



The CIBUK Clear Water Partnership Newsletter

Welcome!



From: [Ben Philips](#) Communications Director
and Editor of the CIBUK Clear Water
Partnership Newsletter

Week commencing 20 June 2022

Introduction

It is entirely fitting in the 40th anniversary week of the liberation of the Falkland Islands that we provide a glimpse of the vital role which the Royal Navy continues to play in the defence of freedom throughout the world - not least around the shores of Europe itself.



Summary

- We are therefore proud to lead on the extraordinary contribution of the Royal Navy as it undertakes multiple exercises alongside our NATO allies in and around the shores of Europe.
- To those who question the United Kingdom's commitment to the cause of freedom post-Brexit, the scale and scope of the UK's current endeavours should lay to rest any doubts people may have had in this regard.
- In the same spirit, we publish Harry Western's vigorous riposte to those who claim the UK would be better off if it re-joined the European Single Market.
- In a forensic article for *Brexit Watch*, he scrutinises the claims of those who wish us to re-join, exposing their arguments in area after area as entirely specious.
- And if further evidence were needed of the UK's economic resilience outside the EU, it is provided in the UK's latest export figures which we publish below.
- As things currently stand exportation is clearly easier than deportation...

Britannia Rules the EU Waves

Global Brexit Britain plays a crucial role on the European stage



Contrary to popular perception, Britain has never been more committed to the defence of Europe than it is today.

In this, the 40th anniversary week of the Falkland Islands victory, we provide a global snapshot of the Royal Navy's activities around Europe's shores as it continues to play its part alongside NATO allies in the defence of freedom.

From the Arctic Circle to the sunny Mediterranean, the Royal Navy has been in the vanguard, with deployments around the EU's sphere of influence.

1. Arctic – Europe's northern frontiers

Exercise Cold Response:

In March of this year HMS Prince of Wales headed joint naval task force in largest military operation in 30 years.

It headed a task force of 25 ships from 11 nations, including six Royal Navy ships and 2,000 UK personnel.

Captain Steve Higham, the carrier's Commanding Officer, said:

"HMS Prince of Wales deploying in the High North has proved our ability to operate in the Arctic. I'm very proud of our ship's company and their constant innovation in the face of extreme conditions."

2. Baltic – the EU's northern flank

Exercise Joint Warrior

Taking place each Spring and Autumn and run by the United Kingdom, it involves warships, aircraft, marines and troops from UK, NATO and allied forces.

Operation Baltic Protector

Baltic Protector marks the first deployment of the UK-led Joint Expeditionary Force (JEF) Maritime Task Group, with command of the group conducted by HMS Albion.

A total of 3,000 military personnel and 17 vessels from nine nations will contribute to the first major maritime training deployment of the UK-led Joint Expeditionary Force.

"This deployment represents the largest UK-led operational deployment of a military force in Europe for decades and demonstrates our ability to react quickly and decisively to any crisis in the world."

- Captain Peter Laughton, Commanding Officer, HMS Albion

3. Mediterranean – the EU's southern flank

Littoral Response Group eXperimental (LRG(X))

HMS Albion led an amphibious deployment to the Mediterranean, carrying Royal Marines.

Cyprus : Operation Commando Phoenix

An Exercise behind enemy lines with the Royal Marines Reserves (RMR) following two week's intensive training.

England Expects...

From the freezing wastes of the Arctic to the blistering heat of the Eastern Mediterranean, Britannia's commitment to the defence of Europe is without parallel. Her sustained support over the years and across the oceans guarantees Her place at the heart of the Western Alliance, even if the EU Commission has yet to acknowledge the fact. No matter. Actions speak louder than words. The United Kingdom will continue to do Her duty.

The full report can be found here: <https://cibuk.org/uk-is-defending-the-eu/>

No Mr. Ellwood, The single market is not the answer

by Harry Western for Briefings for Britain

As a follow-up to last week's story on the Single Market, we place the claims of those who wish us to re-join under the microscope.

Tobias Ellwood's claim that Britain would be better off inside couldn't be further from the truth, according to Harry Western in last Saturday's *Briefings for Britain*. On Economic Growth, Exports, Business Investment, Red Tape, Cost of Living and the Northern Ireland Protocol the claims by those who wish us to re-join are spurious at best. The author tackles each of Ellwood's assertions head-on:

Economic Growth

'The OBR calculates, in its current form, that Brexit is reducing our GDP by four percent'.

This is manifestly wrong for two reasons:

1. The OBR made no such calculation and refers only to the potential long-term impact on GDP **over 10-15 years**.
2. Most of the recorded decline in UK exports to the EU has been due to declining sales of oil and erratic items neither of which is due to Brexit. Underlying export volumes remain unchanged. Eurostar freight movements - a good proxy for UK trade with the EU - were 5% higher than in January 2020.

Exporters

'Fishers...can no longer sell their Scottish salmon...farmers undercut by unchecked imports...the City can no longer sell financial services to Europe'

- Sales of Scottish Salmon to the EU were up 29%
- Worldwide salmon exports at near record levels
- Financial services exports to the EU Oct-Dec '21: £6bn, unchanged from 2019

Business Investment

'Business investment...is 10% down on 2019'

- Data tends to be revised up over time
- Relative buoyancy of some survey indicators backs this up
- Business investment in the Eurozone over same period declined by **12%**

Cost of Living: UK vs Eurozone

'Easing the cost-of-living crisis:'

- y/e March 2022:UK prices up **13%**. Eurozone import prices up **23%**
- Price rises largely due to energy & food (nothing to do with Brexit)

Northern Ireland Protocol

Settling the Northern Ireland Protocol issue:

The proposal of Re-joiners to move to 'dynamic alignment' with the EU over agri-foods and other product regulations would remove regulatory border in the Irish Sea. However:

- A customs border would remain because the UK is outside the EU customs union.
- Completely removing the border issue would require the UK to join the EU customs union.
- **This would extinguish UK's independent trade policy, cancelling recent deals with Australia, New Zealand and Japan.**

CONCLUSION

"Rejoining the single market would not give the UK economy a significant boost, would do nothing for the cost-of-living crisis and would be at best a partial fix for the Irish border issue."

Costs of Re-joining

- Annual contribution (several £billion)
- Aligning with EU regulations on agri-foods would jeopardise existing New World trade deals
- Lock UK into damaging regulations which would impede agricultural productivity
- Estimated costs run from £20bn-£140bn per annum

Instead

- Remove barriers to imports from Australia and New Zealand
- Remove inherited burden of EU regulation
- Cut cost of energy by boosting domestic production
- Slash taxes and green levies which push up prices

The full article can be read here: <https://cibuk.org/the-single-market-is-not-the-answer/>

UK can't export EU's illegal migrants but increases exports of goods to EU instead

While UK and EU officials continue to lock horns over deportations to Rwanda, another export policy is meeting with much greater success.

According to figures from the ONS :

"EU exports have increased for the third consecutive month in April 2022 and are at the highest levels since records began."

The headline figures are indeed extraordinary:

- Total exports of goods increased by £2.2 billion (7.4%) in April 2022 compared with March 2022
- Exports to EU countries increased by £1.2 billion (8.1%)
- Exports to non-EU countries increased by £0.9 billion (6.5%)
- Exports to the EU are now at the highest levels since records began

Despite the many impediments thrown up by the EU, research from our affiliate Facts4EU reveals that in April of this year exports to the EU **are now at their highest since records began.**



"For years, we were told by Remainers that Brexit would be disastrous for British exporters: that we needed to be part of the EU single market if we were not to experience a catastrophic collapse in trade. These new figures show just how wrong the naysayers were.

"Nimble, innovative British businesses have demonstrated that their world-beating products have a ready market in the EU and in the rest of the world. There is no need to surrender our national independence to trade successfully with our European neighbours - and there never was."

- The Rt Hon David Jones MP, Deputy Chairman of the ERG and former Brexit Minister,
15 June 2022

Who are the UK's best customers?

Oh the irony. Four out of the top five UK export markets are in the EU:

1. *USA*
2. *Germany*
3. *Netherlands*
4. *Ireland*
5. *France*

You were saying Tobias?

The full article can be found here: <https://cibuk.org/uk-increases-exports-of-goods-to-eu/>

About CIBUK: The Campaign for an Independent Britain ([CIBUK](https://cibuk.org/)) is a non-party political campaigning organisation of people from all walks of life. It is the UK's longest-running membership organisation for freedom, democracy and independence.

Founded in 1969, for over 50 years the CIBUK has made a significant contribution in campaigning on issues important to the majority of our population and in securing our exit from the European Union. Now it's time for the next chapter.