

Ø Brexit

A) History focused on the UK

1973 : Entry of the UK in the EEC

It was above all borne by the Conservative party. The Labour was against.

In 1983, the ruler of the Labour, Michael Foot, wrote a manifest for the exit of the EU.

About the establishment of the common market

It corresponds to the will of wiping out the remembrance of the bloody confrontations that occurred between 1914 and 1945. It was also aimed at putting an end to protectionism, that limits the economic, and thus the cultural relations.

1975 UK EEC membership referendum

67,23% of voters chose to remain.

Margaret Thatcher

She was a support of the EEC but as soon as she became Prime Minister, she revisited what she considered as an injustice : the UK paid more than what they received (for example about farming subsidies).

In 1990, she refused the common currency in a speech at the House of Lords. She obtained an exemption clause in relation to the "social charter" and the transition to the Euro single currency during the Maastricht Treaty.

An old debate

In the past, lots of debates focused on free trade as opposed to the affirmation of national strengths, and then to the concept of national preference and supremacy.

The 2016 referendum

During the referendum of the 23th of June 2016, 51,9% of voters chose the "Leave".

Activation of the 50th article in March 2017

It is an exit clause included in the Lisbon Treaty. It makes provision for two years of negotiations about the conditions of leaving.

B) The current situation

Negotiations for months about sensitive issues

*The nature of the future relationships between the EU and the UK.

Britons would like to keep their commercial agreements with the European Union, but it would be to the detriment of their autonomy.

*The Ireland issue.

The EU strictly refuses the establishment of a border between Northern and Southern Ireland, the Southern portion being a member of the EU.

This matter is actually sensitive especially because of the heavy past of the island.

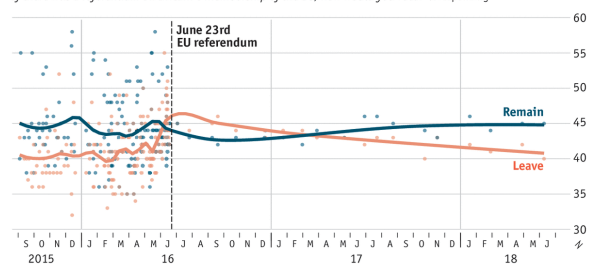
* The Gibraltar question

The Spanish government threatened Brexit because he considers Gibraltar as a part of Spain, but it secured an agreement about this issue.

* On the 25th of July, the rulers of the 27 countries of the EU accepted the exit agreement with the UK, as well as the declaration about future relationships between the UK and the States of the EU. This agreement however still has to be voted by the British parliament, which is uncertain.

Out with the old...

If there was a referendum on Britain's membership of the EU, how would you vote? % responding



The percentages of the "Remain" and of the "Leave" before and after the referendum.

Consequences of a Leave without agreement :

- Rise of bank charges
- No more lowered VAT
- A depreciated Pound currency (£)
- Britons refuse to pay all what the EU want them to
- End of border agreements
- Companies' claims subsequent to the leave need to be accommodated.