

# EU REFERENDUM INFORMATION GUIDE

[www.bl.uk/subjects/national-and-international-government-publications](http://www.bl.uk/subjects/national-and-international-government-publications)

This brief guide does not aim to duplicate the work of experts who have already compiled guides to information on the EU Referendum, but to save enquirers time by pointing to them. This guide is produced by information professionals and aims to be impartial.

## General information

- EUReferendum.uk [[eureferendum.uk/](http://eureferendum.uk/)] provides an overview of the deal negotiated by David Cameron and links to comment on it in the press and by think tanks, academic research centres, pressure groups, business and trade unions.
- The Brexit debate [[cardiff.ac.uk/insrv/resources/edc/BREXIT\\_Debate.pdf](http://cardiff.ac.uk/insrv/resources/edc/BREXIT_Debate.pdf)] from Cardiff European Documentation Centre offers you help to find comment from all points of view. Click on the images in the guide to link to a range of information sources.
- For more information from the Cardiff EDC, search their European Sources Online (ESO) [[europeansources.info/](http://europeansources.info/)] database using the keyword 'Brexit'. ESO provides access to thousands of expertly selected, well known and less well known websites, documents and publications from the EU and other international organisations, national governments, and think tanks. It covers all aspects of the activities and institutions of the European Union.
- The UK's EU Referendum 2016 Explained [[parliament.uk/eu-referendum](http://parliament.uk/eu-referendum)] - the House of Commons Library produces briefing papers which set out the background and stages of the UK's referendum for remaining in or leaving the European Union. This page highlights the analysis and comment on the in-out referendum and presents an impartial view of the different arguments and opinions. It offers information on potential 'Brexit' and on remaining in the EU.

## The bone of contention

Agreement was reached on the UK's demands for a reformed relationship with the EU at a meeting of the European Council on 18-19 February. The text is formally set out in a Decision 'concerning a new settlement for the United Kingdom within the European Union' (Annex I to the European Council conclusions [[consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2016/02/19-euco-conclusions/](http://consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2016/02/19-euco-conclusions/)])

## The UK Government

Prior to the crucial February meeting of the European Council the Prime Minister held a series of meetings with leaders of other UK states to garner support. You can read about these and his presentation of the new deal in the press releases, speeches and statements issued by his office on the 10 Downing Street website

[[gov.uk/government/latest?departments%5B%5D=prime-ministers-office-10-downing-street](http://gov.uk/government/latest?departments%5B%5D=prime-ministers-office-10-downing-street)].

The Prime Minister made a statement to the Commons on February 22nd 2016 presenting and commending the agreement.

[[parliament.uk/business/publications/hansard/commons/by-date/#session=27&year=2016&month=1&day=22](http://parliament.uk/business/publications/hansard/commons/by-date/#session=27&year=2016&month=1&day=22)]

Subsequently the Cabinet Office has produced a series of papers in support of the deal and predicting Armageddon if the people vote to leave:

- The best of both worlds: the United Kingdom's special status in a reformed European Union [[gov.uk/government/publications/the-best-of-both-worlds-the-united-kingdoms-special-status-in-a-reformed-european-union](http://gov.uk/government/publications/the-best-of-both-worlds-the-united-kingdoms-special-status-in-a-reformed-european-union)]
- Alternatives to membership: possible models for the United Kingdom outside the European Union [[gov.uk/government/publications/alternatives-to-membership-possible-models-for-the-united-kingdom-outside-the-european-union](http://gov.uk/government/publications/alternatives-to-membership-possible-models-for-the-united-kingdom-outside-the-european-union)]
- The process for withdrawing from the European Union [[gov.uk/government/publications/the-process-for-withdrawing-from-the-european-union](http://gov.uk/government/publications/the-process-for-withdrawing-from-the-european-union)]

## The European Commission Representation in the UK

The Commission Representation in the UK will not campaign actively for a remain vote, but will continue to rebut inaccurate stories about the EU that appear in the Eurosceptic press and to highlight the positive contributions the EU makes to life in the UK.

[[ec.europa.eu/unitedkingdom/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/unitedkingdom/index_en.htm)]

## The UK Press

The press is either strongly pro or strongly anti Brexit:

- Guardian – broadly favourable to the remain campaign. [[theguardian.com/politics/eu-referendum](http://theguardian.com/politics/eu-referendum)]
- Daily Telegraph Latest news, analysis and comment on the in-out referendum on Britain's membership of the European Union from a Eurosceptic viewpoint [[telegraph.co.uk/news/newsttopics/eureferendum/](http://telegraph.co.uk/news/newsttopics/eureferendum/)]
- Independent – more news, analysis and comment [[independent.co.uk/topic/eu-referendum](http://independent.co.uk/topic/eu-referendum)]
- The Sun [[thesun.co.uk/search/eu%20referendum#](http://thesun.co.uk/search/eu%20referendum#)] – strongly favours the Leave campaign
- Daily Mail [[dailymail.co.uk/news/eu\\_referendum/index.html](http://dailymail.co.uk/news/eu_referendum/index.html)] – also strongly Eurosceptic

### Think Tanks and Academia

The European Parliament Research Service has produced a useful briefing on What the Think Tanks are Thinking about Brexit, with links to full text of reports.

[[epthinktank.eu/2016/02/19/the-united-kingdom-and-the-european-union-what-think-tanks-are-thinking/](http://epthinktank.eu/2016/02/19/the-united-kingdom-and-the-european-union-what-think-tanks-are-thinking/)]

The House of Commons Library has also produced a Reading list on 'UK-EU relations 2013-16: reform, renegotiation, withdrawal' which includes a section on think tank publications, again with links to full text.

[[researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-7220/CBP-7220.pdf](http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-7220/CBP-7220.pdf)]

### Pressure Groups

Pressure groups, campaigning both for and against Brexit, are more numerous than fleas on a long haired dog, and more are constantly emerging. Here is a small sample (five of each). EUReferendum.uk lists many more.

### Remain

Britain Stronger in Europe [[strongerin.co.uk/](http://strongerin.co.uk/)] - argues that we are stronger, better off and safer in Europe than we would be out on our own.

Business for New Europe [[businessforneweurope.org/](http://businessforneweurope.org/)] - Britain's leading pro-European business coalition, campaigning for Britain's place in a more competitive Europe.

European Movement United Kingdom [[euromove.org.uk/](http://euromove.org.uk/)] - a grass-roots, independent, pro-European organisation, working to give a voice to those who believe that Britain's future lies side by side with our European partners.

In Facts [[infacts.org/](http://infacts.org/)] - presenting the evidence-based arguments for Britain's EU membership.

Scientists for EU [[scientistsforeu.uk/](http://scientistsforeu.uk/)] - one of many campaigns by UK professional groups to keep the UK in the EU. Useful links to a list of like-minded pro-EU communities.

## Leave

EUReferendum.com [[eureferendum.com/](http://eureferendum.com/)] - blog written since 2004 by Dr Richard North, a self-employed political researcher/analyst.

Bruges Group [[brugesgroup.com/](http://brugesgroup.com/)] - spearheads the intellectual battle against European integration, EU federalism, centralisation and enlargement and advocates that Britain should vote to leave the European Union in the forthcoming EU referendum.

Get Britain Out [[getbritainout.org/](http://getbritainout.org/)] - an independent, cross-party, grassroots Eurosceptic group campaigning to get the United Kingdom Out of the European Union.

Leave.EU [[leave.eu/](http://leave.eu/)] - umbrella group supported by Nigel Farage.

Vote Leave [[voteleavetakecontrol.org/](http://voteleavetakecontrol.org/)] - campaign for a 'leave' vote in the EU referendum that will occur on the 23rd of June 2016.

## Neutral (?)

Full Fact [[fullfact.org/](http://fullfact.org/)] - the independent, non-partisan, factchecking charity.

## Opinion Polls

Track the impact of the debate on voting intentions  
UKPollingReport [[ukpollingreport.co.uk/eu-referendum](http://ukpollingreport.co.uk/eu-referendum)] - tracks voter intentions for the EU membership referendum

The British Library has major collections of government publications from most of the countries of the world including Asia. For the purposes of this guide, Asia includes the countries listed below.

The guide focuses on British Library London Reference collections holdings of major (or recently ceased) official publications series from these countries **in English**. The exception to this rule is Official Gazettes, which are included for each country regardless of language. We have aimed to include the following categories of publication, where identified:

- Statistical series
- Census reports
- Development plans
- Legislative documents
- Official gazettes
- Parliamentary debates and papers

Obtaining a regular supply of material from Asian countries is problematic and our holdings contain many gaps. Even when a serial is currently received, we may not have succeeded in obtaining the latest issue. However many Asian governments publish extensively in full text on the web. Where we have found full text equivalents of printed material on the Internet, we have included the URL in the entry.

Most of these publications must be consulted in the Social Sciences Reading Room and cannot be delivered elsewhere. Except for the major reference works which are on open access in the Social Sciences and the Asian & African Studies Reading Rooms, nearly all foreign official publications are housed in a remote store and must be ordered 24 to 48 hours in advance.

This guide is arranged in alphabetical order of country. Within each country, the titles are listed alphabetically. Each entry gives shelfmarks, British Library holdings, and some annotations.

### Key to shelfmarks

**OIS plus Dewey number** - Reference work on shelves in the Asian & African Studies Reading Room.

**OPL plus Dewey number** - Reference work on shelves in the Social Sciences Reading Room.

**SPR MIC etc.** - Official publications held on microform in a St Pancras basement.

All other shelfmarks are for printed official document series which are mainly stored off-site.