

# Resistance

## 'WILL THERE BE



## A SECOND BREXIT REFERENDUM?'

Eurofanatic billionaire George Soros is pumping megabucks into a campaign for a second EU referendum. But how likely is this to happen?

Only 23 MPs recently voted for a second In-Out referendum. Even Ken Clarke voted against one. Jeremy Corbyn has tentatively ruled one out. Whereas there is no Commons majority for one, the Lords might make a stand by supporting a second referendum as a gesture, but back down when challenged?

### IN PLACE OF STRIFE?

The government's 2017 manifesto didn't want to rerun the Scottish referendum as it would be divisive at a time when we needed to heal.

By the same chalk, a second EU referendum would be even more divisive. Several highly acrimonious months would practically destroy political stability.

The demand for a second referendum is from a small but noisy clique of Remoaners, totally in a world of their own. They are the same fanatics that wanted us to join the Euro. Most Remainers, including the reluctant ones, respect the referendum result and, if anything, the public feeling is just one of wanting to get on with Brexit and our everyday lives.

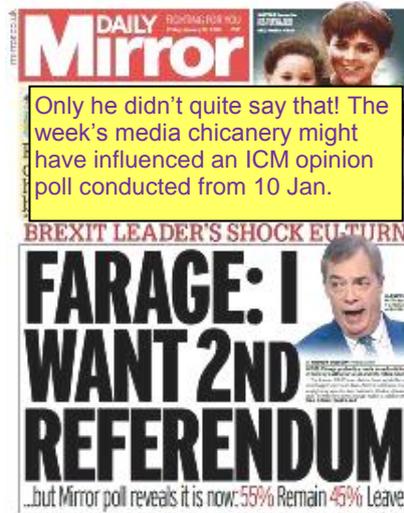
It would be political suicide for Brexit not to happen for other reasons. Leavers are being pushed to their limits to accept a one-sided compromise of a slavish 21 month transition period from 2019.

Even the (Tory) European Research Group hardliners are not rocking the boat over the withdrawal agreement farce, which indicates that they are prioritising government stability and party cohesion.

However, if their sacrifice is betrayed, all hell will break loose. A second vote would probably terminally split the Tory Party regardless of result.

Just moving towards one would lead to a challenge to May's leadership (sic) via the 1922 Committee. As a long-term survivor, the PM will not want to jeopardise her own position. She must be aware of how Europe has jinxed most of her predecessors. Having already lost her own majority, she is likely to be risk-averse.

85% of the public voted for parties promising Brexit in June. This is effective confirmation of the referendum result. Parties like the LibDems, Greens and SNP in favour of stalling Brexit saw their votes fall back.



This won't satisfy the Remoaners, who moan that the public should have a vote on any new arrangements. This is unlikely to sway the PM, who must know that the likely (2018) withdrawal agreement will be such a compromise that it will please hardly anyone. The complexity of evolving a long-term deal with the EU will probably take us close to the 2022 General Election.

Remoaners ignore the fact that the EU is keen to see us out before the 2019 Euro-elections, and has already reallocated UK MEP seats.

However unlikely a referendum seems, there is no room for complacency. May assured that there would be no early General Election, only to go back on her word. Lib Dem Baroness Ludford has a '(2nd) referendum on withdrawal agreement' Bill contriving to give votes to 16 year olds and 'local government electors' (read: EU nationals).

## Surge in support for a second EU referendum



Pollsters don't always get it right. They represent panels more than the public. Online (internet) surveys bias towards some sections of the population. ICM, the Guardian's pollsters, gave extra weight to responses from the 18-24 group, deemed those most likely to support Remain.

The Guardian article admitted that 90% of both Leavers and Remainers haven't changed their minds, though. All polls will feature a small % of 'weathercocks', individuals who blow whichever way the wind is blowing – think of parties getting a poll bounce in their party conference week just because they're mentioned.

Actual referendum campaigns (including abroad) show that the more the EU is discussed, the less people like it. So let's not go overboard over commissioned poll figures. The poll that counted was in June 2016!

She obviously believes that under-18s and foreign voters are needed to overturn the will of the majority of the British electorate.

★ W Midlands UKIP MEP James Carver reported on BBC radio that some of his constituents were appalled at the way the UK has been treated by the EU in the negotiations and are now firmly for withdrawal!

★ Farage might be right to an extent that the Remoaners are making most of the running. Our supposedly pro-Brexit government is just releasing a succession of suggestions that are either fanciful or just aspiration and painfully short on detail.

We can get the feeling that our equivocating PM is playing the equivalent of 'Three Card Trick' with us on the government's actual position.

★ The political scandal website 'Guido Fawkes' claimed that the UK's chief negotiator, Olly Robbins, was pro-a federal Europe in his student days.



## Winning the Battle for Britain

★ After writing to Trade Policy Minister Greg Hands, we received a reply from the Department of International Trade that our reasoned suggestions for an independent trade policy (read: 'and supporting legalese') had been passed to the DIT Policy Committee.

★ We have also written to all known European Research Group members and the saner pro-Brexit MPs pushing the case for an 'inter-governmental Brexit' – one which safeguards sovereignty - rather than being a vassal state for 21 months.

The key arguments are available by post on request or downloadable from [www.newalliance.org.uk/annex218.htm](http://www.newalliance.org.uk/annex218.htm)

An early reply was received from Sammy Wilson MP, who is DUP spokesman for Brexit and sits on the Exiting the EU select committee.



**AND NOW, ...THE CHILE OPTION.**

★ The above also informs MPs that while the EU disingenuously pushes the 'no cherry picking' mantra at us, it has signalled its intent to give Chile a full Free Trade Agreement - covering practically all goods and services and with zero tariffs. Chile would have no requirement to adopt EU laws, be under European Courts or pay for trade access. Instead the agreement would respect international standards and use balanced arbitration.

Adapting the 'modernised Association Agreement' for Chile to us would be in tune with expressed EU free trade policy, as the current EU Presidency is committed to 'ambitious, balanced and comprehensive' FTAs.

★ Charles Grant of the Centre for European Reform felt that at least 10-12 EU members would be keen on a comprehensive EU-UK FTA. Adding Belgium and Austria to the nations mentioned would give something like 43% of EU voting weight, compared with France and Germany's weight of around 29%. The EU's smaller nations are showing greater unwillingness to be pushed around by the EU's 'Axis'.

★ In the short term, there is the matter of the withdrawal agreement. All 3 EU institutions (Commission, Parliament, Council) are agreed that it must be a Norway-like deal. Without a Commons majority for leaving the Single Market, it is difficult to see how the PM could agree a comprehensive alternative by October.

★ Some fear that the Lords will sabotage the **EU Withdrawal Bill**, but under the Parliament Act, it could be pushed through by September. It isn't the mechanism to withdraw us; it just keeps EU law in place and allows it to be reinterpreted.

★ The one to watch will be the **EU Withdrawal and Implementation Bill** covering the withdrawal agreement - no text yet available.



★ As it reads, the EU's **withdrawal treaty** draft is a **blank cheque** for EU control, forcing us to accept EU laws, ECJ rulings, new laws and even new international treaties. (We would have consented in advance as a 'third country' in international law.)

★ A referendum could not stop this as the **EU Withdrawal Bill** repeals the 'EU Act 2011' requiring a vote on any new powers being given to the EU.

★ The **withdrawal treaty** draft covers future **arrangements** but oddly seems **not** to have an end date! This might be explained away as to keep N Ireland and the Irish Republic in step, but the impact is UK-wide. (The note on 'Transition' aka Implementation Period expiring in 2021 is not a safeguard.)



★ The PM has said that no Prime Minister could sign up to the draft **withdrawal treaty**, but this is based on N Ireland and the mainland having different arrangements. The EU's proposals from December were accepted with minor changes.

★ The EU might be grandstanding and the UK could go for a less drastic transition, such as with EFTA-EEA membership, but this would require initiative not seen before.

**The battle lines are drawn.**



Remoaners' using the Union Jack



★ A new anti-Brexit campaign 'Our Future, Our Choice' (OFOC) is aimed at under-45s. It seeks to get young people to emotionally blackmail their parents and hijack the NHS as an issue. It is being supported by Remoaner groups: Open Britain, European Movement, Best for Britain (sic) and Chuka Umunna MP's Grassroots Coordinating Group.

★ It aims to stir enough opposition to Brexit to force a second referendum. It is fronted by Femi Oluwole, whose CV shows was a lobbyist at the EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA), European Centre for Democracy and Human Rights (ECDHR) and Alter-EU.

★ Alter-EU saw "big business lobbies against public interest policy-making", "too many decision-makers in Brussels provide privileged access to big business lobbyists". ECDHR opposes "harassment of those persecuted for expressing their political opinions". FRA is allegedly anti-'discrimination' on the same grounds.

ECDHR claims to work with EU bodies to uphold democracy. On Democracy Day 2017, former EU President Van Rompuy felt that in the EU, "a national referendum can't have the last word".



The Mail recently ran some exposés on 'Hungarian American' Soros and other moneyed pro-EU lobbyists like Stephen Peel

★ Despite his background, Oluwole seems to have a blind spot to the democratic rights of those who don't share his views, and the role of big money in undermining them. Not least that from George Soros who made a killing from the ERM debacle in 1992, while millions lost their homes.

These millions, now typically over-45, may have strong views on OFOC.

Refs: <http://www.newalliance.org.uk/ref318.htm>



PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD....

P & p by New Alliance, PO Box 13199, London SW6 6ZU  
[info@newalliance.org.uk](mailto:info@newalliance.org.uk),  
Tel: 07976 414913

Thanks for all donations (only to 'New Alliance'), which are gratefully received - and used to good effect.