## eurofacts

13TH MAY 2022

THE REALITY BEHIND EUROPE

MONTHLY £3.50

# The war in Ukraine has dashed hopes of European autonomy

## **Stephen Booth**

The following article was written on 7th April, since then the situation has deteriorated even further.

"Ukraine has revived American leadership and dashed hopes of European autonomy.

In the 1990s, Mark Eyskens, then Belgium's foreign minister, described the EU as an economic giant, a political dwarf, and a military worm. This depiction has since been invoked in dozens of articles and speeches about EU foreign and security policy.

The unprecedented speed and scale of the EU's response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine therefore displayed a surprising degree of unity and capacity to act, from what was admittedly a rather low base. The EU agreed to provide Ukraine with €450 million worth of weapons, and joined the US and the UK in imposing significant economic sanctions on the Russian financial system. Josep Borrell, the EU's High Representative for Foreign and Security Policy, described it as the EU's 'geopolitical awakening'.

Maintaining a unified EU response will be increasingly difficult as the crisis goes on and tougher decisions are called for. For example, recently, the EU agreed sanctions on Russian coal and shipping but was unable to extend this to oil, amid resistance from large energy importers such as Germany.

And while some in Brussels might hail the response as giving fresh impetus to the concepts of 'European sovereignty' and 'strategic autonomy', in many ways the crisis has only underlined and intensified the EU's reliance on the US and NATO.

The first references to the concept of EU 'strategic autonomy' date back nearly a decadem but Emmanuel Macron has sought to put the idea at the heart of French and European foreign policy since assuming office. He first drew on this theme early in his presidency in a 2017 speech at the Sorbonne as a response to what he described as 'gradual and inevitable disengagement by the United States'.

While pitched as a 'complement' to NATO and the transatlantic alliance, Macron was clear that the concept meant equipping the EU with the tools to take decisions and action independently based on its own interests, from foreign and security policy to energy and technology. In 2019, Macron described the 'brain death' of NATO.

The EU institutions in Brussels were keen to run with the theme. In 2019, the incoming Commission President, Ursula von der Leyen, promised a 'geopolitical Commission'. This promise was made in response to the decline in multilateralism and growing great power rivalry between the US and China. Brexit, and the loss of one of the EU's two major foreign policy and security players, no doubt also acted as a catalyst for the renewed emphasis on developing the EU's geopolitical role.

However, the EU has struggled to define what strategic autonomy means

in practice. Economically, the French desire to create European champions clashes with the instincts of more liberal member states. Clément Beaune, France's EU minister, said last month that the war should push the EU 'to reduce our interdependence with the outside world, to create not an autocracy but a form of European independence'. Mark Rutte, Holland's Prime Minister, has stressed the need for 'open strategic autonomy'.

On security, there has been a focus renewed on increasing investment in defence capabilities, which has been accelerated by Ukraine crisis, particularly dramatically in Germany. However, there had remained an unresolved tension between those states for whom strategic autonomy is a means of regaining political independence from Washington, and others for whom it should be avoided precisely for fear of accelerating US disengagement. The Ukraine crisis has strengthened the hand of those in the latter camp, including the Eastern and Nordic

Observers have noted that, on assuming the EU's rotating presidency at the start of this year, Macron dropped the term 'strategic autonomy' in favour of 'European sovereignty', precisely because the term autonomy risked becoming divisive.

The EU recently published its Strategic Compass for Security and Defence, which was supposed to be the centrepiece of the French EU Continued on page 2

## The war in Ukraine has dashed hopes of European autonomy

#### Continued from page 1

presidency and a landmark signpost towards a more geopolitical EU. Based on the 'first-ever comprehensive EU threat analysis', conducted in 2020, it has been rather overtaken by events.

The Compass has been hastily updated to reflect the Ukraine war, but the major threat analysis conducted before the Russian invasion changed the geopolitical landscape, and that threat analysis also did not anticipate the risk of Russian military action. Notably, US and intelligence warnings of an imminent Russian attack proved to be correct, whereas French and German agencies appeared unconvinced, leading to the departure of the head of French military intelligence.

One of the key proposals of the Strategic Compass is the development of an EU Rapid Deployment Capacity of up to 5,000 troops for different types of crises. However, the Ukraine crisis has only underlined that, for hard power, NATO is the only game in town. In the words of NATO's Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg, 'so all these efforts – as long as they complement NATO – we welcome

An EU crisis, but the UK has stepped up

Since Russia's President Putin ordered the invasion of Ukraine on 24th February the worst European refugee crisis since WWII has manifested itself with well over 2 million refugees fleeing to neighbouring countries by crossing the borders of Poland, Hungary, Slovakia, Romania and Moldova.

The UK announced two methods for Ukrainian refugees to gain entry to the UK by legal routes. The first was for Ukrainian relations of British Nationals – with the list of relations being extended since first announced. The second was for community

them, but the EU cannot defend Europe'.

The crisis has amplified the voices of the more Atlanticist member states, particularly in Eastern Europe. Estonia has called for a larger permanent presence of NATO forces on the eastern flank to act as a stronger deterrent. Romania has also called for more troops and has pledged to increase defence spending to 2.5 per cent of GDP. Meanwhile, Poland has quietly lowered the temperature in its legal disputes with Brussels, giving it the opportunity to rekindle ties with the Biden Administration and urge the EU to do more on sanctions and support for Ukraine.

The US is also poised to play a significant role in the EU's transition away from dependence on Russian energy. The US and the EU recently reached a deal to secure greater shipments of US liquified natural gas up to 2030 to help reduce energy dependence on Russian gas in the coming years. Von der Leyen noted that the target to import 50 billion cubic metres per year 'is replacing one-third already of the Russian gas going to Europe today'.

## Refugee crisis

sponsored Ukrainians.

Now there is a new support scheme for people to give accommodation to Ukrainian refugees on a temporary basis, with financial compensation of £350 per month. Local councils will also receive thousands of pounds per refugee.

This latest scheme comes on top of the existing resettlement schemes for Afghan refugees - 7,000 so far through the Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy (ARAP), with another 20,000 anticipated under the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS), Syrian refugees (25,000 admitted) and Hong Kong citizens given rights to work and study in the UK that could lead to

If the horrors of the crisis in Ukraine have finally revealed the dangers and consequences of strategic ambiguity towards Putin's Russia, European policies (in the EU and in the UK) towards China are also likely to come under increased scrutiny. During the recent EU-China summit, Xi Jinping reportedly called on the EU 'to pursue an independent policy towards China,' in a thinly veiled warning to Brussels not to coordinate too closely with the US. But if China continues to support Russia, currently Europe's gravest security threat, then greater proximity to Washington is the only likely answer.

This crisis has demonstrated the enduring power of the US. If this gives fresh momentum to Atlanticism within the EU and a greater focus on improving capabilities rather than stressing autonomy, this would be good for the West. It would also provide a more productive atmosphere for UK-EU cooperation on shared threats and challenges."

**Source**: www.policyexchange.org.uk This article was also published on Conservative Home.

British citizenship.

In evidence given to the House of Commons Home Affairs Committee on 2nd February the Home Secretary Priti Patel stated the government was "absolutely struggling" to find accommodation for 12,000 people from Afghanistan who remained in hotels after being evacuated last year. Some 4,000 had been found permanent homes but when it came to finding housing for the rest she admitted,

"We do not have the infrastructure ... in terms of housing and accommodation." The Home Office's Second Permanent Secretary reported the daily cost of Asylum seekers in hotels is £1.2m.

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## Danish people asked to vote again

The Danish pro-EU politicians never let an opportunity go to waste, this time its the Russian war with the Ukraine.

Pro-EU Danish PM announces EU Army referendum, as the people voted 'wrong way' last time.

"EU makes decisions based on what's best for France and Germany," says former MEP.

The Danish PM, Mette Frederiksen, announced that Danes – encouraged by their pro-EU politicians – will have a referendum in June to ask them to agree to give up Denmark's opt-out from the EU common defence policy.

In what is likely to be a wake-up call to British supporters of Brexit, Danish citizens are once again to be asked to 'vote the right way' regarding the EU.

The Danes voted against the EU's Maastricht Treaty in a referendum in 1992. As recently as December 2015 the Danes then rejected their politicians' call to join the EU's common defence and security policy, in another referendum.

Mette Frederiksen in a televised address has told her people that "Historic times call for historic decisions".

Relating her comments to the current Ukraine crisis she said her government "very clearly calls on Danes to lift the opt-out on defence".

The Danish State Ministry published the following on website:- "The government (Social Democrats) and the Liberals, the Socialist People's Party, the Radical Left and the Conservatives agree that European security is threatened. The parties to the agreement therefore agree on a number of measures to strengthen the Danish preparedness and the possibilities for manoeuvring in the new security policy situation. These include:

- \* Strengthening the Armed Forces, etc. to deal with the Russian crisis
  - \* Historical increase of the Armed

Forces to 2 percent of GDP

- \* Abolition of the defence opt-out
- \* Independence of Russian gas"

## Summary

- \* ....Denmark will have a referendum on its defence opt-out from EU's Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) on 1st June 2022
- \* Denmark is a member of NATO like the United Kingdom but also like the UK was the only EU member not to have signed over its military sovereignty to the EU
- \* If Denmark votes to adopt the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy it will succumb to EU direction and lose military autonomy
- \* Successive pro-EU Danish Prime Ministers have tried to cancel Denmark's defence opt-out but failed
- \* Now they are using Ukraine as the excuse to try again

At least there is one piece of good news - Amongst the Danish government's announcements there was one piece of good news. They have finally committed to spending the NATO minimum of 2% of GDP on defence. This is a large uplift. In the last report Facts4EU.Org produced on defence spending by EU countries, Denmark spent just 1.23% of its GDP, compared to the UK's 2.14%.

This follows on from Germany's announcement last week that they will also finally raise their defence expenditure to the 2% NATO minimum. In neither case, however, has either country said they will make up for their massive shortfall in defence spending over recent decades.

Guy Verhofstadt, Belgian MEP and arch-federalist, *Twitter*, 27th Feb 2022.

Speaking on an EU military capability; Putin is succeeding in redesigning the European security order... but according to his worst nightmares.

"EU starts to take its destiny into its own hands & become a real Union, on refugee protection, humanitarian aid, militarily & geopolitically.

...The certainties in life are said to be "death and taxes", but in today's world you could alter that to "death, taxes and more Europe". The European Union never lets an opportunity pass for "more Europe" to be rolled out as a policy response to any problem, real or imagined. And so it has come to pass that for the 'security problem' the move towards an EU Army must be accelerated.

The answer to the 'security problem' is for EU member states to take security seriously by committing themselves to meeting the minimum investment of 2% of GDP, ... the Danish PM did just that, although the timing of the increased spending is as yet unclear.

Of course they could (and should) go higher, but let's settle first for them reaching the minimum. More importantly they could disabuse themselves of the conceit that NATO having a competitor with a command structure that is cumbersome, divided, and very slow to reach a decision is in any way helpful.

Ask yourself this: do you think Vladimir Putin would have behaved any differently if on 24th February Denmark had already been signed up to the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy? If your answer is no, then why should the Danes do it now? As Henrik Overgaard-Nielsen told us, far better surely that they retain their military autonomy and be free to determine their own military priorities.

The reality is these opportunist moves are no more and no less than power grabs - seeking to gain more power over the military capability of member countries.

Were the UK still in the EU we would be facing the pressure to give up such remaining sovereignty to Brussels. Brexit is working and the world is now seeing the UK will stand up and speak out for our country's interests once again.

Source: www.Facts4EU.org

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## Finland and Sweden to apply for Nato membership

## **Andrew Rettman**

Rinland joining Nato, a senior Finnish official has indicated, amid memories of its 'Winter War' with the Soviet Union.

"Finland is a sovereign state" and it will make decisions "based on real-time evaluation of our security environment", rather than Russian threats, Kai Sauer, Finland's undersecretary of state for foreign and security policy, told EUobserver on the 26th April.

"This is the right of every sovereign nation", he added.

Sauer spoke after Finnish and Swedish press reported that the two countries will submit an application to join Nato in mid-May due to Russian aggression in Ukraine.

He also spoke after Russia earlier threatened to station nuclear weapons in the Baltic regions if they went ahead.

Sauer declined to comment on the Nato application reports, but he indicated that the two Nordic countries were potential assets for the Western alliance.

"Generally speaking, Finland and Sweden are security providers instead of consumers", he said. They "project security and stability in their region", he added.

The renewed Russian threat has revived memories of when Finland last faced Soviet aggression - in the 1940s in the so-called Winter War.

"There are lessons [from the Winter War for modern times], such as [the possibility of a] smaller nation's survival depending on its righteous cause and national unity", Sauer said.

"But there are also differences: then, we were alone, today we have multiple partnerships", he noted.

"Our capabilities [today] - such as material, personnel, and general preparedness - are significant', Sauer said.

The Swedish foreign ministry declined to answer when asked if the reports were true of a joint Nato bid in May.

But a Nato official told EUobserver that if they did go ahead, their application could proceed "very quickly".

Both countries' armed forces and administrations already met Nato standards, on issues such as technical interoperability, information security, and democratic oversight, the official said. "There's not going to be a problem," he said.

If Helsinki and Stockholm signed so-called "letters of intent" in May, then Nato allies could begin national ratification procedures of their "accession protocols" immediately afterwards, and membership could follow in a matter of months after the summer parliamentary recesses.

"They would be covered by Article V [Nato's mutual defence clause] from the day of membership", the Nato official said.

Meanwhile, Jamie Shea, a former senior Nato official, echoed Sauer on the need to separate Russian rhetoric from reality.

"The alliance will need to keep its nerve and look for evidence of real Russian nuclear deployments or changes in force posture - as opposed to the Kremlin's bluster', he said.

Russia already had nuclear-capable missiles in Kaliningrad and Russian nuclear-capable submarines and bombers had been violating Swedish waters and Finnish airspace long before it made its latest threats, Shea said

"Decades of living next door to the Soviet Union under [former presidents Nikita] Krushchev and [Leonid] Brezhnev did not persuade Finland and Sweden to abandon non-alignment and seek Nato membership; but [current Russian president Vladimir Putin's] recklessness has made them rethink their security needs", Shea, who now teaches strategy and security at the University of Exeter in the UK, said.

He also echoed Finland's Sauer in saying the two Nordic states would help Nato do its job.

"The Finns have five modern armoured brigades stationed along the [Russian] border and they are buying 50 US F35 aircraft. Finland can also mobilise significant reserves trained in winter warfare", Shea said.

"Sweden's island of Gottland [in the Baltic Sea] is a major strategic asset in terms of restricting Russia's access in and out of St Petersburg", Shea added.

And if the Nordic states joined Nato, then Russia would "need to divert substantial forces northwards" as a counterbalance, relieving existing pressure on Nato allies Poland and Romania, Shea said.

That aside, Nato's most vulnerable members - Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania - would also sleep safer if their Nordic neighbours joined, a diplomat from one of the three Baltic countries told EUobserver.

"The Finnish and Swedish decision to join would change a decades-long anomaly and would - obviously - make the people of the Baltic States feel much more secure", the diplomat said.

Finland shares a 1,300 km long land border with Russia — almost as long as Ukraine's 1,974 km border with its warmongering neighbour.

But Ukraine's modern performance in its "righteous" self-defence as well as Soviet memories of Finnish valour in the 1940s would likely make Putin's commanders think twice about any attack, Shea said.

"Russian generals may have gravely underestimated the Ukrainians' will to resist but they would not make the same mistake when it comes to Finland", he said.

Source: - www.euobserver.com

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## Absolute power corrupts absolutely

## **Tony Brown**

ord Acton's famous dictum, "all power corrupts; absolute power corrupts absolutely", might have been written for Putin.

Putin allowed the oligarchs to keep their fabulous wealth on condition they steered clear of politics and effectively became hedonistic playboys: Chelsea FC and all those yachts are rich men's toys! He then proceeded to eliminate all significant opposition and took personal control of all the Russian state's levers of power, appointing an entire class of bureaucrats to run everything on his instruction. They in turn received fabulous wealth, but retain it only on condition they do his bidding. Not only is there no internal dissent, but all alternative opinions are unwelcome.

In the tradition of Peter 'the Great' and Stalin - both tyrannical bullies - Putin has become the ultimate autocrat. And that is where Lord Acton's aphorism comes in, for such autocrats come in time to believe that they and they alone have a monopoly of truth; that their opinion is right on everything.

I believe that Putin genuinely believes that Ukraine is not a proper state, that the territory is really Russian (and always has been) and that it needs and requires 'de-Nazifying'!

Manifestly this is arrant nonsense. Ukraine is a properly constituted sovereign state under international law without any caveats. Russia itself accepted this when it guaranteed Ukraine's territorial integrity under the Budapest Memorandum on Security Assurances signed on the 5th December 1994. In return Ukraine voluntarily gave up the nuclear arsenal left on its soil from the USSR. How Ukrainians must now regret their naivete!

If you want a historic, international

parallel, it is the 1839 Treaty of London: this created the state of Belgium (which did not exist before that date, though they actually rebelled to create their new state in 1830) - and guaranteed its integrity. One of the signatories was Prussia. The German Empire of 1871 was the legal successor state. When the German Empire invaded Belgium in August 1914, they were in clear contravention of their own international guarantees - which both brought Great Britain into the 'Great War' and made it much more straight-forward to argue that Germany was the aggressor and had caused the war. Putin's behaviour is identically illegal and immoral.

Most state boundaries, especially in Europe, are 'accidents of history'. If you know the history of Europe, you know that entire states come and go: Hungary literally did not exist (except briefly during an uprising in 1848/9) from 1526 to 1867; likewise Poland from 1795 to 1919. Yet Poland was vast in 1648 and Hungary in 1914. States are created by key European treaty settlements: the Treaty of Westphalia in 1648 created the Netherlands and Switzerland; Vienna in 1815 shaped Germany into its modern 'Länder' after the abolition of the Holy Roman Empire in 1806 and enshrined the three Empires which dominated the map of Europe east of the Rhine in 1914. The Versailles Treaty of 1919 abolishes empires and redraws the map east of the Elbe to create many of the boundaries and states we know today. Eire was created out of the UK only in 1922. Even if you take the view (which I don't) that Ukraine was only created by Lenin in 1917/1922 then it is still as old as most of Europe's states. Putin's claim to his neighbour is without merit, hogwash, bunkum, risible, ludicrous and absurd!

As for Putin's claim to be 'de-Nazifying' (his word), that is gaslighting as international diplomacy: Putin is the one behaving like a Nazi with his fake flag incidents to justify invasion, just as Hitler did over the Sudetenland in 1938 and Silesia in 1939.

Yet, without any dissenting voices to tell him otherwise, I believe that Putin believes his own propaganda: he probably genuinely thought inside his own world of delusion that his troops would be greeted with flowers and that it would all be over in days; a week at the outside.

Putin is therefore not merely an international war criminal and deluded megalomaniac, he is also an explanation of why freedom and democracy are so important. For only with dissent allowed, many political voices, freedom of speech, a mechanism to change government and transfer power, can we avoid creating the Putins of this world.

Sadly much of the world has only ever really experienced rule of the autocratic kind. A real lesson for me of current events in Russia and Ukraine is to reinforce my certainty that western values are right and better, that we must have the confidence to say this, that not all cultures and value systems are of equal value and that real decadence - of the kind which dooms you - is no longer believing or asserting this.

Tony Brown was a Political Adviser to the former Europe of Freedom and Direct Democracy and its predecessor, Europe of Freedom and Democracy. Tony is a member of The Freedom Association.

Source:- www.tfa.net

## A reminder to the pro-EU lobby

When it comes to trade opportunities the pro-EU lobby that considers the whole world revolves around the EU should be

reminded that, the European Union contains only seven per cent of the world's population and five per cent of its land mass.

Trade opportunities requires customers to serve and therefore population numbers are of greater importance than distance.

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## **LETTERS**

Tel: 08456 120 175 email: info@junepress.com

#### Ukraine

Dear Sir,

With regard to the situation in the Ukraine, I would urge "eurofacts" to be cautious of being sucked into the uncritical atlanticist viewpoint which entails, inter alia, whitewashing the Ukraine regime and demonising Russia.

Whilst our Establishment politicians resort to jingoism and sabre-rattling. and the mainstream media obediently defame Vladimir Putin as "a dictator", "an aggressor", "mad", and "a thug", the fact remains that he is simply doing what any Russian leader should be doing; putting the security of his country first, in the face of threats from NATO; and coming to the aid of Russian-speakers in the Donbass region who have been besieged by both regular Ukraine forces and by irregular neo-Nazi militias for the last 8 years (did any "western" leaders propose sanctions against Ukraine for this?).

The Ukraine's intention to join the anti-Russian alliance known as NATO was, for Russia, the last straw. And as far NATO's claim to be "defensive", the survivors of the NATO bombing of Yugoslavia, Libya and Afghanistan might want to query that.

ROGER ENSKAT London

## **Devastation of Ukraine**

Dear Sir,

I like so many others are deeply upset by the loss of life in Ukraine, suffered mainly the Ukraine people but also the Russian soldiers. The destruction of people's homes and businesses will never be forgotten or forgiven by those affected.

The EU as ever is trying pretend it wants to help Ukraine but since the 24th February invasion of Ukraine and throughout the month of March it not only supported the Russian economy by buying its oil and gas, but it also

provided military equipment. It took until April for the situation to change. All this was done why most of the world were actively sending military aid to Ukraine in order that it could defend itself from the Russian invasion.

This is the same EU that has been telling everyone in the UK and the world that it is responsible for keeping in peace in Europe. Words are all well and good but action is what really matters, the EU is guilty of deception on a truly gigantic scale.

SANDRA STEVENS Bristol

#### Political reform

Dear Sir,

The recent behaviour of those in privileged positions in the House of Commons and House of Lords need immediate action.

The use of mobile phones in either House should be banned while in the chamber. How can they have proper scrutiny and listen and contribute to the verbal debate while using mobile phones or any other electronic devises?

These individuals are elected to parliament to be the voice of the people. Imagine how it would be if the legal system acted in this way, should judges and juries be actively using electronic devises during court cases! Would that be a safe system of justice? SIMON MITCHELL

West Midlands

## **GP** shortages

Dear Sir,

It never fails to shock me why it is that doctors are highly paid - some may say overpaid - while many nurses are underpaid.

Furthermore, I cannot understand why the UK taxpayer spends so much money training up doctors, nurses and other medical workers without certain returns.

The cost of medical training is huge

and as it should requires many years of training. The problem is that after training they have no obligation to work directly for the National Health Service (NHS). Surely, the time has come to insist that all those medically trained in the UK should be obliged to work for the NHS for an initial period of at least three years at the end of their training.

Presently many of those trained in the UK, after qualifying go to work in other countries or join the private sector where they can often earn more money with a lesser work load.

The problems of the NHS will never be solved by just giving it more money, this gets squandered by senior management and wasted IT systems.

DAVID WALKER

East Sussex

## **Immigration**

Dear Sir,

Yet again when it comes to control over legal or illegal migrants entering or trying to enter the UK, the idea of any sort of control is opposed by the politicians of all colours.

The UK is an island with limited housing and land even for its existing population, yet we still allow more people in often increasing the suffering and hardships for those born in the UK.

Throughout the UK there is a huge housing crisis and financial hardships for residents, but we happily let in more people dependant on the limited state resources paid for by the UK tax payer.

The latest idea is to send people to Rwanda for processing because the EU and France will do nothing to stop channel crossings, surely we have to act in such a way that may cause hardships for those trying to force their way into the UK to protect those in the UK. Those opposing such moves offer no workable alternatives to Rwanda or any other location or system.

JANE EVANS Leicestershire

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## **MEETINGS**

This year due to the ongoing Covid crisis some of the meetings are being held both in person (where the wearing of face masks may be recommended) and virtual on line, please check before attending.

> Gresham College 020 7831 0575

Wednesday 18th May 6.00 pm

"The Future of Health Globally"

**Chris Whitty,** Gresham Professor of Physics

PUBLIC MEETING Museum Of London, London Wall, London EC2

Admission Free - Tickets required

Online version: @gres.hm/future-health Registration required at www.gresham.ac.uk

**Gresham College** 020 7831 0575

Tuesday 24th May 6.00 pm

"Natural Prosperity and the Wellbeing Economy"

**Jacqueline McGlade,** Frank Jackson Professor of the Environment

PUBLIC MEETING Barnard's Inn Hall, Holborn, London EC1N 2HH

**Admission Free - Tickets required** 

Online @gres.hm/natural-prosperity Registration required at www.gresham.ac.uk

## FREE - Advertising Space

Should you be planning a meeting and/or conference dealing with the subject of UK-EU relations we may be able to advertise the event.

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**Gresham College** 020 7831 0575

Thursday 26th May, 6.00 pm

"Should the Commonwealth Caribbean Abolish Appeals to the Privy Council?"

**Leslie Thomas,** Gresham Professor of Law

PUBLIC MEETING Barnard's Inn Hall, Holborn, London EC1N 2HH

Admission Free - Tickets required

Online version:
@gres.hm/caribbean-appeals
Registration required at
www.gresham.ac.uk

Gresham College 020 7831 0575

Monday 30th May, 6.00 pm

"Investigative Journalism: A New Global Power?"

**Hugo De Burgh,** University of Westminster

PUBLIC MEETING Barnard's Inn Hall, Holborn, London EC1N 2HH

Admission Free - Tickets required

Online version @gres.hm/investigative-journalism Registration required at www.gresham.ac.uk

### DIARY OF EVENTS

Czech Republic takes over EU Council Presidency

2023

Sweden takes over 1st January EU Council Presidency

Spain takes over 1st July EU Council Presidency

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### **USEFUL WEB SITES**

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www.briefingsforfreedom.co.uk

**Britain First** 

www.britainfirst.org

**Bitish Future** 

www.britishfuture.org

British Weights & Measures Assoc.

www.bwmaonline.com

**Bruges Group** 

www.brugesgroup.com

Campaign Against Euro-Federalism

www.caef.org.uk

Campaign for an Independent Britain

www.cibuk.org

Civitas

www.civitas.org.uk

**Democracy Movement** 

www.democracymovement.org.uk

**EU Observer** 

www.euobserver.com

**EU Truth** 

www.eutruth.org.uk

**European Commission (London)** 

www.cec.org.uk

**European Foundation** 

www.europeanfoundation.org

Fishing News

www.fishingnews.co.uk

Freedom Association

www.tfa.net

Freenations

www.freenations.net

Futurus

www.futurus-thinktank.com

Get Britain Out

www.getbritainout.org

**Global Britain** 

www.globalbritain.co.uk

**June Press (Publications)** 

www.junepress.com

Labour Euro-Safeguards Campaign

www.eurosafeguards.com

Leave means leave

www.leavemeansleave.eu

New Alliance

www.newalliance.org.uk

**Policy Exchange** 

www.policyexchange.org.uk

The Reform Party

www.reformparty.uk

The Red Cell (Think tank) www.theredcell.co.uk

Statewatch

www.statewatch.org

The Taxpayers' Alliance

www.taxpayersalliance.com

**United Kingdom Independence Party** 

www.ukip.org

**Veterans For Britain** 

http://www.veteransforbritain.uk

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How Political Correctness and Multiculturalism in all its manifestations has come to dominate society and the world of politics. Without consultation with the people and the dangers it exposes for the future.

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An intriguing novel about how a cosmic explorer who crashes to earth in the Amazon jungle becomes a cosmic celebrity and his effect on a remote tribal community.

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