

VOTE TO EXIT THE EU BOSSES' CLUB

VOTE FOR CAMERON'S EXIT

KICK OUT THE TORIES! NO TO THE EU YES TO INTERNATIONAL WORKERS' SOLIDARITY



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THE OFFICIAL EXIT and remain campaigns are both completely dominated by big-business politicians. When you've got Boris Johnson on one side and David Cameron on the other you know it is the interests of the 1% not the 99% that are being debated.

But that does not mean that the 99% have no interest in the outcome of the referendum. Despite the complete absence of guidance from the official campaigns, millions of people are trying to work out how best to vote to defend jobs, pay and public services.

The Socialist Party is campaigning for a vote for exit. Our campaign has nothing in common with the right wing nationalist politicians who speak for exit in the media. In fact we are part of a campaign by the Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition (TUSC) to demand that none of the official 'leave' campaigns receive state funding to peddle their right-wing nationalist reasons for exit.

We are conducting an independent working class campaign for withdrawal, based on solidarity with working class people across Europe. We call for exit because the EU is an 'Employers' Union'. From the beginning it has been an agreement between the different capitalist classes of Europe in order to create the largest possible market in so they can maximise their profits.

Since then a succession of EU treaties have further enshrined privatisation and attacks on workers' rights into the fabric of the EU. Look at the way the institutions of the EU have treated the people of Greece – forcing endless austerity on them which has lowered incomes by an average of one third and led to mass unemployment. The EU acts in the interests of the 1% not the 99%.

HERE ARE A FEW REASONS THAT YOU SHOULD VOTE TO LEAVE THE EU:

- TTIP is just the latest secret trade deal negotiated by the EU. Like those that have gone before it institutionalises privatisation, including of health services. EU treaties also drive forward privatisation – including of postal services and transport services.
- EU laws forbid nationalisation (or even state subsidies to companies!). Jeremy Corbyn's call for renationalisation of the railways which is supported by over 70% of the population, for example, is illegal under EU law. While EU regulations could not stop a determined socialist government carrying out left policies, it is still an extra obstacle to overcome.
- EU treaties have systematically undermined workers' rights. It promotes zero-hour contracts, low pay and 'flexible' working as part of its structural adjustment programme. The posted workers' directive, for example, does not recognise collective agreements between workers and employers and 'in a race to the bottom' allows businesses to employ workers' on worse pay and conditions than the minimum for the industry concerned in that particular country.
- EU laws demand permanent austerity from all EU governments. They include strict rules limiting public spending and government borrowing.

WON'T BREXIT STRENGTHEN THE RIGHT?

No! The Tory government was already weak and unpopular – voted for by only 24% of the electorate. The EU is splitting the Tories down the middle. The government's weakness is to our advantage. We've already seen this from their rapid retreat on the budget cuts to disability benefits followed by the hated Iain Duncan Smith's resignation and his hypocritical attacks on Osborne for 'going too far'. Of course, while the retreat is welcome, the majority of cuts to disability benefits remain in place – but it gives a glimpse of how the Tories could be defeated.

The Tories represent the interests of big business – the 1% - and a majority of them are in favour of staying in the EU. If Cameron was to lose the referendum it would be a disaster for big business and the Tory Party, and would finish Cameron's own career. Potentially, especially if the workers' movement capitalises on the opportunity, it could lead to the government having to call a general election and a Jeremy Corbyn-led Labour Party being elected.

So there is nothing automatic in the right being the gainers from a vote for Brexit – it would dramatically weaken the Tories and give an opportunity to the workers' movement to defeat austerity.

FOR A SOCIALIST EUROPE

Working class people across Europe have huge common interests. We are facing the same fight against low pay, casualisation, cuts and privatisation in every country. Successful movements in one country would have huge support, and be emulated, across the continent.

Socialists are internationalists; we want the maximum possible unity across Europe, but that will never be achieved in the bosses' club of the EU. It is only possible on the basis of democratic socialism, eradication poisonous divisions through real working class internationalism, leading to a voluntary socialist federation across the continent.



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