



CIBUK - PRESS RELEASE

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From: [Ben Philips](#) Communications Director

On behalf of the **CIBUK** it gives us great pleasure to share our news with you:



***BELGIUM, Riven in two -
Brussels sits astride a divided country***

***Oh the irony! Brussels sits in a divided country,
hosting the divided EU's many institutions***

***How can the EU, an organisation which resides in a country as divided as
Belgium, possibly lecture its 27 member states on the merits of a united
Europe?***

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**In a summary report for CIBUK (below), we expose the long-standing rifts and
divisions which run from top to toe throughout the EU's country of origin, and ask a
simple question:**

**If the EU can't reconcile divisions within its own borders, what chance of imposing
political unity on the rest of Europe?**

[CIBUK \(https://cibuk.org/\)](https://cibuk.org/) – the longest-established organisation for independence,
freedom and democracy in the UK - exposes the deep and historic divisions within the very
heart of the EU from whose clutches the newly independent United Kingdom is now
free. The summary is below and the [full report is now available here](#).

BELGIUM

Riven in two - Brussels sits astride a divided country



KEY DATA

Geography

- The country is divided into two: Flanders in the north & Wallonia in the south.
- Brussels is deemed a 'third' country on the northern border.
- Belgium's land mass is only 11,849 sq m – just 12.7% that of the UK
- Its population is 11.5m – 17.1% that of the UK

Language

- Flemish in the north
- French in the south
- Its population is 11.5m – 17.1% that of the UK

Politics

- Belgium has six different governments

Economy

- Its economy last year totalled just €457bn (approx £384bn GDP) – 16.6% that of the UK



Belgium's most (only) famous politician is one **Guy Maurice Marie Louise Verhofstadt** MEP

OBSERVATIONS

If the nation in whose backyard the EU sits is so divided, what hope can there be for a pan-European settlement across the entire continent?

Belgium is but one example – there are many other nations struggling to free themselves from the political straitjacket of the EU.

CIBUK have argued repeatedly and from the outset that the solution to political peace and co-operation throughout Europe is one based on nation-state democracy and freedom under the law.

For editors and journalists

The full report is now available here.

CIBUK media contact: Professor Daniel Hodson, +44 7801 233094, media@cibuk.org.

To contact one of CIBUK's Officers the email is admin.office@cibuk.org. We are happy to provide more information.

About CIBUK: The Campaign for an Independent Britain ([CIBUK](#)) 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.