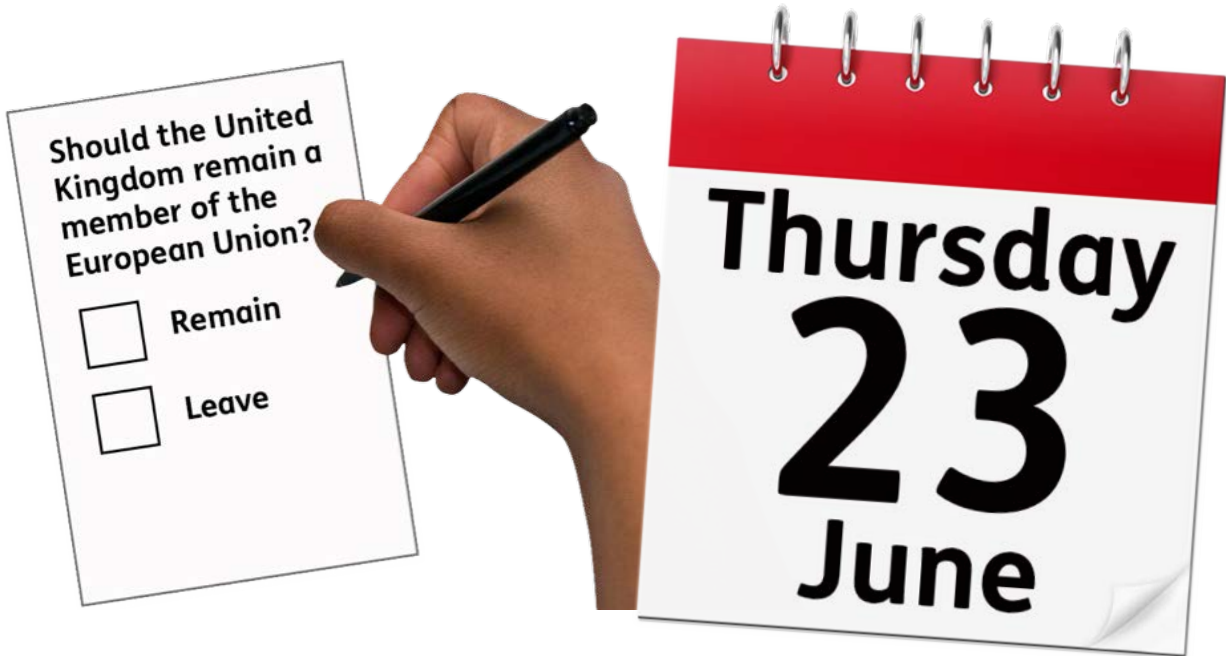




HM Government



Why the Government believes that voting to remain in the European Union is the best decision for the UK











Easy Read



This is a document intended to be easier to read for people with learning difficulties.

For full details on the EU referendum and other alternative formats please visit:
www.EUReferendum.gov.uk

Contents

		Page
	An important decision for the UK	4
	Better for business	7
	Improving our lives	9
	What happens if we leave?	11
	Checking people at the border	13
	The benefits of EU membership	14
	This is your decision	17
	For more information	18

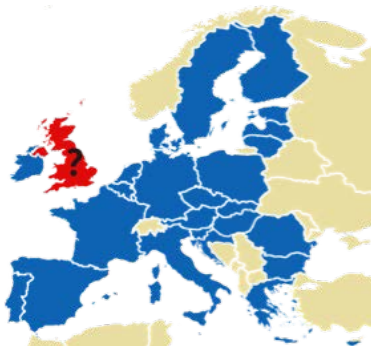
An important decision for the UK



On Thursday, 23rd June 2016 there is going to be a **referendum**.

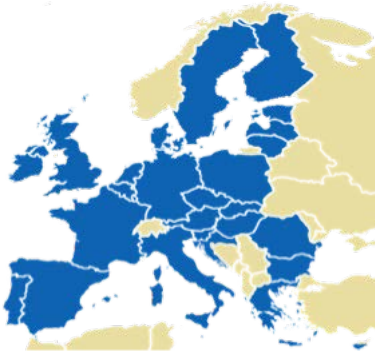


A **referendum** is when the Government asks every adult who can vote to choose something.



On June 23rd we can choose whether the UK should either:

- Remain in the **European Union (EU)** or
- Leave the **European Union (EU)**.



The **European Union (EU)** is a group of 28 countries.

These countries work together to be a safe and peaceful place to live and do business.



The Government believes that the UK should remain in the **EU**.



It's a big decision. One that will affect you, your family, and your children for years to come.



The UK has agreed a special position in the **EU**:

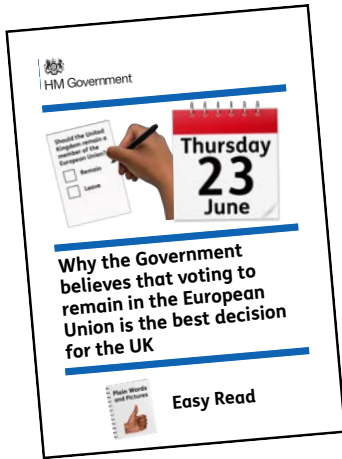
- We will not join the Euro currency.
- We will keep the Pound.
- We will keep control of our own borders.
- There will be tough new rules on when new **EU migrants** can get some welfare benefits.



A **migrant** is someone who has come to live, work or study in the UK.



- We have an agreement to reduce the burden of **EU** rules for business.



The Government believes the UK should remain in the EU

This leaflet explains why the Government thinks a vote to remain in the **EU** is best for the people of the UK.



It also shows some of the choices the UK would face if there were a vote to leave.



If you want more information, visit the Government's website: www.EUReferendum.gov.uk

Better for business



The **EU's Single Market** has over 500 million people.



Nearly half of everything we sell abroad goes to the rest of the **EU**.



Over 3 million UK jobs are linked to things we sell to the rest of the **EU**.



Remaining in the **EU's Single Market** makes it easier and cheaper for UK companies to sell their goods and services to other **EU** countries.



It also means that companies from other countries are more likely to choose to grow their businesses in the UK.



This creates jobs in the UK.



If we left the **EU**, we could still do business with the other countries in the **EU**, but it could become more expensive.

Improving our lives



Cost of living

If the UK voted to leave the **EU** the value of the Pound could go down compared to other countries' money.



This would make things we buy from those countries more expensive here in the UK.



Travel abroad

Millions of UK citizens travel to Europe each year.

The **EU** has made this easier and cheaper:

1. Cheap air flights

The rules agreed in the **EU** in the 1990s have led to cheaper prices for some plane tickets.



2. Cheaper mobile phone charges



The **EU** is getting rid of the extra charges for using your mobile phone when you travel to other **EU** countries.



3. Free or cheaper healthcare

Being a member of the **EU** means that UK citizens travelling in the **EU** can get free or cheaper healthcare.



Some people think that none of this would change if we voted to leave the **EU**.



But if we voted to leave, we cannot be sure that we would keep these benefits.

What happens if we leave?



Voting to leave the **EU** could also lead to years of not knowing what is going to happen to our trade with the **EU**.



If the UK left the **EU**, our trade deals with over 50 other countries around the world would also stop. The UK would then have to make new ones.



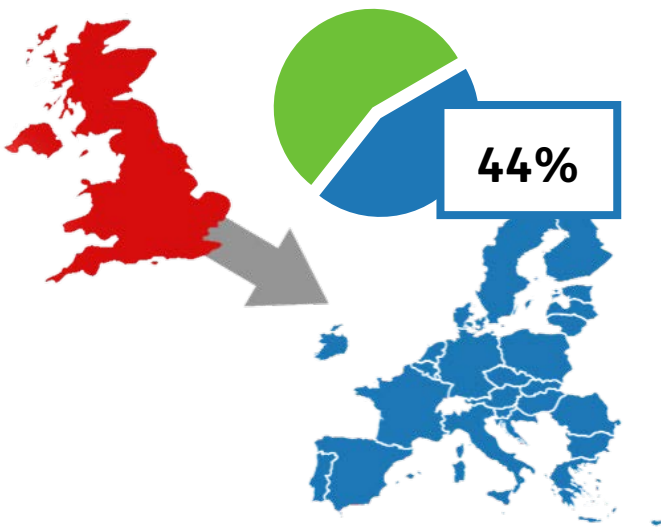
In the meantime, we could still trade with them but it could be more expensive.



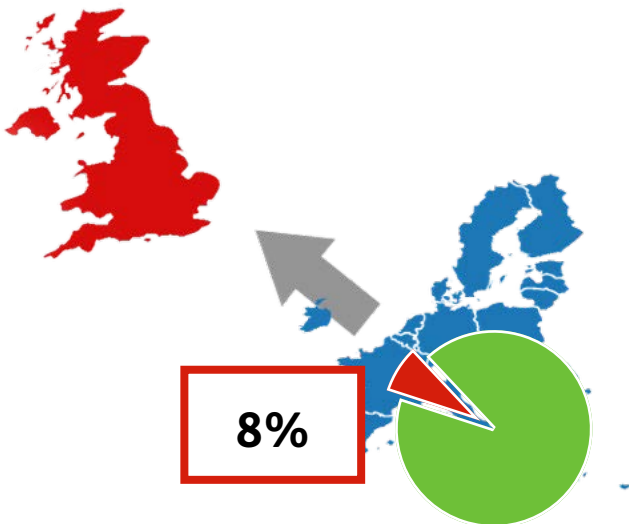
Agreeing all of these deals could take up to 10 years or more.



Some people might say that “The **EU** would want to make a good, new deal with the UK quickly because they want to continue to trade with us.”



The Government does not agree with this because a big part of everything the UK sells to other countries goes to other **EU** countries.



But only a small part of what other **EU** countries sell abroad comes to the UK.



The Government thinks that this would make it hard to agree a good, new deal quickly with the **EU**.

Checking people at the border



Some **EU** countries do not normally check people when they move from one **EU** country to another.

The UK is not part of that group.



The UK can check anyone coming into the country from continental Europe.



Being a member of the **EU** helps us work together with other **EU** countries to catch criminals.



This makes us safer.

The benefits of EU membership



Opportunities for you and your children

Because the UK is a member of the **EU**, you and your family can live, work or study in any of the 27 other **EU** countries.



It also gives you many rights as a worker.



For every £1 paid in tax in the UK, a little over 1p goes to the **EU**.

The Government believes that what the UK gets back is greater than the cost. We get opportunities, jobs and a stronger economy.

The UK as a leading force in the world.



The UK is a strong, independent country.



Being a member of the **EU** means that we can do more about the things we care about in the world, by working with the 27 other countries in the **EU**.



A decision that will make a big difference for you, your family and your children



The referendum on 23rd June is your chance to choose if we should remain in or leave the **European Union**.

This is your decision



If you are aged 18 or over by 23rd June and you are **registered** to vote you have a chance to choose.



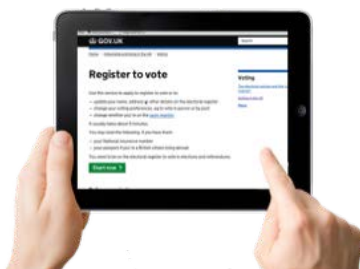
Registered means you signed up to be on the list of people who can vote on June 23rd



You need to **register** to vote by 7th June.



You can find out how to **register** at aboutmyvote.co.uk



You can **register** online at gov.uk/register-to-vote

For more information



If you need more information
please go to:-

www.EUReferendum.gov.uk



HM Government