

# Mandelson cannot see the woods for the trees.

The suggestion that one has 'done nothing improper' has been the defence of record for many 'honourable' people in the headlines of the Mainstream Media during the course of my lifetime.

'Improper' is, by definition, *'not in accordance with accepted standards, especially of morality or honesty.'*

It has been a phrase notably overworked and overused by people mostly involved in business and in politics.

And it usually involves money.

Money that might be considered 'vast sums' by those ordinary mortals among us who fall into the category of 'an average wage earning P.A.Y.E taxpayer' - assuming such people still exist today.

It is not unreasonable to suspect that much of the media interest in 'personalities' and or 'celebrities' is driven by envy, an opinion (in my personal experiences) often offered by those who are the target of investigative enquiries.

Among those who have claimed to have done nothing 'improper' not once but twice in his public life, is one Lord Mandelson, an appointed Peer of our realm currently voicing his unpleasant opinions of the majority of voting Britons; including, possibly, some of the same Britons on whose votes he once (or twice) relied on for his employment and income.

Or at least some of his income.

*“The scandals that brought Peter Mandelson down twice before Peter Mandelson's two previous spells in the Cabinet both ended with him reluctantly penning a resignation letter to Tony Blair and leaving Downing Street under a dark cloud”*

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/labour/3130348/The-scandals-that-brought-Peter-Mandelson-down-twice-before.html>

I cannot speak first hand of this Lord's past life in the public eye, as I was not in this country during any part of his career as an elected Member of Parliament.

It is only his more recent self-generated publicity that has grabbed my attention via our MSM, that has made me think of him as a possible enigma in current affairs.

I made me wonder about the background of this Noble Lord who chooses to insult the intelligence of the 17.4 million voters who think independence is the better option compared to the 16.1 million who choose to remain under the yoke of unelected Commissioners in Brussels.

I wondered why this former Cabinet Minister would spend his declining years (as do I on a much smaller scale) speaking out on the future of our Country. A Country which has a record of **giving independence and Nationhood** to a whole host of large and small former members of the British Empire.

His background is the very opposite of mine. A child of the 'Swinging 60s', an excellent University, and a high-ranking Cabinet Minister.

I, before this noble Lord was even a gleam in his parents eye, was serving Her Majesty in 'Foreign Parts' as they were then called; watching and learning first-hand about the demise our former British Empire and the rise in excitement and promise offered to our former colonies as their Nations were established. Freedom of choice for those born and bred under British rule.

While Lord Mandelson was being educated at Oxford I was living as an immigrant in the world's first official multicultural society; learning and understanding how and why people of different backgrounds choose to live and work together to make a successful (and profitable) society.

In retirement Lord Mandelson was appointed to our Upper Chamber, while I chose to return with my wife to our country of birth.

With the announcement of the Referendum, Lord Mandelson was loud and widely reported in his support for the European Union.

I was a small voice in the Shires, one of many working hard to remind people that the best future for those who come after us is in a Free and Independent Self-Governing country with the ability to change our world and the people who run it with ballots, not bullets.

Unlike Lord Mandelson I owe no allegiance to an unelected collection of appointed Commissioners who seek the federated states of Europe and are prepared to reward those who support them.

Unlike Lord Mandelson I have no axe to grind or insults to offer those who oppose my views.

Unlike Lord Mandelson I simply accept the choice of the majority. In our Country it is called Democracy.

Unlike Lord Mandelson I accept and believe in Democracy.

Unlike Lord Mandelson I have no vested interest in the European Union, nor have I ever received monetary reward as the result of holding an elected position.

Unlike Lord Mandelson I believe in my Country, its Democracy, and its ability to provide a better future for its people than being governed by unaccountable and unelected EU commissioners.

Unlike Lord Mandelson I do not believe "Brexiters are nationalists who hate foreigners":

Like Lord Mandelson, I now offer *my* opinions:

Like Lord Mandelson, I believe "Patriotism is love of your country. Wanting to stand up for your country, wanting to serve the best interests of your country."

Like Lord Mandelson, I accept that the message is in the receiver.

Like Lord Mandelson, I and the majority millions of others who voted in the referendum "have done nothing improper"

**Lord Mandelson must apologise to the public for his uncalled for and improper remarks**

[https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2018/07/30/lord-mandelson-says-brexiters-nationalists-hate-foreigners/?li\\_source=LI&li\\_medium=li-recommendation-widget](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2018/07/30/lord-mandelson-says-brexiters-nationalists-hate-foreigners/?li_source=LI&li_medium=li-recommendation-widget)

# Lord Mandelson: Brexiteers are nationalists who hate foreigners, not patriots like me

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The scandals that brought Peter Mandelson down twice before Peter Mandelson's two previous spells in the Cabinet both ended with him reluctantly penning a resignation letter to Tony Blair and leaving Downing Street under a dark cloud.

By Nick Allen and John Bingham

5:55PM BST 03 Oct 2008

In his first incarnation, as Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, he lasted less than five months in 1998. He was undone on that occasion by the revelation that he had bought a fashionable home in Notting Hill, with the help of an interest-free £373,000 loan from his millionaire ministerial colleague Geoffrey Robinson. When Mr Mandelson filled in a Britannia Building Society mortgage form to buy the house in 1996 he had failed to mention the loan. Nor did it appear on his entry in the Commons Register of Interests. After joining the Cabinet he also did not bring the loan to the attention of his Permanent Secretary, even though Mr Robinson's business links were at that time under investigation by Mr Mandelson's own department. Tony Blair had vowed that his Government, in contrast to the Conservatives, would be "whiter than white" and Mr Mandelson had to go.

## Related Articles

- [Mandelson says Cabinet return 'third time lucky'](#)

03 Oct 2008

He admitted being "technically" wrong in not telling his building society about the loan but, even though he resigned, insisted he had done nothing improper.

That left his path open, once the furore had died down, for a return to the Cabinet only 10 months later in the crucial post of Northern Ireland Secretary.

He lasted more than a year this time before another scandal erupted.

It related to a previous ministerial role, when he had responsibility for the Millennium Dome, and centred on newspaper accusations that he helped the Indian billionaire Srichand Hinduja to secure a British passport in return for a £1 million donation to help fund the Dome's Faith Zone.

When the story broke Mr Mandelson said an inquiry about Mr Hinduja's passport application had been dealt with by his Private Secretary, not him personally.

That led to the Prime Minister's spokesman Alastair Campbell inadvertently misleading the media and Chris Smith, the then Culture Secretary, doing the same with MPs in the Commons.

It soon became apparent from Home Office records that Mr Mandelson had personally telephoned Home Office Minister Mike O'Brien.

Their conversation related to whether a passport application from Mr Hinduja would be reconsidered following a change in government policy.

After being contacted by Downing Street Mr O'Brien confirmed that he remembered having a two-minute telephone conversation with Mr Mandelson.

Mr Mandelson was then forced to resign as Northern Ireland Secretary but, once again, maintained he had done nothing wrong.

He blamed his second departure on a "muddle" that led to himself and other senior figures giving conflicting accounts.

A subsequent independent report into the so-called "cash for passports" affair by Sir Anthony Hammond QC found in Mr Mandelson's favour, concluding that neither he, nor anyone else, had done anything improper in the affair.

Despite that there appeared little prospect of a resurrection for his twice foiled Cabinet career and a long walk into the political wilderness loomed.

Mr Mandelson had been one of the key architects of New Labour, replacing the party's red flag logo with the red rose and pioneering the use of rapid rebuttal units, radiopagers for MPs and the repetitive television soundbite. But he was always deeply unpopular with those who clung to traditional Labour values and regarded him as a champagne socialist.

Whether true or not the story that he once mistook mushy peas for "guacamole dip" at a fish and chip shop in Hartlepool says much about how he was viewed by some of his colleagues.

When he stood up in Hartlepool in 2001, after keeping his seat in Parliament in the General Election, Mr Mandelson gave a bizarre, emotionally charged speech in which he proclaimed "I am a fighter, not a quitter" and referred to his "inner steel".

That was greeted by many as the last throes of a politician on the way to oblivion and one election worker at Labour headquarters was heard to say: "He's truly lost it."

They could not have been more wrong.

But Mr Mandelson's will now face greater public scrutiny than ever, with his friendships and political contacts pored over like never before.

Bookmakers William Hill are already offering odds of 10/1 on him resigning before the next election.

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/labour/3130348/The-scandals-that-brought-Peter-Mandelson-down-twice-before.html>

enigma

ɪˈnɪgmə/

*noun*

1. a person or thing that is mysterious or difficult to understand.

"Madeleine was still an enigma to him"

*synonyms:* [mystery](#), [puzzle](#), [riddle](#), [conundrum](#), [paradox](#), [problem](#), [unsolved problem](#), [question](#), [question mark](#), [quandary](#), [a closed book](#); [More](#)

megalomania

ˌmɛɡ(ə)lə(ʊ)ˈmeɪniə/

*noun*

1. obsession with the exercise of power.

*synonyms:* [delusions of grandeur](#), [obsessionalism](#), [grandiosity](#), [grandioseness](#); [More](#)

- o delusion about one's own power or importance (typically as a symptom of manic or paranoid disorder).

## A selection of Lord Mandelson's votes

[See full list of topics voted on](#)

- Almost always voted for removing **hereditary peers** from the House of Lords [Show votes](#) 5 votes for, 0 votes against, 2 absences, between 1999–2003
- Has never voted on **fewer MPs** in the House of Commons
- Has never voted on raising England's **undergraduate tuition fee** cap to £9,000 per year
- Voted a mixture of for and against more **EU integration** [Show votes](#) 3 votes for, 1 vote against, 2 absences, in 2011
- Generally voted for university **tuition fees** [Show votes](#) 9 votes for, 0 votes against, 2 absences, between 1997–2010
- Voted against an **equal number of electors** per parliamentary constituency [Show votes](#) 0 votes for, 1 vote against, 6 absences, in 2011

We have **lots more** plain English analysis of Lord Mandelson's voting record on issues like health, welfare, taxation and more. Visit [Lord Mandelson's full vote analysis page](#) for more.

## Recent appearances

- [Brexit: Preparations and Negotiations - Motion to Take Note](#) 23 Jul 2018

I should have been on that list.

[More of Lord Mandelson's recent appearances](#)

[RSS feed](#) (?)

## Profile

Labour Peer

**Entered the House of Lords on 13 October 2008**

**Previously MP for Hartlepool until 8 September 2004 — Resigned**

**Entered the House of Commons on 9 April 1992 — General election**

Also represented Hartlepool

- [Wikipedia page](#)

## Expenses

- [Expenses from 2004 to 2009](#)

## Other offices held in the past

- President of the Council, Privy Council Office (23 Mar 2010 to 11 May 2010)
- Secretary of State, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (13 Oct 2009 to 11 May 2010)
- Lord President of the Council, Privy Council Office (18 Jun 2009 to 23 Mar 2010)
- Secretary of State, Department for Business, Innovation & Skills (10 Jun 2009 to 13 Oct 2009)
- President of the Council, Privy Council Office (10 Jun 2009 to 18 Jun 2009)
- The Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills (6 Jun 2009 to 6 May 2010)

- Lord President of the Council (Privy Council Office) (6 Jun 2009 to 6 May 2010)
- Secretary of State for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (13 Oct 2008 to 5 Jun 2009)
- Secretary of State, Department for Business, Enterprise & Regulatory Reform (6 Oct 2008 to 10 Jun 2009)
- European Commissioner (22 Nov 2004 to 3 Oct 2008)
- Secretary of State, Northern Ireland Office (11 Oct 1999 to 24 Jan 2001)
- The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland (11 Oct 1999 to 24 Jan 2001)
- Secretary of State, Department of Trade and Industry (27 Jul 1998 to 23 Dec 1998)
- Secretary of State for Trade (27 Jul 1998 to 22 Dec 1998)
- Minister without Portfolio (5 May 1997 to 27 Jul 1998)
- Minister without Portfolio (5 May 1997 to 26 Jul 1998)

## Numerology

Please note that numbers do not measure quality. Also, representatives may do other things not currently covered by this site. [More about this](#)

- Has spoken in **16 debates** in the last year — above average amongst Lords. [See all Lord Mandelson's speeches](#)
- Has received answers to **0 written questions** in the last year — average amongst Lords.
- Has voted in **21.91% of votes** in this House with this affiliation up to the 2015 general election — below average amongst Lords. (From Public Whip)
- People have made **16 annotations** on this Lord's speeches — well above average amongst Lords.
- **36** people are tracking this peer — [email me updates on Lord Mandelson's activity](#)
- Has used three-word alliterative phrases (e.g. "she sells seashells") **120 times** in debates — above average amongst Lords. ([Why is this here?](#))

## Register of Members' Interests

Last updated: 8 Sep 2004.

### 1. Remunerated directorships

Clemmow Hornby Inge; advertising agency.

### 2. Remunerated employment, office, profession etc

Monthly column for [GQ Magazine](#), occasionally related to parliamentary affairs. (£10,001-£15,000)

Adviser to [AM](#) Conseil; an industrial consultancy on strategic development, including internal and external communication and change management issues. Does not include parliamentary or public affairs services.

Fees for speeches: [Weber Shandwick](#) Business Breakfast 9 [September 2003](#) (Registered 24 [November 2003](#)), the [NW](#) Business Convention 26 September 2003 (Registered 24 November 2003), the [St Helen's](#) Chamber of Commerce 7 November 2003 (Registered 24 November 2003), Charterhouse Development Capital at a dinner 24 [May 2004](#) (Registered 20 [July 2004](#)), clients of Portland [PR](#) at a dinner 15 [June 2004](#) (Registered 20 July 2004), clients of Weber Shandwick at a breakfast and dinner respectively on 14 June and 14 July 2004. (Registered 20 July 2004)

16 September 2003, to France to speak at [KPMG EMA](#) Partners Conference. Travel, accommodation and fee paid by organisers. (Registered 24 November 2003)

20 [April 2004](#), fee for speaking in Guernsey at a public event organised by the Institute of [Financial Services](#) and [Lloyds TSB](#). (Registered 11 May 2004)

#### 4. Sponsorship or financial or material support

Hosting of [constituency](#) website by 4D Media.

#### 6. Overseas visits

17 [December 2003](#), to Dubai to speak for the [Institute of Science and Technology](#). Travel and accommodation paid by organisers. (Registered 13 [January 2004](#))

9-10 January 2004, to Berlin to speak at the International Bertelsmann Forum. Travel and accommodation paid by organisers. (Registered 13 January 2004)

16 [March 2004](#), to Amsterdam to deliver the Joop Den Uyl Lecture. Travel and accommodation paid for by the [Dutch Labour Party](#). (Registered 11 May 2004)

[View the history of this MP's entries in the Register](#)

[More about the register](#)

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## Royal wedding makes Lord Mandelson consider tying the knot

[UK News](#) | Published: May 20, 2018

The peer said he needed to have a discussion with his partner of 20 years.

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Harry and Meghan's wedding has inspired Labour's Peter Mandelson to consider marrying his long-term partner.

The Labour peer said the happy occasion had made him wonder whether it was time to tie the knot with his partner after 20 years of living together.

Lord Mandelson has previously shrugged off questions over whether he would formalise his relationship with Reinaldo Avila da Silva.



### [Peston on Sunday](#)

✓ [@pestononsunday](#)

“Even I am wondering if I should finally tie the knot with my partner after 20 years of living together”

Lord Mandelson says the Royal Wedding made him so happy he is now considering getting married. [#Peston](#)

[10:09 AM - May 20, 2018](#)

167

78 people are talking about this  
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But he told ITV One's Peston on Sunday: "People all over the country are going to feel inspired, they are all going to want to run out and get married now."

"Even I am now wondering whether I should finally tie the knot with my partner after 20 years of living together."

"I'm now thinking about it. We need a discussion about this."

Lord Mandelson later suggested he had "almost gone further" than he should have done and insisted it was not a "unilateral decision".

### *Advertising*

Culture Secretary Matt Hancock urged the peer to look into the camera and make a proposal on live television.



### [Peston on Sunday](#)

✓ [@pestononsunday](#)

.@MattHancock: "Getting married was the best decision I ever made so I think Peter should look at camera 3 right now and get those words out."

Watch what Lord Mandelson did next... [#Peston](#)  
[10:49 AM - May 20, 2018](#)

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But Lord Mandelson suggested it was time to press on with interviewing the Cabinet minister.

Lord Mandelson said the wedding showed the princes were “well brought up boys” and they had “married well”.

“The whole thing was completely sparkling. It was brilliant.

“I think that Harry and Meghan, but also William and Kate, are a complete credit to their family and to the job they are doing.

“And, I think they have probably secured the royal family and the monarchy for a long time to come.”

**UK News**

Hugh Oxford 30 Jul 2018 7:18PM

I love the way Remain keep rolling out the most despised people of British politics in living memory in support of their appalling neoliberal corporate autocracy...

Flag

**335** Unlike Reply

Claudia Norman 30 Jul 2018 7:15PM

Mandelson's comments are nonsensical. Priti Patel is the daughter of Pakistani immigrants. Dominic Raab is the son of immigrants and married to a Brazilian. Gisela Stuart is originally German. They are all Brexiters. He really needs to find credible arguments instead of resorting to sweeping generalisations.

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**296** Unlike Reply

Nicholas Antoniou 30 Jul 2018 7:09PM

Mandelson is lying. He has always been a liar and this persists.

In fact he is an extreme EU nationalist. Those who define patriotism as acting in the interests of the illegitimate super state.

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**239** Unlike Reply

john bowes 30 Jul 2018 7:14PM

@Nicholas Antoniou indeed his pension depends on it

Flag

**146** Like Reply

Jon Watson 30 Jul 2018 7:19PM

@john bowes @Nicholas Antoniou Sadly it would appear that we will continue to pay his pension. And Clegg's. And the Kinnocks. But maybe once we're out we could review the rules?

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148LikeReply

MTONINE Tracer 30 Jul 2018 7:19PM

Just when I thought Mandelson couldn't get any lower.....

Most Brexiteers will take comfort from the fact that Blair and Mandelson are anti Brexit.

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190LikeReply

Martin Jenner 30 Jul 2018 7:18PM

Brexit needs more useful idiots like Mandelson.

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