EU Referendum

Roundup, week 13

Friday 1 April 2016



Institute and Faculty of Actuaries

Past week's events

Mon 28 March	IPPR published their research on EU migration. the UK has seen sharply rising inflows of EU migration in recent decades and now has the second highest inflows of EU migrants in the EU. EU migrants have high employment rates, although migrants from central and eastern European countries experience low pay and over-qualification. EU migrants tend to be less likely to claim out–of-work benefits but more likely to claim tax credits and child benefit than UK nationals. CBI says Brexit could cost £100 billion and 95,000 jobs by 2020 (PwC report).	
Tue 29 March	Bank of England warns that vote to leave EU risks a credit crunch	
	Brexit would 'remove threat' of EU holistic balance sheet, trustees say If Britain exits the European Union it will have a negative impact on the British, European and world economies, US Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew warned Tuesday.	
Wed 30 March	Applications to the electoral commission for campaigners has resulted in the following: Remain: The In Campaign Ltd (Britain Stronger in Europe) Leave: Go Movement Ltd (Grassroots Out), Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition, Vote Leave Ltd	
	<u>The Lords EU Committee today publishes</u> a report inviting the Government to set out a positive, inclusive vision of the UK's role in a reformed European Union ahead of the referendum on EU membership.	
Thu 31 March	Ambrose-Pritchard argues that the UK blocked EU's improved trade defense systems, and that is the main reason why Tata steel is selling its UK assets; it cannot compete anymore against import of cheap Chinese steel.	
Fri 01 April	If Britons vote to leave the EU, London's financial centre faces losing one of its top money spinners – the trade in trillions of euros in derivatives – and the European Central Bank will be pushing hard for the business to move onto its patch.	
	The EU Commission is allegedly drawing up action plans for after the referendum, in case of Brexit. Euractiv states that "() that the terms of the divorce are set to be messier than even the most ardent of arch-federalists could have dreamed." For example, the EU would: support Spain's claim on Gibraltar, ban BBC period dramas (to protect EU cultural identity), replace English with French and German as official language. (But editor reminds you that today is April fools day)	
	New polls suggest a neck-and-neck race between the 2 sides. ORB for the Independent shows that about 51% want UK to stay in, 49% want to leave. Ipsos MORI shows that 49% wants to remain in, while 41% wants to leave	
	The Economist writes about the migration issue and debunks some claims from both sides, but ends with: "Rich countries need migration to thrive, not least to sustain their public services. A growing population can create problems, but a shrinking one is worse. The irony is that the surest way to reduce immigration to Britain is, as one migration adviser puts it, to wreck its economy, and leaving the EU is a quick way to do that. Brexiteers could inadvertently get what they want—but the country would be poorer for it." The Economist criticizes the strategy of Britain Stronger in Europe	
	The FT debunks 10 of the biggest claims of the Brexit and Bremain campaigners	

Upcoming events

14 April	Formal designation of the 2 Campaign Groups (either side) by Electoral Commission
5 May	London mayoral elections + London assembly elections
5 May	National Assembly for Wales election
5 May	Scottish Parliament election
23 June	EU Referendum date
23-24 June	EU Summit