the then President of the European Commission, French politician Jacques Delors, was clearly in favour of creating a European economic government. As the economies and the societies of the EU member states were quite disparate, it was obvious to Delors that political measures had to be taken to hold the euro zone together. Germany was in favour of a different solution. She pleaded for a rigid budgetary policy which all euro zone states would have to observe. After fierce struggle, Germany with her model prevailed. The result was the Stability and Growth Pact.

In spite of having lost the battle, the French elites have never given up the idea of an economic government for the euro zone. President Nicolas Sarkozy got back to it when the euro crisis escalated in 2010, but he could not assert himself against German Chancellor Angela Merkel who instead imposed new austerity dictats on the EU. François Hollande tried hard to break those dictats when he came to power, but he failed. Now, as the Greek government has given in and is imposing new cuts on the Greek population, Hollande demanded once more to finally introduce an economic government for the euro zone. As he



told *Le Journal du Dimanche* on 19 July, he wants a eurozone economic government having its own budget; everything shall be controlled by a parliament. This might open up a way to democratically reject the German austerity policies.

Germany, of course, opposes the French demands. At the end of July, the President of the German Institute for Economic Research (*Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung*) which is being financed by the state came up with a plan of his own. Formally agreeing to the idea of an economic government, he proposed that it should have the right to adjust national budgets by decree if they do not conform to EU rules.

The euro zone budget should be used to deny payments to countries which oppose Brussels' norms. In fact, his proposals reverse the French plan into its opposite, by creating a new instrument to enforce austerity. Several days later, another influential German think tank, the Cologne Institute for Economic Research, announced that it had developed a model for an insolvency statute for the euro zone.

According to this model, the European Stability Mechanism, an unelected bureaucratic body with headquarters in Luxembourg, will

have the right to initiate insolvency proceedings against any eurozone member, possibly resulting in an exit of the euro zone; this could be done by majority decision.

Most important, Germany's minister of finance Wolfgang Schäuble demands to strip the European Commission of important competences in the economic area. According to Schäuble, Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker exceeded his limits when he tried to find a political solution for Greece to avoid the imminent Grexit. To avoid this happening again in future crises, a new agency should be created to deal with any further violations of EU austerity policies on a merely technical basis.

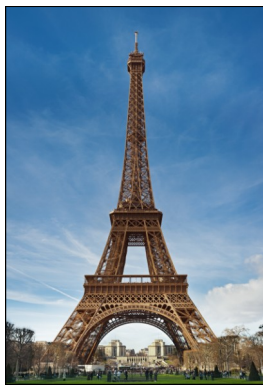
A model for the new agency could be the German Federal Cartel Office, declares Schäuble. This would mean that, in the future, it will be definitely impossible to find a political solution for any debt crisis.

German austerity dictats can't be evaded anymore because their imposition will be reduced completely to a technical matter. They will definitely be out of reach for democratic decision.

According to insiders, an official debate on the topic might be initiated this autumn. Because the French as well as the German plans

demand an EU Treaty change, some experts propose to discuss the matter together with British demands for an EU Treaty change. German in-

siders hope the Tory government might support German austerity plans against France in return for a German consent to Britain's demands. This could provide Berlin with the power to enforce its will upon the EU.



EU round up

Denmark is to hold a referendum between the Cameron Government and the Justice and Home Affairs the EU in a paper public exercise of opt-out agreed in the Maastricht Treaty in 1992 to an opt-in. The opt-out from the EU supranational justice policy means Denmark can co-operate bilaterally. This has very recently been sprung on the Danish electorate by their government, under pressure from the Commission, to take place on 3 December this year. This is a very short time for those who want to keep the opt-out and prevent further loss of sovereignty.



Britain and Ireland are the only other EU Member State to have this opt-in facility where parliament can decide on a case by case basis.

If the Danish referendum is lost by the opponents led by the Peoples' Movement of Denmark then Britain will come under increasing pressure to water down or give up altogether the opt-in. This could be part of the deal struck be-

keep it very quiet.

Another pending attack on Danish sovereignty is an EU banking union. Again, Britain like Denmark has an opt-out from the eurozone. (also see opposite *Germany-France*) This makes it important for the No! camp in Britain to show solidarity with Denmark on their defence of Danish sovereignty.

If you are able and would like to help in the Danish Referendum please contact CAEF. Make note that you will have to fend for yourself in Denmark—it is not a freebie! Any contribution towards a Danish No! vote would be solidarity

Ireland is one of the eurozone's founding members who are further apart economically than they were at the launch of the single currency, a "disappointing" outcome, defying the premise that laggards would slowly catch up, according to the EU Central Bank—but not a word about Germany's huge surplus, which is the primary agent of this disimprovement.



Early members failed to recognise that lower borrowing costs would only provide a temporary boost and, left unchecked, would actually lead to many of the troubles that plunged the bloc into its debt crisis as cheap money, mainly from Germany and France, flooded the peripheral countries.

"Progress towards real convergence among the 12 countries that formed the euro area in its initial years has been disappointing," the ECB said in an economic bulletin.(ecb.europa.eu)

Membership of the euro zone pushed down the cost of borrowing, fuelling unsustainable credit-driven growth. Governments assumed this would last, leading to unrealistic growth expectations. Italy, originally a higher-income country, recorded the worst performance, suggesting substantial divergence from the high-income group.

But don't be misled by Ireland's comparatively favourable position. It's mainly driven by transfer pricing and the financial services industry and doesn't filter down to ordinary people. Private-sector debt tells a different, scary story.

It's just as well that Britain did not join the eurozone! But, we only have an opt-out where even today with the euro zone in deep crisis some in the European Movement want Britain to join.

(Based on Irish Peoples' Movement paper)

EU opposition

Ireland

More than 80,000 people took to the streets of Dublin at the weekend to march against EU-imposed water charges.

The huge demonstration was the fifth major protest against charges being levied by Irish Water, which began in April, and was organised by umbrella campaign group Right2Water.

Charging people for water was a condition of the 2010 "bailout" agreement imposed on Ireland by the "troika" — EU, IMF and European Central Bank — that has since presided over the cuts and privatisations in Greece.

Marchers carried banners reading: "It's your water, it's our water. It's not their water to sell" and "Water is a human right."

Irish Congress of Trade Unions president John Douglas said the water bills were "just the tip of the austerity iceberg."

Civil and Public Services Union activist Dee Quinlan said the demo was "to show that we will no longer pay for the sins of the property speculators, top-tier bankers, centre-right politicians and their pursuit of the policies of austerity."



"If we accept these charges, we are then in acceptance of the inevitable privatisation of water in this country."

"And then we need to change the type of society we live in to one based on equality, fairness and solidarity rather than one based on greed and exploitation."

(*Morning Star* 31.8.15)

CAEF Press Statement
(2.9.15)

EU Commission's blatant and illegal interference

The European Commission is interfering in the internal affairs of Britain. There is already clear a indication the Commission will pour money, material and misinformation into every nook and cranny to obtain support for Britain remaining an EU Member State.

The Commission has no power or right to intervene as the subject of the referendum is whether or not Britain annuls an EU Treaty.

It is significant that Denmark is holding, at very short notice, a referendum on 3 December over whether or not to join the EU's Justice and Home Affairs Policy which was previously an intergovernmental arrangement.

No doubt talks at the EU level and between Britain and Denmark have deliberately put the Danish referendum before one due in Britain. A win by the Danish government will be used to persuade voters in Britain to stay in the EU.

Other referendums that Denmark will face, which currently like Britain, is outside the eurozone includes joining the EU Banking Union and Military aspect of the EU.

In time Britain will be pressed to abandon the case by case opt-in of the EU Justice and Home Affairs policy and could be part of the horse-trading between Cameron and the EU.

Further reasons to vote No!

CAEF Website

This site contains nearly 600 pages of information and links to other anti EU organisations websites

*See
www.cae.org.uk*

Some myths of EU trade

A great deal is often made about the supposed improvements to employment rights brought about by Britain's membership of the European Union. This summary aims to show that, on the contrary, most of the basic laws were passed by Labour Governments during the 1970's, with trade union support. During the following decades, the EU refined some of this legislation into Directives and has laid claim to be progressive, in an attempt to keep workers and trade unions passive and quiescent. Yet the EU has not lifted a finger to change the anti-trade union legislation in Britain, kept in place by both, Tory, New Labour and Tory/LibDem Coalition Governments. A further attack on union rights and right to strike is planned by the Tory Government.

Indeed, working people across the EU are now faced with attacks on established trade union collective bargaining of terms and conditions, social dumping in pursuit of profits, enforced austerity and mass employment in some countries and what amounts to Thatcherism on a European scale. As the European TUC General Secretary Bernadette Segol said in June 2011 "cuts in salaries, cuts in public services and weakening collective bargaining rights are all on the agenda". The EU is not "Europe" but a political construct imposed on the peoples of Europe. It is time to leave and to vote No! in the referendum.

Legislation passed by Labour Governments in the 1970's includes:

Equal Pay Act 1970 - Prohibited any less favourable treatment between men and women in terms of pay and conditions of employment.

Trade Union and Labour Relations Act 1974 - Established the Labour Party employment law programme.

Employment Protection Act 1975 - Established the industrial (later called employment) tribunals system separate from the formal courts system, Health and Safety at work Act 1974 established

the basic regime for health and safety.

Sex Discrimination Act 1975 - Protected men and women from discrimination on grounds of sex or marital status

Race Relations Act 1976 (which built on 1965 and 1968 Acts) - Prohibited unlawful discrimination on grounds of race, colour, nationality, ethnic origin in employment, provision of services. The Commission for Racial Equality (CRE) was established.



Some EU Directives subject to later interpretation by the ECJ include

Right to paid annual leave four weeks - The ECJ ruled against Britain on this in 1996

Maternity and Paternity leave - Through Equal Treatment Directive

Maximum 48 hours working week (with opt outs) - Through the Working Time Directive. However, in France, 35 hours a week had already been achieved through trade union and Government action.

Collective Redundancies Directive and Acquired Rights Directive - Applicable

when a business is sold on.

European Works Councils (for large companies)

- Gives rights to "consultation" but does

not stop job losses across the EU through closures or moving to cheaper labour areas.

Posted Workers Directive - see references to ECJ cases below.

Temporary and Agency Workers Directive - This is not primarily intended to

protect non-permanent labour but to make such activity the norm.

The Norwegian TUC (Norway is outside the EU) held a general

strike in 2012 against their Government's planned implementation of this Directive into national law and the social dumping that would ensue. Norwegian law in this area is some of the best in the world.



union and other rights*

EU foundation and the role of the European Court of Justice in interpreting the laws

The legal basis for the EU can be traced back to the 1957 Treaty of Rome which enshrined the creation of a single market with four fundamental freedoms of movement of goods, persons (labour), services and capital. The role of the European Court of Justice (ECJ) is to police this free market and this must necessarily involve attacking national legislation protecting workers and trade union rights that are in conflict with the central free trade principles. In this regard, collective action is a restriction on free movement and the ECJ has ruled accordingly. Before detailing those rulings, it is important to recall the role of the UK Thatcher Government in pushing through the 1986 Single European Act (SEA) which established a Single European Market enshrining the four freedoms and replacing the rule of unanimity with qualified majority voting (QMV) in the Council of Ministers. The architects of this were corporate interests across the EU.

ECJ rulings that have attacked employment rights

Viking Ferries (11/12/2007) - The Finnish Seamen's Union took industrial action against members being replaced with cheaper labour.



The ECJ ruled that this violated the rights of the employer to freedom of establishment and to provide services.

Vaxholm-Laval (18/12/2007) - Laval (a Latvian company) employed Latvian workers on a Swedish contract in Vaxholm outside Stockholm that were paid much less



than within a local collective agreement. The ECJ agreed to this social dumping in the name of free movement.

Luxembourg case - Luxembourg offered workers better conditions than in the

Posted Workers Directive. The ECJ ruled this was illegal.

Ruffert case (2008) - The ECJ ruled that a state in Germany was forbidden the right to require respect for normal salaries in public construction work

Some industrial disputes that have preceded or followed these ECJ rulings include:-

Irish Ferries company

- replaced 600 Irish seafarers with labour from Eastern Europe at considerably lower rates of pay



Staythorpe (Nottinghamshire) C new power station 2009 - GMB and Unite held many demonstrations after Alstom recruited non-UK contract labour on lower pay with 160 UK workers given notice and refused to consult properly. Alstom also used 200 Polish workers on a project in Poland but refused to let UK workers apply.

Lindsey Oil Refinery (Lincs) 2009 - 800 local contract workers went on strike after an Italian firm brought in 250 Italian workers on lower rates.

The EU is clearly intent on using the free movement of labour, capital and services to undermine and destroy hard-won labour standards and our public services. The European TUC (ETUC) which is understood to receive 80% of its funding from the EU Commission has proposed a legally binding social protocol to safeguard workers against ECJ decisions. It is our opinion that this plea will get nowhere. The EU was not set up to make it easy for workers but to pursue corporate interests. It is indeed Thatcherism on a European scale as was the intention. The only rational course is to leave the EU so that each state can make its own labour laws and run its own currency and economy.

Researched and compiled by Tony Wardle—CAEF Executive Committee member and Treasurer of Exeter Trades Council

This piece will be available as a leaflet

Another EU mess

Migration

It is hard to know what planet Nigel Farage is on when he claims the EU has "sent a message" that refugees are welcome.

How, exactly, is this message being sent?

By the cramped and crowded detention centres springing up in Greece, Italy and other EU Member States?

By the razor-wire fence being constructed on the borders of Hungary to keep out foreigners?

By the massive subsidies given to countries such as Bulgaria in order to boost their "border security"?

Farage intends to make immigration a major plank of his xenophobic party's campaign to leave the EU. In casually mixing migration statistics, which show record numbers of mostly EU citizens coming to live and work in Britain, and the refugee crisis which has exploded in the Middle East and is beginning to lap against Europe's shores, he is doing precisely what the *Morning Star* predicted — confusing two separate issues to foster hatred, division and fear.

In this context, Yvette Cooper's call for distinguishing asylum-seekers fleeing "a new totalitarianism in the Middle East," by which she presumably means the genocidal Isis terror group, and economic migrants is a step forward.

Unfortunately, in common with the other Labour leadership candidates with the — as ever — honourable exception of Jeremy Corbyn, she has not acknowledged the key role that Britain's foreign policy choices have played in setting fire to the Middle East. (Part of *Morning Star* Editorial 2.9.15)

CAEF comment—The stance of UKIP is no way to obtain unity and is full of dangers for the NO to EU camp.

Reflections

Tony Donaghey*

Whilst not navel-gazing on the outcome of the recent general election result, to ensure proper consideration of activity and campaigning it is necessary to examine what issues were missing that the labour and trade union movement failed to press for, but failed, and instead allowed a personal cult TV oriented campaign with consequently little input from other than politicians. It therefore lacked important matters such as the EU, TTIP, how to end austerity, trade union rights etc.

We as democrats now have to pick up the pieces and CAEF and the Democrat will continue the campaigns and try to connect with trade unionists and activists to clarify the route ahead. CAEF supports the newly formed Trade Unionists against the EU (TAEU). It is apparent I think that many in England are blaming the Scots for Labour's failure to win a majority. The writing was on the wall during the Scottish Referen-

dum when a massive participation of voters, many of them young who were voting for the first time, did not trust the Westminster Government and the opposition's approach to what they thought was denying democracy for Scotland.

Unfortunately many in England were confused about the importance of 'Democracy and the Nation-State' and took an outdated imperialist stance towards Scotland or concentrated on class politics.

In the oncoming campaign on EU membership and TTIP, there is a vital responsibility on us to get through to all who seek real democracy, that unless we defeat TTIP and other trade deals such as CETA, and withdraw from the EU we will lose national democracy and consequential ability to have control of our own affairs.

We also have to persist that Nationalism is not a danger. We should be proud of our respective nations and our history in our efforts to combat our ruling class and imperialism, and unite in international solidarity with workers and democ-



rats of other nations who are engaged in defending democracy eg the people of Greece who are at present in struggle against the EU and its central bank, the IMF, the World Trade Organisation and other such bodies.

Capitalism is in crisis and Imperialism is hell-bent in making workers pay. It is using EU, TTIP and all other such trade organisations to do it. That is why I think democrats cannot abdicate their responsibilities to oppose them.

**Tony Donaghey is a former RMT President and a member of the CAEF Executive Committee*

A new kind of Blitzkrieg?

Seventy-five years ago, when large parts of Europe succumbed to Nazi Germany, it was the sound of trundling panzer tanks rolling into capitals that heralded defeat.

Now it is German "panzer banks" that appear conquering all in front of them. The financial terms dictated to Athens over the latest so-called bailout is nothing less than the subjugation of a sovereign country to the dictat of German banks. The troubling question for several European states is: who's next?

Even the Western media could not disguise the shocking humiliation meted out to Greece by Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel and her

intransigent Finance Minister Wolfgang Schäuble. The *Washington Post* described Greece's acquiescence as a "punishing ultimatum", while Reuters said Athens had "surrendered".

The Western media haven't quite yet specified who the new financial dictators of Europe are. Reports refer blandly to "EU hardliners" and "tough EU leaders", but reading between the lines it is clear that the paymaster calling the tune now for the rest of Europe is Berlin. And the tune is not melodious.

The Greek "anti-austerity" government of Alexis Tsipras has been shamed into turning the country over to Berlin's finance capital. For a €86 billion "loan" extension, Greece is mandated to hand over €50 billion of Greek public assets that will in the future be privatised by "EU creditors", who in reality are the



German government and its banks.

On top of that, Athens will have to implement more withering austerity on its long-suffering people; and if Athens doesn't meet the targets then Berlin will dispatch its shock-troops in pinstripe suits to ensure that it does. It's a financial scorched-earth blitzkrieg that effectively makes Greece a "German annex".

(Extract from *Sputnik News* report by Fenian Cunningham 15.7.15)

The European Union - A View from the Left*

by Kelvin Hopkins MP

For anyone who has ever been challenged by the complexities of the economic theories and arguments about the European Union, they should be pleased to find that this pamphlet by Kelvin Hopkins MP provides a succinct overview of the main aspects of the menace to Socialism, the working class and indeed social democratic government in a language that is immediately accessible to the general reader.

The whole sorry history of the development of the anti democratic European Superstate is set out in short paragraphs under such headings as: Common Market origins; key role of Germany; UK membership; 1973 a Tory coup; and the 1975 Referendum, to name but a few of the most significant.

The Author claims to be puzzled, as are many other on the left, by the stubborn opposition to the EU by some Tory MP's. The answer to that conundrum may be found in that outstanding work on "The National Question" by the late C Desmond Greaves (see p2) which I would urge all Labour MP's, who are opposed to the surrender to EU domination by our pusillanimous political leaders, to read in depth.

This is not to quibble with the main thrust of the message of this scholarly polemic. The fallacious argument that we would lose jobs and business opportunities if we left the EU has been brilliantly demolished under the title : "Britain Outside the EC. The pro argument is condemned as "pure Goebbels" and a "willful distortion of the facts". The key paragraph is: "Britain actually imports billions of pounds worth more of goods from the European Union than it exports to it . This amounts to a trade deficit of £1billion a week; over £50 billion a year equivalent to the export of a million jobs from Britain to continental EU".

This work carries the following warning with the benefit of hindsight can be seen as prophetic: "If Labour goes into the election opposing a referendum on the EU, it would be tragic if the Tories were permitted to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat by a Labour decision to oppose the people at least having the choice on the issue of EU membership." It was tragic indeed and further proof if any were still needed of the woeful refusal to face the question of sovereignty. Even this excellent pamphlet seems to focus more on the narrow economic issues, which vital as they are, can't exceed the importance of the national question.



Kelvin Hopkins MP

For example the concluding chapter begins: "The European Union is about Economics, neo liberal economics, monetarist capitalism; economic theories that do not work."

This is undoubtedly correct and there is much in this final section to commend it. The claims of Europhiles that TU rights would be lost if we left the EU is comprehensively refuted. As the author says: "The simple counter argument is that Labour could and should commit to the re-establishing of rights taken away by the Tories and (the late) coalition."

There is, at last, in the very concluding paragraph an allusion to the paramount issue of national sovereignty: "EU supranationalism isa political construct imposed on most of the peoples of Europe.... It is designed to break the hold of national government." The suggestion is put that economic failings alone will destroy the EU and restoring national currencies will be the first crucial step to "restoring democracy to national parliaments."

Kelvin Hopkins MP is parliamentary advisor to TUAEU.

*Published by Euro-safeguards Campaign and available from Democrat Press £1.50 post free.

Definitions

Watch your language

Competition

Competition in EU speak means privatisation and making sure their are increasing profits and exploitation.

Competition was introduced into the NHS by the Blair government and is now used being used to tear the NHS apart. Companies involved will still carry the NHS emblem.

London buses are all coloured red, more or less, to hide the fact that there are different competing companies running the lucrative bus services.

Competition was introduced into the railways via an EU directive followed by EU rail packages. The selling point made by governments is that competition would bring down costs. Every regular rail passenger knows by their light purses and wallets the opposite is the case.

European Movement speakers shout that there must be even more competition as public services are turned over to 'franchises', a posh name for privatisation.

Competition has filled heads away from "Workers of the World Unite" into Workers of the World Compete".

Oppose all cuts and austerity policies - make clear to all that they emanate from Brussels

Quiz No. 147

What are the following ?

1. Loautumnve
ever x 4
2. JOANB
3. Nero ✓
4. pidpidpidpidpidpid
5. A B^C D E F G
6. pochicx

Answers No. 146

1. Postman
2. Criminal
3. Right between the eyes
4. Three men in a boat
5. Son of a gun
6. Mother in law

Former member from the past

...My purpose in writing to you is to enquire whether your organisation (in conjunction, perhaps with other organisations), has launched a concerted campaign to secure a No! vote at the referendum that David Cameron has promised on the subject of this country's continued membership of the EU...As regards my own position I become ever more opposed to the EU and everything that it stands for. To the extent that I am convinced that, for the sake of freedom and democracy in this country, we *must* leave the EU—and we must do so as soon as possible. David Cameron's negotiations with the EU *cannot*, I believe, result in any proposals that would be in the interests of the people of this country. Therefore I believe that people, like myself, who value freedom and democracy in this country *must* vote No! in the forthcoming referendum as a matter of principle.

I believe that CAEF, and other anti-EU organisations, will be able to make very good use of the recent horrific experience of the Greek people in your campaign for a No! vote....Moreover, though I am not a member

of his party, I am gratified to hear Jeremy Corbyn (the present front runner in the LP leadership election campaign) making decidedly anti-NATO and anti-EU noises....

J Wormleighton, Northampton

Accolades

The *Democrat* is going from strength to strength after nearly 25 years—congratulations and please keep going during this important period in the run-up to the Referendum. A donation to help is enclosed.

K Briggs, Bradford

There is a lot going on behind the EU scenes some of which DAEF manages to dig out and expose. I hope you keep digging and exposing the skuldugger especially that of this awful government we have at the moment. It is vital that we get as many No! votes as practical in the Referendum. Please keep up your good work.

J Williams, Sevenoaks, Kent

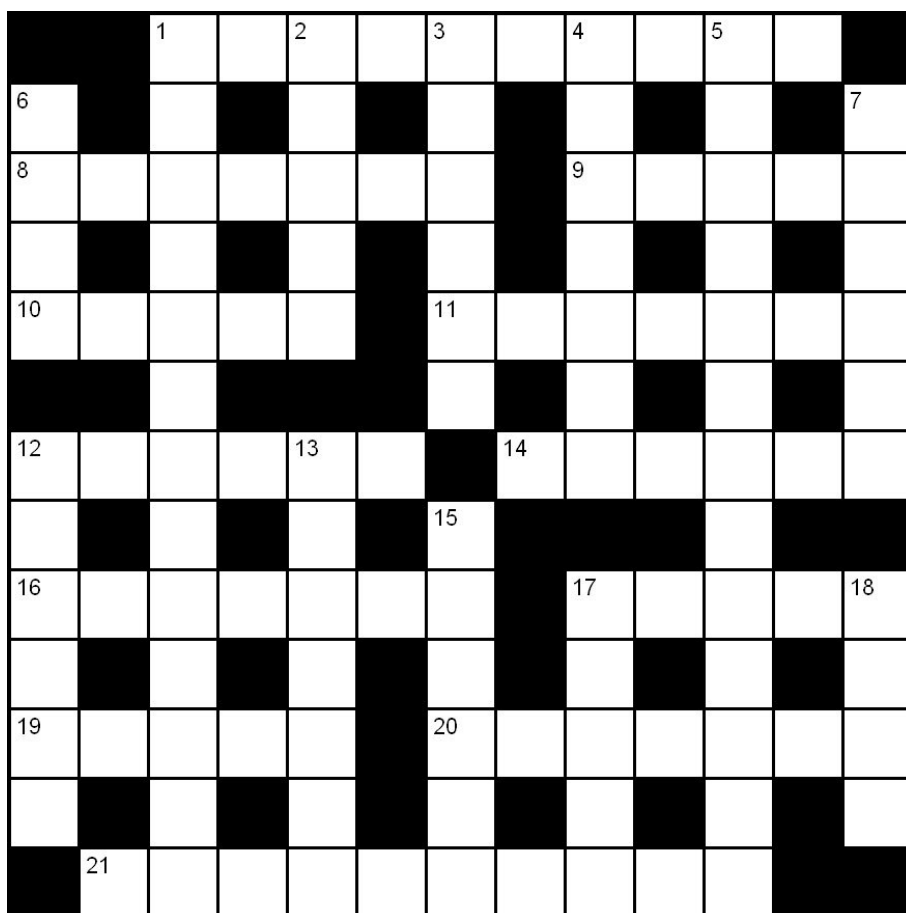
Succinct letters are welcome plus emails

ACROSS

- 1 Worldwide computer network (10)
- 8 Physical touch (7)
- 9 Ascend (5)
- 10 Rub out (5)
- 11 Building (7)
- 12 Exclusive circle (6)
- 14 Cooking instructions (6)
- 16 Nonsense (7)
- 17 Respectable (5)
- 19 Monk (5)
- 20 Opening (7)
- 21 Not anticipated (10)

DOWN

- 1 Pollution (13)
- 2 Knife edge (5)
- 3 On the contrary (6)
- 4 Diversion (7)
- 5 Removal of impurities (13)
- 6 Unit of area (4)
- 7 Cut (6)
- 12 Detached by cutting (3,3)
- 13 Live through (7)
- 15 Reconsider (6)
- 17 Radiate (5)
- 18 Food shop (4)



Crossword No. 147

In Memoriam and honour of three founding members of CAEF

Raymond Softly

A founding member of CAEF and the Democrat, he died on 24 June this year eight days short of his 100th birthday. Typically characteristic of Raymond was that he donated his body to Science.

Sam Watts

Was a life-long, political activist and trade unionist in Liverpool. He was a founding member of CAEF and helped convene meetings in Liverpool for CAEF speakers to attend.

Charles Starkey

A long standing anti-marketeer since before Britain joined the EEC in 1973. He was treasurer of the Campaign for an Independent Britain and a leading member of the Labour Euro-Safeguards Campaign and a founding member of CAEF.

**Solution
No. 146**

Let's get going Appeal

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

However, our Campaign and paper still faces a minor financial crisis and we are part of the No! camp in the Referendum campaign. That means we need as big a financial resource as possible in our 'war' chest.

Bank transfers can be made to the CAEF Co-operative bank account with the sort code 08-92-99 and account number 65476899.

Renewals of subs would help too!



Useful Websites

CAEF does not necessarily agree with everything in these sites

Campaign against Euro-federalism with data from current, many feature articles and back issues of the Democrat (over 600 pages).

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

Trade Unionists against the EU (TUAEU):

tuaeu.co

Morning Star, daily paper opposed to the EU:

morningstaronline.co

TEAM the European alliance of EU critical organisations.

www.teameurope.co

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—links to all sites can be found on caef.org.uk

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

Address

email address

.....

..... Postcode

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]

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 so called trade treaties such as TTIP, CETA and ISDS which are grave threats to all forms of democracy and national independence;
- 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

Available on subscription of £5 for five issues. The paper is posted free to members of CAEF—membership is £15 (£10 unwaged), affiliations £20 minimum.

Published by

**Campaign against
Euro-federalism**

PO Box 46295
London W5 2UG

Tel 0845 345 8902
caef@caef.org.uk

www.caef.org.uk

Printed by

Democrat Press

Arthur Smelt says

What a World

At the present time man perturbing events seem to be taking place in the world. At the time of writing the horrendous shootings in Tunisia took up considerable new space. It is also the anniversary of the London bombings which also reminds us of the 9/11 death and destruction in New York. All of it, unbelievably, frightening behaviour by human beings, regarded as mindless terrorism.

For centuries governments of the developed world have exploited the less advanced countries of Africa and Asia extracting not only material riches but abducting people from their homeland as slaves. Later the British Empire on which the sun never set became the commonwealth, a more respectable name which changed very little else.

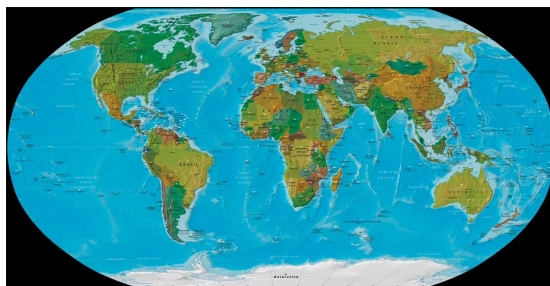
This scant historical background is a pointer to some of the recent day happenings. The difference being that the leading emblem is the Stars and Stripes rather than the Union Jack. Political, economic and military interference in the affairs of countries around the world is mainly at the behest of Uncle Sam.

Over the years, innumerable countries have had their borders violated and governments interfered with. Millions of people have been killed, maimed or displaced. In Vietnam for example, two million people were killed in the US attempt to occupy and control that country. In addition the use of Napalm and a most toxic chemical, Dioxin, was widely used. It was reported that an area the size of Yorkshire was sprayed with Dioxin, the effects of which are still around.

The decision to behave in such a barbaric manner is made by a handful of politicians and oligarchs. Ordinary people have no say whatsoever, but are expected to pay their taxes and provide the cannon fodder as they do to cover the military activities in Iraq, Afghanistan and Libya etc, at the present

time. Just how many people have been killed, injured and displaced is seldom reported. Is it not just possible that 9/11, the London bombings and Tunisia are a form of reprisal? It could also be the reason why so many thousands are utterly desperate to leave Africa for a better life elsewhere in Europe.

A very worrying aspect of all this is that the EU makes its decisions in pretty much the same way. One glaring example is the imposition of a common currency in the form of the Euro throughout Europe without any consultation of those who would be using it. Another big deception was the assertion that the EU would see an end to wars in Europe. It is now 20 years since over 8,000 were massacred at Srebrenica in the former Yugoslavia when it was carved up to make it more susceptible to being absorbed into the EU. Blanket bombing also took place during these hostilities. This kind of attack is indiscriminate and tantamount to state terror, as is the current use of drones.



The situation in Greece is quite worrying. Not only to the ordinary people of Greece who are suffering privation of every kind, but there are other EU

states suffering similar problems though less severe.

When Greece hosted the 2004 Olympic Games it was a factor which contributed towards their economy being financially crippled. Widespread corruption, bad administration and Goldman Sachs fiddling the books made the abject mess now being experienced by Greece. The oligarchs with power and influence should have seen this many years ago instead of trying to squeeze the rank and file with austerity policies.

The story of Robin Hood was that he took from the rich and gave to the poor. The systems we have in place now enable the rich to get even richer and the poor to get clobbered.