

<b>Subject:</b>	THE BLUFFOCRACY
<b>Date:</b>	Fri, 17 Aug 2018 15:51:01 +0100
<b>From:</b>	Edward Spalton < <a href="mailto:edward@spalton.me.uk">edward@spalton.me.uk</a> >
<b>To:</b>	<a href="mailto:letters@spectator.co.uk">letters@spectator.co.uk</a>

The Editor, the Spectator & The Editor, Concordanceout.eu

18 August 2018

Sir,

THE BLUFFOCRACY

Having been a director of an animal feed mill at the time of our accession to the EEC, I heartily endorse the views of James Ball and Andrew Greenway. We are run by glib, facile, ill-informed amateurs today.

The then government started trade familiarisation with the EEC Common Agricultural Policy late in 1971 and continued throughout 1972, so we were ready to start making our living in the strange new world of Europe on January 1<sup>st</sup> 1973, although the European Communities Act did not receive the royal assent until October 1972.

Up to now, business has had no public guidance from the government although the EU has issued a series of "Notices to Stakeholders" explaining the consequences of becoming a "Third Country" as Mrs. May demanded in her Lancaster House speech of January 2017. She also wanted a "deep and special" agreement but did not specify what that was until her Chequers proposals this July – proposals which are most unlikely to be acceptable either to the EU or to many of her own party.

Surely to goodness, the five months between the referendum and the Lancaster House speech were time enough to form a realistic policy on which the cabinet could agree and expert civil servants could advise, negotiate and implement.

Now there is very little time in which to agree anything and even less to inform firms of what adjustments government and business must make.

Yours faithfully

Edward Spalton