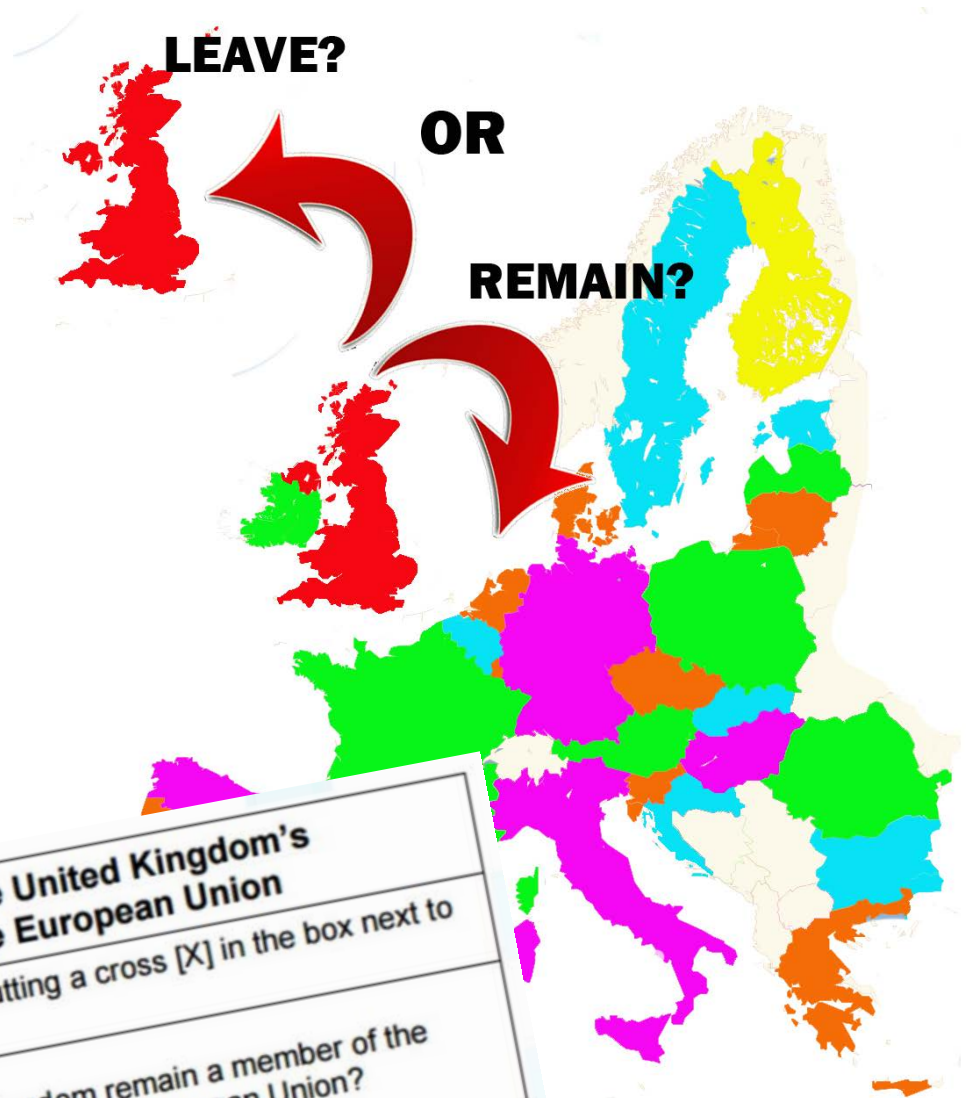


EASY READ GUIDE
on the
EUROPEAN UNION REFERENDUM

VOTE ON
THURSDAY 23RD JUNE



Referendum on the United Kingdom's membership of the European Union

Vote only once by putting a cross [X] in the box next to your choice

Should the United Kingdom remain a member of the European Union or leave the European Union?

Remain a member of the European Union	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leave the European Union	<input type="checkbox"/>



David Cameron is holding a vote for everyone in Britain to have a say in whether Britain should stay as part of the European Union. The vote is on Thursday, 23rd of June 2016.



The European Union is a partnership of 28 countries. In a partnership you have to make changes so that everyone gets along. So Britain has made some changes to the way it works to get along with others.



There are rules that everyone has to follow to make things like cars and machines safer or so that each country doesn't only help those who were born there. There are also rules that says it is easier to go from country to country for holidays or for work. Also some countries use the same money.



You will be able to vote

REMAIN to stay in the European Union

LEAVE to leave the European Union



Arguments For Leaving



The European Union is undemocratic because all EU laws are proposed by the European Commission which meets in secret. This commission is not elected but can make regulations that must be followed by all members.



Britain would be free to make stronger trade deals with other nations including those in Europe. There would be a jobs boom as firms are freed from EU regulations and red tape.



Britain would regain full control of its borders with maybe a work permit system for those that want to come to Britain.



Some people say that if we left the EU then there might be less people from other countries in Europe come to live in Britain. They think this would be a good thing.



Arguments For Remaining



If we remain in the EU then we will still be able to trade with all countries. If we leave they will think more and more about those 27 countries left and Britain will be left out in the cold. Some jobs would be lost if global manufacturers moved to lower-cost EU countries.



Some of Britain's largest trading partners - including France and Germany - are in the EU. More than 50% of our exports go to EU countries, and our membership allows us to have a say over how trading rules are drawn up.



Crime fighting is easier if we stay in the EU. The European Arrest Warrant cuts out the need for long and complicated extradition procedures and allows criminals to be brought to justice across the EU.



Immigration from the rest of the EU has been good for Britain's economy with lots more jobs created.

OTHER THINGS TO THINK ABOUT



Some people say that if Britain votes to leave and Scotland votes to stay then that would be a good reason to have another referendum on Scottish Independence. Those that want independence say this is a good reason to Vote Remain.



Other people say that the European Union is more concerned with rich people and their money than ordinary people. When Greece got into trouble with lots of debts, the EU said they wouldn't help unless people had their services, pensions and benefits cut. These people say we should Vote Leave.



Some people say that if Britain votes to leave then David Cameron will resign. They say that is a good reason to Vote Leave. However even if David resigns then this will not change which party is in government.



Some people say that they don't like the people who are campaigning to leave the EU. They say people who want to leave like Nigel Farage and George Galloway and Iain Duncan Smith are unpopular and unpleasant and this is a good reason to Vote Remain.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF WE LEAVE OR STAY



Jobs – Some economists say both campaigns are exaggerating what will happen if we leave the European Union. Things might change a little but it mainly depends on what policies the government adopts.



The EURO – This is the money that is used in most of Europe. It means you don't have to keep changing your money in banks when you go from one country to another. Britain is not part of the EURO and there are no plans to join it if we remain.



PASSPORTS – If we leave the EU, then people will still need passports to go from Britain to Europe but you won't need any special VISAs. You can just turn up at the border and show your passport.



Other Agreements – The decision on Remaining or Leaving the EU will have no effect on other treaties that Britain is part of. We will still be in the United Nations and NATO and the Commonwealth.



HUMAN RIGHTS – Britain is a member of the European Convention on Human Rights and this will not change if we leave the European Union.

Yes

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

If you haven't made up your mind then use this table to help you think about the arguments in this pamphlet. Circle any YES you agree with below. You can put your own arguments in the empty lines. Add up your answer to find out which campaign you agree with most.

Arguments	I agree with this	
	Vote Leave	Vote Remain
We would have more control of Britain's borders if we left	YES	
We fight crime better when we are in the EU.		YES
Having people for Europe come and work here makes Britain better		YES
Having people for Europe come and work here makes Britain worse.	YES	
I think the EU is undemocratic	YES	
Being partners with the people we trade with is a good thing		YES
I like being able to travel around Europe easily		YES
I think we will be okay on our own even if things go wrong	YES	
How Many Yes Answers are circled in each Column		