

Leaving EU will save households nearly £1000

British households will find their money goes much further if the UK leaves the European Union. Indeed, the average household could be £933 a year better off according to a report by *Business for Britain*, which highlights just how much the EU costs taxpayers and consumers.



Lower food bills

One of the worst effects of the EU, which hits the poorest households hardest, is the way it causes basic food prices to be much higher than they should be. The effect of the Common Agricultural Policy is like putting a tax of 17% on food, according to the *Institute of Economic Affairs*.

EU import duties on food also push up prices and make it harder for farmers in developing countries to make a living. If the UK left the EU it could scrap these duties, boosting living standards in Britain and in poorer countries that want to export to the UK.

Business for Britain estimates British shoppers could save £10.8bn from lower food prices outside the EU.

Lower energy prices

Another way in which the EU hurts households in Britain is the way its energy policies push up prices, contributing to fuel poverty.

U.S. Energy Information Administration has recently released a report comparing residential electricity price rises in the USA and EU over the period 2006 to 2013. This showed that prices rose by 43% in the EU but by only 17% in the USA.

The report pinpointed the regulatory regime, which is governed by EU law, as a significant factor, including levies to subsidise renewable energy sources.

Cheaper clothing

Another essential for every day life

made much more expensive by the EU is clothing. Duties are imposed on clothes imported from outside the EU to protect higher cost manufacturers in southern Europe.

Business for Britain estimates this adds about 12% to the cost of clothes. As an independent country the UK could abolish these tariffs and shoppers would save an average of £146 a year.

Read more

If you want to find out more, the full report is available at www.forbritain.org or by scanning this QR code:



In this edition:



How the EU spends your money



EU energy policy closes UK factories



Business leaders back independent UK

UK taxpayers subsidise bullfighting

Animal welfare is a low priority in the EU, and British taxpayers will be horrified to learn that they are helping to subsidise the cruel and barbaric "sport" of bullfighting.



The EU provides €110m a year to farmers in Spain who rear bulls for fighting. As the UK is a big net contributor to the EU's budget, it is estimated that the annual cost to British taxpayers is £13.5m.

Bullfight organisers "love EU"

Tony Moore, a representative of Fight Against Animal Cruelty, was reported as saying:

"The organisers of bullfights in Spain have told me that they love the EU because they now receive enough subsidies to

kill 15 or 16 animals in a fiesta rather than the traditional one or two."

An attempt to abolish these subsidies was made in the EU Parliament, but the necessary two-thirds majority of MEPs was not secured to win the vote.

UKIP MEPs were amongst those who voted to end the payments, but this cruel sport continues to receive UK taxpayers' money and the only way to stop that continuing is to leave the EU.

Three great reasons to leave the EU:

1) Decide our own laws: Currently the EU passes 75% of new laws in the UK. On each of the past 55 times the British government has voted against new EU laws foreign politicians have imposed them on us anyway. This shows we have lost control over our law-making to politicians in other countries and the only way to get it back is to leave the EU.

2) More money to spend at home: We pay £55m a day to the EU. In 2014/15 the net cost was almost £12bn. This money is desperately needed in the UK to help fund essential public expenditure and lower taxes, instead of paying for EU bureaucrats and politicians and spending in other countries.

3) Immigration that works for Britain: EU freedom of movement means more people are moving here than we can cope with and that we are turning away highly skilled workers from outside the EU. Only by leaving the EU can we control the quantity of people coming here and ensure that they bring the skills and qualifications we need.



Nigel Farage MEP urges Britons to seize the chance of a lifetime

Nigel Farage MEP, leader of UKIP, has called on the British people to seize the opportunity of a lifetime and vote to leave the EU.

He said a vote to leave the EU "would mean Britain could fulfil her global economic potential."

The most common misconception people have about leaving the EU is that it would be some form of isolationism, but that could not be further from the truth. The reverse would be the case - exiting the EU would open up a world of opportunity for the UK.

Launching a new pamphlet 'The Truth about Trade: Beyond the EU' Farage stated the claim you need to be in the EU to have access to the single market is an outrageously false assertion.

"Countries right across the globe ranging from economic powerhouses such as America and China to the likes of Algeria, Hong Kong and Nigeria all trade with the EU whilst of course remaining outside of it. Those on the Yes side will try and convince you over the coming months that we must be in the EU to trade with it. That is first grade baloney."

Britain would regain influence

He rubbished claims that Britain would be isolated if it left the EU. Not only would Britain retain its place as a member of over 100 international organisations outside the EU, such as the UN Security Council, G7 and NATO to give some important examples, but

also the UK would regain its vote at the World Trade Organisation and be able to negotiate its own trade deals on its own terms as a self-confident, independent nation.

Free movement is the big issue

He also said it is wrong to put it about that any UK-EU free trade agreement would require free movement within it. He pointed out the EU has around 109 trade agreements and only 4 of them include free movement.

Farage is clear that the issue of uncontrolled immigration will decide the referendum. He said that the British people had had enough of open borders and wanted back control of immigration so that a sensible Australian-style points system could be put in place.

"I believe that the British people have seen quite enough. I believe that they want an Australian-style immigration policy that allocates work permits to those our economy needs, that says no to those whose skills we do not need, and that gives an emphatic denial of entry to those we have any suspicion want to do us harm.

"We have long been witness in Britain to the failed policy of the EU's open borders, supported by the establishment politicians to the detriment of our nation. When the referendum comes, the British people will finally have their chance to reject these open borders by saying no to the European Union." Watch Nigel here:



How the EU spends British taxpayers' money

We pay £55m every single day to be a member of the EU. It is an outrage that at a time of austerity and cutbacks at home the UK is paying £20bn a year to the EU and the bill is going up.

Just imagine what you could do with that money!

Here are some examples of what the EU does with your money.

£9.6bn to Poland to upgrade its rail network.

With help from British taxpayers Poland will be getting a first class rail network at a time when vital rail projects are being cancelled at home because there is not enough money!

£100m to France to build a new tram system.

Liverpool had to scrap plans for a tram system because of lack of funds, but EU largesse knows no bounds when it comes to France, which is still one of the richest countries in the world!

£1bn to Italy to tackle youth unemployment.

It would be fair to say that many people think that disastrous EU policies have caused huge youth unemployment in Italy in the first place. Even so, British taxpayers' money would be better spent tackling long-term youth unemployment in this country!

£40m to Romania to support its wine makers.

Romania is already one of the world's largest wine producers, so it really should not need money from the EU to produce even more of the stuff!

The EU spends £500m a year promoting itself.

You would have thought that if the EU was such a good thing it would not have to spend so much money trying to convince us it is! The money goes on videos, cartoons, colouring books and other "educational" materials.

The EU is losing as much as £4bn a year to fraud.

Controls over expenditure in the EU are so poor that, according to the UK Parliament, it is losing £4bn a year to fraud, if not more.

Indeed, the quality of EU accounting is so poor that its auditors have refused to sign off its accounts for 19 years in a row.

International businesses will stay in Britain if the UK leaves the EU



Airbus A380 partly manufactured in the UK

The leaders of some of the biggest foreign companies and employers in the UK have reassured workers that their businesses will stay and keep investing in the UK if we leave the EU.

Tim Tozer, the managing director of Vauxhall Motors, said the company will continue its operations as normal if Britain leaves the EU. His company employs 35,000 people in Britain, making two of its vehicles. He said:

"Whatever the outcome, that won't affect the way we look at the way we invest in this country and run our business within it."

Nissan

One of Britain's biggest foreign

investment success stories is the Nissan car factory in Washington, Tyne & Wear. It was opened in 1986 and produces more cars per worker than any other plant in Europe.

Nissan now produces over 500,000 cars a year in the UK, including the British-designed Qashqai, the most popular vehicle it has ever produced.

On BBC Radio 4's Today programme the Chairman of Nissan Europe, Paul Wilcox, made it clear the outcome of the EU referendum would not affect Nissan's position in the UK.

He stated "our position in terms of competitiveness is driven by not only the situation in Europe in terms of whether we're in or out of the EU, but more importantly the commitment of the people in the North East and supply chain. Focus really should be in that area because

that is why we have such a great success story - the combined impact of our investment but also supply chain and a great workforce."

Commenting on the news, UKIP MEP Jonathan Arnott stated "We welcome today's categorical confirmation that Nissan is here to stay, as we knew all along. We have guarantees of a free trade deal if we were to leave the EU, and World Trade Organisation rules would prevent the kind of punitive tariffs those campaigning for us to stay in the EU claim."

Airbus

Airbus has given similar assurances. It employs about 16,000 people in the UK, with as many as 100,000 jobs indirectly the result of its presence here.

Interviewed by the BBC at the Paris Airshow, the Chief Executive of

Airbus said the company had "no intention" of moving manufacturing from the UK if it leaves the EU.

JCB and Dyson

The leaders of other businesses have gone further and joined calls for the UK to leave the EU.

Anthony Bamford, Chairman of JCB, one of Britain's great manufacturing success stories, said the UK could survive "peacefully and sensibly" outside the EU.

He said "We are the fifth-or sixth-largest economy in the world. We could exist on our own." He also said that the UK would benefit from being able to negotiate on its own instead of being one of 28 nations.

Sir James Dyson, the famous inventor and entrepreneur said we should leave to stop being bullied by the

Germans.

He is concerned that Europe is dominated by large German companies which ensure that the old guard and old technology are supported while new technology is not.

World Trade Organisation

The vast majority of countries in the world are not members of the EU, but this does not stop businesses in those countries trading with the EU.

Britain is a member of the World Trade Organisation and this would guarantee its ability to trade with the EU after leaving.

It is no wonder then that more and more business leaders are saying that Britain will not suffer if we leave the EU.

Sir Rocco Forte labels the EU a "complete disaster"

Hotelier Sir Rocco Forte, whose company owns hotels across Europe has branded the EU a complete disaster. He said it has harmed the economies of many of the countries which have joined, especially amongst those who have adopted the euro as their currency.

He said Britain should not be afraid to leave and that "it wouldn't make the slightest bit of difference" to his business if Britain left.

You can watch the interview here:



Photo by Lydia_shiningbrightly CC BY 2.0

EU energy policies behind the loss of thousands of British jobs

Tata Steel is mothballing its plant in Llanwern in Wales at the cost of 250 jobs. The decision follows the closure of a plant in Port Talbot with the loss of 400 jobs and the closure of two plants in Yorkshire, which were all blamed on crippling high electricity costs.

Tata said that energy is one of its largest costs and that it is disadvantaged by exorbitant electricity prices which left it unable to compete with producers in countries with much lower energy

costs like China.

EU plans to make it worse

The EU plans to drive up the cost of emitting carbon in the EU. Steel producers say this will make their businesses even less sustainable and will simply move production outside the EU. This will cause more job losses without reducing global carbon outputs.

Not welcome here

Wolfgang Eder of Austrian steel company Voestalpine was scathing.

"The EU has been indicating again and again that the industry is no longer welcome here."

He went on to say that the USA

welcomed his business, with its jobs and investment, with open arms.

Mark Reckless blames EU

UKIP Policy Chief Mark Reckless responded to the news of the latest plant closure as follows:

"Currently we take directions from the European Union on ridiculous targets that render our economy deeply uncompetitive.

"It's all very well MPs in Westminster decrying this latest closure, but until they admit that unless we wrest back control of energy policy from the EU and pursue an effective, business friendly agenda rather than pie-in-the-sky green legislation, then this sort of story will become all too common."

Q: What EU concessions will David Cameron win for Britain?



A: Whatever Angela Merkel lets him have.

Borderless Britain



Net immigration soared to 330,000 in the past year according to official government figures.

8.4m people living in the UK were born abroad, one in eight of the population.

The UK government has broken its pledge to reduce net immigration to the tens of thousands, but knew all along that it is powerless to control our borders whilst Britain is in the EU.

Nigel Farage MEP responded to the news by saying:

"These figures reflect the total impotence of the British government. If open borders are not part of the Cameron renegotiation then what's the point of it?"

Public services cannot cope

Steven Woolfe MEP, UKIP Migration Spokesman, expressed deep concern for the effect the inexorable rise of immigration is having on public services in Britain:

"The consequences for our country are wide and deep. We now host 8 million people born outside of the UK – 12.5% of the UK population and rising.

"Our public services cope with more than a million illegal migrants who have disappeared into the black economy.

"We have to provide schools and healthcare for hundreds of thousands of children of migrants.

"We are now the third most densely populated country in the EU after Malta and Belgium!"

There is mounting evidence published by the OECD, EU and UK government that mass, unskilled immigration does not benefit the UK economically and is damaging to the prospects of the poorest in Britain.

Tinkering will not work

Steven Woolfe says Cameron's plan to deal with the problem will not work:

"Tinkering with benefits available to EU migrants will not stop the rise of EU economic migrants."

Points-based system

Other countries control immigration. Australia applies a points-based system which grants permits according to skills, the requirements of businesses and the ability of the country's public services to cope.

Steven Woolfe made the point this would be far fairer on people wanting to come here from outside the EU: "An appropriately qualified Indian doctor should have the same rights to apply to work in the UK as an appropriately qualified German doctor."

Britain pays £1.7bn surcharge to the EU

George Osborne has quietly settled a bill from the EU for an extra £1.7bn.

At the time the demand was made in 2014, David Cameron branded it unreasonable and said there would be a "major problem" if the bill was not reduced and the UK was not given more time to pay.

After frantic negotiations the Chancellor and the Prime Minister claimed the bill had been halved and the UK had been given more time to pay.

However, according to MPs, George Osborne's claim was "not supported by the facts."

Misleading claim

Parliament's Treasury Committee found "the specific claim to have halved the bill through renegotiation is difficult to support."

Jonathan Arnott, a UKIP MEP, said this showed how powerless the UK was in the EU. He said:

"Cameron's pledge not to pay a single penny has been left as pie in the sky, and he's been left battered and bruised by the Brussels-based bureaucrats once again.

"Cameron promised to fight for the UK's interests within the EU. Since he became Prime Minister in 2010 he hasn't managed to get rid of a single EU law."

Campaign for EU exit gathers pace in Austria

It is not just in Britain where voters have had enough of the EU. Disenchantment is spreading in other countries such as Austria.

260,000 Austrians force referendum debate

An extraordinary 260,000 Austrians signed a petition to get its parliament to hold a debate on calling a referendum on EU membership.

Loss of sovereignty

Supporters of independence for Austria from the EU believe the country would benefit in many ways.

Inge Rauscher, a translator by profession, who launched the petition, said:

"We are not any longer a sovereign state in the European Union. Over 80 percent of all essential legislation is being imposed by Brussels, not by elected commissioners. In our view, Europe is not a democracy."

The possibility of Austria holding a full referendum on leaving the EU will now be considered in detail at Parliamentary level. Opinion polls show strong support for Austria leaving the EU, so anything could happen.

Life's great outside EU: Come and join us!



Many European countries enjoy the benefits of free trade with the EU without being members.

Britain could too, say leading Icelandic and Swiss politicians Guthlaugur Thor Thordarson and Thomas Aeschi.

Writing in *The Telegraph* they asked: "Is it possible to be part of a European market but not of a political union in Europe? Absolutely. Our countries are doing precisely that now. And you know something? It's working pretty well."

Better living standards

People living in their countries enjoy far higher living standards. They explain this is possible as their countries can trade freely with the EU without the burden of complying with EU laws that have nothing to do with trade.

"We buy and sell freely within

the European market. But we are outside the Common Agricultural Policy, the Common Fisheries Policy, the rules on common EU citizenship, the harmonisation of criminal justice and other non-economic matters."

Global free trade

Another advantage enjoyed by countries outside the EU is their freedom to negotiate free trade agreements with the rest of the world.

EFTA has entered into free trade agreements with 36 countries outside the EU - its members enjoy preferential arrangements covering 80% of their trade.

Switzerland and Iceland have also signed free trade agreements with China, something which the EU has failed to do and which the UK cannot do as it has given up all power over negotiating trade agreements to the EU.

This matters, because the EU's members' share of global GDP is falling rapidly, from 38% when the UK joined in 1973 to just 17% now.

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