

**REASONS TO LEAVE  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**10**

**REASONS TO OPPOSE  
BREAKING UP BRITAIN**



A leaflet from the Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist)



# 10 REASONS TO LEAVE THE EUROPEAN UNION

## 1 **Because the EU is for capitalism, not the working class**

It was set up to enforce “free” markets – the free movement of capital, labour and goods – to provide greater and greater profits while suppressing wages.

## 2 **Because the EU wants to break up Britain**

The EU exists to destroy national sovereignty. It was created to sweep away the concept of nation. Nations are real. The EU drive is to dismember nations – divide and rule to leave the field to finance capital.

## 3 **Because the EU is a danger to peace**

It is seeking to create a European Army, while inciting reaction and war on behalf of US capitalism, for example now with Syria and Iran. The call for a European state echoes Germany’s World War 2 aims.

## 4 **Because the EU is a failure – and an expensive failure**

It has created only chaos and destruction, while its grand plan founders on the resistance of awkward national electorates. In 2010 our net contribution to the EU was £9.2 billion. We can use this money for ourselves.

## 5 **Because we can only survive and prosper outside the EU**

EU trade represents just 20 per cent of global trade – we can trade with the other 80 per cent, and still trade with the EU outside it, as do Norway and Switzerland. They talk about “little Englanders”, but in truth the “little Europeans” are perverting and narrowing Britain’s trade and industry.

## 6 **Because the idea of a “European people” is a lie**

There is no such thing as the people of Europe. Each nation has its own people and its own working class with its own interests to assert.

## 7 **Because the EU is a capitalist prison**

The EU shackles its inmates with 30,000 Directives and Regulations intended to govern every aspect of our lives – imposing their laws, undermining our liberties, enforcing privatisation of public services.

## 8 **Because the EU is using the euro crisis to gain more power**

The euro was intended to be the chain to bind the prisoners in perpetuity. With the euro falling apart, the bureaucrats are out of control. The EU ensures banks pocket their huge profits while workers bail out the losses incurred by their disastrous speculation.

## 9 **Because inside the EU we cannot control our own borders**

The EU promotes the movement of vast numbers of people in search of work. Immigration and emigration are two sides of the same problem as migration depletes some countries of skills while undermining pay in others. They intend only unemployment and rootlessness for us as we move from country to country.

## 10 **Because Britain must focus on its own problems**

We can make what we need, feed ourselves, control our territorial waters, trade with the world, be a sovereign nation. They say global capitalism can’t be resisted – but look at developments in Latin America. Like Cuba we must assert workers’ nationalism as the true basis for internationalism. We only have to decide to do it.

# 10 REASONS TO OPPOSE BREAKING UP BRITAIN

## 1 **Because capitalism wants to break up the British working class**

The industrial revolution created one working class in Wales, Scotland and England, whether we worked in a mill in Yorkshire, a mine in Wales or a shipyard in Scotland. We have been united for 300 years. The ruling class has abandoned Britain. Some ultra-leftists will not even speak the word “Britain”. The only people who care about Britain are the working class.

## 2 **Because our unity is essential for the war against capitalism**

One class, one voice. When the workers at Lindsey oil refinery demanded British jobs for British workers, across Britain workers knew the dispute was about the last remaining national agreement in the construction industry. Workers in Wales and Scotland took supportive action, identifying themselves as British workers.

## 3 **Because separatists would adopt the failed euro**

The euro would doom Scotland to dependence. Remember Alex Salmond’s “Arc of Prosperity” – Ireland, Iceland and Scotland. The first two “booming” economies promptly went bust.

## 4 **Because separatists would surrender Scotland’s identity**

The EU breaks up nation states, splitting the working class for ease of exploitation. Scotland would not be independent – it would be run by Brussels and Washington. Salmond’s Yes Scotland camp has a multimillion-pound budget bankrolled through the EU and the US, with celebrities and leftists cheerleading from the sidelines.

## 5 **Because a separate Scotland would face bankruptcy**

Salmond claims grandly that Scotland would keep the oil money but offload its debts. A former RBS economist, he wrote to Fred Goodwin urging him on to the disastrous deal that caused the bank to fail. Now he claims that England and Wales will have to bail out the bank’s £187 billion black hole. Scotland cannot survive alone economically.

## 6 **Because a separate Scotland could become a nuclear power**

Imagine the likes of Salmond in charge of their own army, with their own nuclear weapons.

## 7 **Because further devolution would be de facto separation**

“Devo max” is a move towards separation. In a referendum the question should be a simple Yes or No to separation from Britain, with the whole of Britain entitled to vote. And let’s also vote on whether to abolish Holyrood.

## 8 **Because the break-up of nations is dangerous**

Breaking up nations has unpredictable consequences – look at what happened in Yugoslavia and Sri Lanka. Break-up leads to conflict and war.

## 9 **Because separatism would lead to internal border controls**

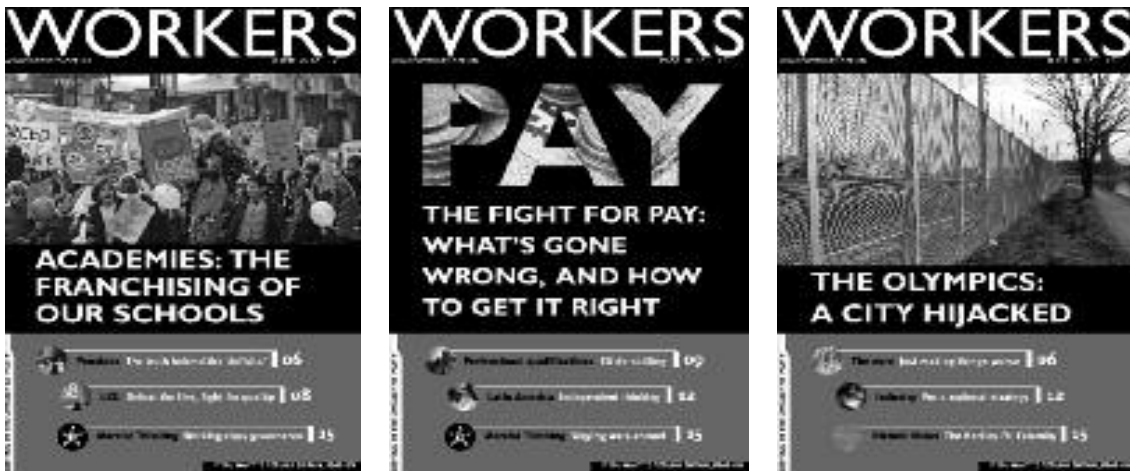
Separation would lead to border controls with England, with currency exchange needed.

## 10 **Because we are one nation with common interests**

Workers have forged the nation of Britain, its culture. All of it is our common legacy. Deindustrialisation has weakened us but those common interests remain the same and are far more important than any regional differences.







WORKERS is published monthly by the Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist). To subscribe for a year (11 issues), send a cheque for £15 inc. p&p, payable to WORKERS to 78 Seymour Avenue, London N17 9EB. Or subscribe online at [www.workers.org.uk](http://www.workers.org.uk).



The Communist Party of Britain's 2012/2013 series of London public meetings begins on 27 September, with further meetings on 15 November, 12 February and 11 June; all are held in the Bertrand Russell room, Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, Holborn, London WC1R 4RL, nearest Tube Holborn, and start at 7.30 pm.

Other meetings are held around Britain. The theme of the first meeting, on Thursday 27 September, is: "The European Union – War on Europe's Peoples". Details of further meetings will be announced in WORKERS and at [www.workers.org.uk](http://www.workers.org.uk).

The Party's annual London May Day rally is always held on May Day itself, regardless of state bank holidays – in 2013, Wednesday 1 May, in Conway Hall, Holborn, 7.30 pm. There will also be May Day meetings elsewhere in the country.

As well as our regular public meetings we hold informal discussions with interested workers and study sessions for those who want to take the discussion further.

If you have views about this leaflet, or want to know more about us, call us on 020 8801 9543 or e-mail to [info@workers.org.uk](mailto:info@workers.org.uk)

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