

EU Referendum

Roundup, week 50

Friday 11 December 2015



Institute
and Faculty
of Actuaries

Assessment	<p>The first round of French' local elections last Sunday saw extreme right's Front National take 28% of the votes, beating both right (27%) and the left (23%). This adds to a far-right, anti-EU sentiment which is growing across the EU (Hungary, UK, Denmark, Finland, Poland, and others).</p> <p>Cameron's renegotiations with Europe's Heads of State are continuing, but he finds much opposition to his proposed curbs on immigration. A deal is still on the cards by February, which theoretically leaves open a chance for a June 2016 Referendum date. But most watchers believe a September or October date is more realistic.</p>
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Past week's events

Mon 7 Dec.	<p>Campaign Group 'British Influence' issued a report concluding that leaving the EU would result in a shock-and-awe effect, a smaller economy, and a threat to the NI peace process.</p> <p>Euro-sceptic campaigners might seize on developments in Switzerland. It threatened to impose unilateral curbs on immigration, leading to what some coin as a possible Swexit</p>
Tue 8 Dec.	<p>MPs overturn Lords bid to give 16- and 17-year-olds right to vote. The so-called 'ping-pong' has commenced</p>
Wed 9 Dec.	<p>UK-EU negotiations on migration reform are ongoing, with negotiators trying to find ways to accommodate the UK, whilst avoiding Treaty change.</p>
Thu 10 Dec.	<p>David Cameron continues his re-negotiation campaigns, visiting Poland. Cameron faces strong opposition from Poland on the issue of curbing health care benefits. Poland's State Secretary stated that re-negotiations would take months, rather than weeks, because the principle of freedom of movement & indiscriminate treatment is 'absolutely crucial'.</p>
Fri 11 Dec.	<p>One particular journalist – Guardian data editor Alberto Nardelli – has been producing much content on the immigration topic – in relation to the credibility of their numbers. See his latest piece: The media needs to tell the truth on migration, not peddle myths.</p> <p>Christine Lagarde, managing director of the IMF has said she wants Britain to stay in the EU, warning that a looming Brexit poses a risk to the UK economy.</p>

Upcoming events

15 Dec	Foreign Affairs Committee on the Costs and benefits of UK membership of the EU. Witness: Baroness Ashton, Former VP of the European Commission
17-18 Dec.	EU Summit, where Cameron will meet his counterparts, to negotiate
18-19 Feb 2016	EU Summit
17-18 March	EU Summit
23-24 June	EU Summit