



Media Coverage Highlights:
April 12 – May 17 2016





- Date: 20 April 2016
- Wealth & Finance International provides fund managers and institutional and private investors around the world with the latest industry news across traditional and alternative investment sectors.

Reach: 130,000

- URL: <http://www.wealthandfinance-intl.com/oxford-business-adviser-challenges-bank-of-england-ahead-of-eu-referendum>

Oxford Business Adviser Challenges Bank of England Ahead of EU Referendum



A well-established Oxford business adviser has responded to the latest Brexit concerns from the Bank of England ahead of the EU referendum on 23 June.

Jonathan Russell, Partner at UK200Group member firm ReesRussell, a Witney based business accountancy and advice firm, has commented on how an 'in' or 'out' vote will affect small businesses in the UK. Jonathan Russell said:

"Uncertainty is the key word. At the moment we have uncertainty over what the vote in the referendum might bring. If the vote is to remain, then there will be a period of uncertainty as to what fall out there might be in government for those MP's who supported the leave vote and the continuing uncertainty of the EU itself, with other countries suggesting disquiet as well."

"It is campaigns such as the UK200 Group's Campaign for Clarity, which might hopefully bring better balance to the information."



The UK200 Group is the UK's leading membership association of quality-assured independent chartered accountancy and law firms, they are concerned that the country would be likely to face a long period of uncertainty if it left the EU, which would dampen demand and impact on UK assets. Acknowledging that the coming months will be a challenging time for small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), the UK200 Group has launched its Campaign for Clarity to help SMEs understand the impact of an 'in' or 'out' vote.

The UK200Group itself has no political bias and its members seek to provide guidance and advice to the SME community – a group whose importance to the UK economy cannot be understated.

Collectively, the group's members support over 150,000 SMEs, many of whom are already asking their accountants and lawyers how a 'Yes' or 'No' vote will affect their businesses

The UK200Group is aiming to educate and inform a large number of business leaders across a wide range of industries, so has launched a campaign to clarify the views of both sides.

Central to the project will be a live-streamed debate between high-profile members of the 'In' and 'Out' campaigns at Coventry University London Campus, University House, 109-117 Middlesex St, London E1 7JF from 4.30PM to 6.30PM (debate itself 5.00PM to 6.00PM) on 11 May.

The debate will be chaired by leading futurologist and author Dr James Bellini, who spent 25 years in the broadcasting industry presenting programmes such as The Money Programme, Newsnight and Panorama, and as a studio presenter with Financial Times Television and Sky News. James' experience in using the perspectives of history to explore possible futures will give him unique insight to the Campaign for Clarity debate.

Yvette Cooper MP will make the case for remaining in the EU. One of the most respected members of the Labour Party and a former Shadow Home Secretary, Yvette is the Member of Parliament for Normanton, Pontefract and Castleford. Lucy Thomas, Deputy Director of Britain Stronger in Europe, will also be arguing the case for continuing our membership of the EU.

Making the case for exiting the EU will be David Davis MP, the Member of Parliament for Haltemprice & Howden, and an important and consistent voice at the right wing of the Conservative Party.

Douglas Carswell MP, Member of Parliament for Clacton, is also arguing the case for Brexit. Douglas was the first elected member of the UK Independence Party, in a by-election triggered by his high-profile defection from the Conservative Party in 2014.

Although the UK200Group remains impartial and unbiased, a poll of its members' views will be taken before and after the debate, giving a unique indication of the success of the speakers' arguments and the views of the UK SME community.

This will officially launch the UK200Group's referendum survey, which will continue to provide real-time analysis of the changing views of SME leaders in the UK. It will continue until the referendum on 23 June.

James Abbott, President of the UK200Group, said, "As a membership association and a mutual organisation, we are committed to providing non-partisan information to our members and their clients.

"We represent two of the most trusted groups of professionals in the world of business: solicitors and accountants. At the moment, many of them are being quizzed by worried clients about the consequences of a 'Yes' or 'No' outcome. "The Campaign for Clarity debate, featuring some of the leading proponents of both campaigns, will clarify the key messages of the 'In' and 'Out' camps and discuss how SMEs will be affected by either outcome.

"The survey will act as an early barometer of SMEs' feelings towards the referendum, and will be extremely interesting."

The UK200Group, which was established in 1986, represents a group of trusted, quality-assured business advisers – accountants and lawyers – who have over 150,000 SME clients in total. As such, the UK200Group acts as the voice for 1,500 charities, over 10% of all registered academies, more than 3,700 farms, 800 healthcare businesses and over 500 property and construction professionals.

Where: Coventry University London Campus, University House, 109-117 Middlesex St, London E1 7JF
When: 4.30PM to 6.30PM (debate itself 5.00PM to 6.00PM) on 11 May

BBC
THREE COUNTIES




- Date: 27 April 2016
- BBC Three Counties Radio is a local radio station, broadcasting to Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire
- Reach: 133,000
- URL:
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p03qpm0q>

The screenshot shows the BBC Three Counties Radio website interface. At the top, the BBC Three Counties Radio logo is on the left, and the name 'Roberto Perrone' is in the center. To the right of the name is a 'LISTEN' button with a speaker icon and the text 'On Now: Roberto Perrone' and '17/05/2016'. Below the logo, a navigation bar contains links for 'Home', 'Episodes', 'Clips', and 'Contact'. The main content area features a large portrait of Roberto Perrone. To the right of the portrait, a 'Last on' section shows the date 'Wed 27 Apr 2016' and the time '15:00'. Below this, a 'More episodes' section lists 'PREVIOUS 26/04/2016' and 'NEXT 28/04/2016', each with a play button icon. At the bottom, a date selector shows '27/04/2016' and a description: 'Roberto Perrone with the day's top stories and travel news every 15 minutes.' To the right of the description, it says '10 days left to listen' and '4 hours'. At the bottom left, there are social media sharing icons for Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube.



- Date: 10 May 2016
- Yahoo! Finance is an online news portal
- Reach: 22,115,137
- URL: <http://finance.yahoo.com/news/dragon-theo-paphitis-lends-support-070000834.html>

Dragon Theo Paphitis Lends Support to EU Campaign for Clarity

 UK200Group
PRNewswire 7 hours ago



LONDON, May 10, 2016 /PRNewswire/ --

Retail magnate and star of Dragons' Den Theo Paphitis (<http://www.theopaphitis.com/>) has vocalised his support for small and medium-size enterprise (SME) owners as they make **their EU Referendum** decisions, and for the **UK200Group's Campaign for Clarity**, which provides impartial information to this key business group.

(Photo: <http://photos.prnewswire.com/prnh/20160509/365328>)

He said, "There's no doubt that in the medium to long term, leaving will make no negative difference to trade. Whoever tells you otherwise is mad, because it defies every piece of logic and trade in the history of man. I can't see Angela Merkel saying we don't want to trade with the UK, we are going to lose £16 billion of car sales and make however many people redundant in Germany. It is rubbish.

"On the other hand, whoever tells you there will not be a short-term shock if we vote to leave is also gilding the lily. It's worrying that people are prepared to go to these lengths to convince the British public to vote a certain way. It panics me because it means I'm being manipulated, I'm not being given the whole truth.

"I am reasonably well connected, and if I can't make my mind up, what chance has the man or the woman on the omnibus got? There is this Project Fear about what will happen if we leave, which is absolute codswallop. Then, on the other side, the Leave campaign need to make very clear what they see will happen once we leave, if that's what we vote to do."

"Because of this lack of information, I think that the UK200Group's Campaign for Clarity is a vital project. Through its members - accountants and solicitors - the group is reaching out to the SME community and providing unbiased information so business owners can make their minds up for themselves."



James Abbott, President of the UK200Group, said, "Theo is absolutely correct in that there is a complete lack of factual information for voters to make an informed choice. That's why our upcoming EU debate, aimed squarely at small and medium business people, is key."

"Frankly, I feel voters will be relying upon the opinion from those characters they like the most and in short, we need a campaign based upon facts rather than fear. I have an open mind regarding which way my vote will fall, but I do know I want to be excited by what the future holds post referendum and at the moment, it all seems like we are picking through the least bad option based upon which facts we perceive to be the least unreliable. Our nation deserves more."

The **UK200Group** (<http://www.uk200group.co.uk/>), the UK's leading membership association of quality-assured independent chartered accountancy and law firms, is seeking to provide unbiased guidance to the SME community - a group whose importance to the UK economy cannot be understated.

Collectively, the UK200Group's members support over 150,000 SMEs, many of whom are already asking their accountants and lawyers how a 'Yes' or 'No' vote will affect their businesses.

Central to the project will be a live-streamed debate between high-profile members of the 'In' and 'Out' campaigns tomorrow (11 May) at **Coventry University London Campus** (<http://www.coventry.ac.uk/culc/>), University House, 109-117 Middlesex St, London E1 7JF from **4.30PM to 6.30PM (debate itself from 5.00PM to 6.00PM)**.

The debate will be chaired by **leading futurologist and author Dr James Bellini** (<http://www.jamesbellini.com/>), and will include high-profile figures such as **Yvette Cooper MP** (<http://www.yvettecooper.com/>) and **Lucy Thomas, Deputy Director of Britain Stronger in Europe** (<http://www.strongerin.co.uk/>) making the Remain case and **David Davis MP** (<http://www.daviddavismp.com/>) and **Douglas Carswell MP** (<http://www.douglascarswell.com/>), making the case for leaving the EU.

The UK200Group, which was established in 1986, represents a group of trusted, quality-assured business advisers, who have over 150,000 SME clients in total. As such, the UK200Group acts as the voice for 1,500 charities, over 10% of all registered academies, more than 3,700 farms, 800 healthcare businesses and over 500 property and construction professionals.

The event is by invitation only. Journalists are welcome to attend the event, but must be accredited beforehand.

Dragon Theo Paphitis lends support to EU referendum 'Campaign for Clarity'

Retail magnate and star of Dragons' Den Theo Paphitis has voiced his support for SME owners as they make their EU Referendum decisions with his backing of the 'Campaign for Clarity', which provides impartial and unbiased information.



By Business Matters / May 10, 2016



Speaking about his decision Paphitis said: "There's no doubt that in the medium to long term, leaving will make no negative difference to trade. Whoever tells you otherwise is mad, because it defies every piece of logic and trade in the history of man. I can't see Angela Merkel saying we don't want to trade with the UK, we are going to lose £16 billion of car sales and make however many people redundant in Germany. It is rubbish.

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- Date: 10 May 2016
- Business Matters is the leading magazine brand for UK's thriving small and medium sized business sector.
- Reach: 69,000+
- URL:
<http://www.bmmagazine.co.uk/news/dragon-theo-paphitis-lends-support-to-eu-referendum-campaign-for-clarity/>

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- Date: 10 May 2016
- European Business Express is a business magazine focusing on business innovation and politics in the EU
- Reach: 20,000
- URL: http://europeanbusinessexpress.com/business-newswire/?doc=201605100300PR_NEWS_EURO_ND_enUK201605093291_Public&dir=2

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EXCLUSIVE: Top Tory says new study into 'REAL' scale of EU migration is Brexit gamechanger

A SENIOR Tory claimed a new study revealing the "real" scale of EU migration to Britain will be a "turning point" in the campaign for Brexit.

By GREG HEFFER, POLITICAL REPORTER

PUBLISHED: 03:56, Thu, May 12, 2016 | UPDATED: 17:13, Thu, May 12, 2016

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- Date: 11 May 2016
- The Daily Express is a leading daily tabloid newspaper. This article appeared on the website.
- Reach: 5,957,980
- URL: <http://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/669409/EU-referendum-Tory-MP-David-Davis-ONS-migration-analysis-Brexit>



David Davis said tomorrow's ONS study could be a 'turning point' in the campaign for Brexit

Former Europe minister David Davis said he expects a new analysis by the Office for National Statistics (ONS), due to be published this morning, will show UK authorities have been "significantly underestimating" the true number of EU migrants moving to the country.

The ONS has carried out a probe into its immigration figures following a row over exactly how many EU migrants have taken advantage of Brussels' freedom of movement rules to live and work in the UK.

The latest set of official immigration figures show 257,000 EU nationals moved to Britain in the 12 months to September last year, but **the Government has admitted there were 630,000 National Insurance (NI) numbers handed out to EU citizens over the same period.**

An NI number is required by anyone wanting to work or claim benefits in the UK.

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BREXIT BOOST: Leave campaigners raise £700k MORE than Remain groups



Prime Minister asked where he places EU on 'table of corruption'

Mr Davis, a leading Brexit campaigner, has led demands for British voters to be told the truth over EU migration to the UK before the EU referendum on June 23.

The ONS will tomorrow publish their analysis of why there is such a sizeable difference between their own immigration figures and the number of NI numbers issued to EU nationals.

Speaking to Express.co.uk at a Brexit debate organised by the UK200Group, Mr Davis said he expected the ONS study to "show we have been significantly underestimating the real migration from Europe into employment here".

He added: "I don't think it's a deliberate deception by the Government but I think once they realised it was wrong they didn't rush to put it right."



I expect it to show we have been significantly underestimating the real migration from Europe into employment here

David Davis

Mr Davis claimed there will be "a big debate about what this real migration means" with the ONS research likely to be a "significant turning point" in the EU referendum campaign.

The former Tory leadership contender said the Government was being hampered in its campaign for Britain to remain in the EU by a "general feeling" among voters that ministers "are slightly cheating on things".

Mr Davis highlighted the spend of £9million of taxpayers' cash on pro-EU 'propaganda' leaflets for every British household and the setting up of a publicly-funded EU referendum unit within Downing Street.

He added: "It will turn out tomorrow, I think, that the migration numbers are not quite what they were portraying.

"People will be suspicious, I think probably unfairly, but I think the effect of this could well be to add a fillip to our campaign."

During the UK200Group debate, also attended by Ukip MP Douglas Carswell and Labour's Yvette Cooper, Mr Davis urged voters to "look to a global world" by quitting the EU on June 23.

The UK200Group of independent chartered accountancy and law firms is leading a 'Campaign for Clarity' to help small businesses make an informed decision at the EU referendum.

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David Davis speaking at last night's debate

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The UK200Group of independent chartered accountancy and law firms is leading a ‘Campaign for Clarity’ to help small businesses make an informed decision at the EU referendum.



- Date: 11 May 2016
- Launched in 2014, London Live is a regional TV channel serving London.
- Reach: 2,591,000 per month
- URL: <http://www.londonlive.co.uk/>





- Date: 11 May 2016
- BBC News Online is global online news site
- Reach: 52,781,110
- URL:
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/live/uk-politics-36050790>

17:09
11 May

Douglas Carswell and Yvette Cooper debate EU referendum

UKIP MP Douglas Carswell and Tory MP David Davis are about to go head-to-head with Labour's Yvette Cooper and Lucy Thomas, from Britain Stronger In Europe, in debate on the impact of an EU exit on small businesses.

The debate has been organised by the UK200Group, which represents lawyers and accountants. It is campaigning for greater clarity in the EU referendum debate.

You can [**watch the debate here.**](#) ↗

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- Date: 12 May 2016
- Contractor Calculator is the UK's leading website for contractors and freelancers.
- Reach: 120,000
- URL:
http://www.contractorcalculator.co.uk/politicians_debate_brexit_impact_contractors_uk200_5236_10_news.aspx

Politicians debate Brexit impact on contractors at UK200Group's Campaign for Clarity



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ContractorCalculator was in attendance yesterday as various Members of Parliament debated the impact that a Brexit would have on UK contractors and the small business community.

Lucy Thomas, deputy director of Britain Stronger in Europe, was joined by Labour MP Yvette Cooper in arguing the case to remain in the EU. They were opposed by Conservative MP David Davis and Douglas Carswell of the UK Independence Party.

The debate was organised by the [UK200Group](#) - the country's leading membership association for accountancy and law firms, who collectively act for over 150,000 small businesses across the UK - as part of its 'Campaign for Clarity'.

UK200 president, and regular contributor to ContractorCalculator, James Abbott said: "As an important component of our economy, it is vital that the UK's contractors and SMEs have clarity over the impact that opting in or out of the EU would have on them, before they place their votes on 23 June."

One point of contention focused around the UK's fate with regards to trading overseas and the subsequent costs to UK contractors and businesses in the event of a Brexit.



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"We have so many benefits as a member of the EU, free movement of labour being just one," argued Thomas, who highlighted the likelihood of tariffs and further barriers being imposed on companies providing services overseas if Britain were to opt out.

"The leave campaign can't tell us what the trade deal would be, but they do promise us that trade will somehow be better if we opt out. They're living in a fantasy land. If we are outside of the single market, the fact is the cost of trade will be higher, particularly for our services," added Cooper.

Addressing the severe skills shortages faced by many sectors, Carswell argued that leaving the EU would allow the UK to form a rational immigration system that could identify and attract expat contractors with the necessary skills from further afield:

"We're currently saying no to doctors from India and software engineers from Singapore, but yes to people without the skills we need who are based in Europe. If we were to leave, we could form a points and skills-based immigration system that attracts the brightest and the best."

"At the moment, the price of having access to the single market is to have the same arrangements regarding free movement of labour," said Cooper, who conceded that reforms are needed to EU rules whereby migration arrangements are aligned more closely with those outside of Europe. "But the idea that opting out will solve the issue is another false promise."

Contractors inevitably fare better when the economy is thriving, and the uncertain impact of a Brexit upon the UK economy has been the most divisive topic over recent weeks.

Highlighting the impact of an economic downturn upon contract and employment opportunities, Thomas cited a PwC article estimating that a Brexit would result in a cost to the UK economy of £100bn and the loss of 150,000 jobs by 2020.

In response, Carswell nodded towards the UK's financial contributions to the EU – a sum that was contested by Turner – suggesting that it would be better invested closer to home:

"Leaving the EU would not only allow us to take back control over law-making, but also over the £350m each week that we hand over to Brussels – that's £19.2bn a year. Think of what we could do with that money. We could improve the NHS or possibly afford tax cuts."

"We get back far more than we put in in terms of trade. The hit to our economy would be around £2bn a week," countered Cooper. "Yes, we put something into the EU, but we get so much more back. That is what we put at risk by voting to leave."

Published: Thursday, May 12, 2016

- Date: 12 May 2016
- EU News is an Italian website providing the latest European news to citizens and businesses.
- URL: <http://www.eunews.it/2016/05/12/le-pmi-britanniche-contro-la-brexit/58316>



Lucy Thomas



Remain

Yvette Cooper MP



Remain

Dr James Bellini



Chair

David Davis MP



Leave

Douglas Carswell MP



Leave

Le PMI britanniche contro la Brexit

POLITICA-ESTERA - ALESSANDRO RICCI

@Alessandricc

12 maggio 2016



[3]



[0]

100 delegati da tutto il Regno Unito hanno espresso la loro opinione sul voto del 23 giugno, schierandosi in massa contro la Brexit.

Londra – Le PMI britanniche sono contro la Brexit, l'uscita del Regno Unito dall'Unione Europea, questo è quanto emerso dall'incontro "Campaign for Clarity" che si è tenuto al Coventry University London Campus. Il rapporto dei voti è stato del 20% per l'uscita, il 70% contrari e il 10% indecisi.

L'incontro ha visto partecipare 100 delegati del gruppo UK200 (federazione che riunisce 150.000 piccole e medie imprese) provenienti da tutto il Regno Unito, due esponenti per la campagna "Leave", David Davis dei conservatori e Douglas Carswell per l'Ukip (United Kingdom Independent Party), e due per quella "Remain", la laburista Yvette Cooper e Lucy Thomas del movimento UkStrongerInEurope.

I delegati hanno avuto la possibilità di fare delle domande su questioni riguardanti l'economia, la giurisprudenza, l'immigrazione e sul futuro dell'Ue. Il dibattito, molto acceso, si è concentrato soprattutto sulla paura, da una parte e dall'altra.

Carswell ha ricordato che "rimanere in un progetto che sta fallendo non vale la pena, dobbiamo riprendere il controllo. Quello che dice [Cameron](#) non è vero (il riferimento è al pericolo di guerra in caso di uscita, ndr), la campagna per rimanere si basa sul misero accordo strappato dal Primo Ministro".

Inoltre "uscire dall'Ue non ci porterà all'isolamento, ma piuttosto ad avere un nuovo accordo con Bruxelles e, la Germania non potrà non accettare, sono riusciti a fare un accordo persino con la Turchia" ha aggiunto Carswell.

Dal punto di vista del "Remain" Lucy Thomas è stata chiara: "abbiamo la miglior posizione negoziale in Europa, non facciamo parte dell'Euro, abbiamo flessibilità sulle nostre leggi e i nostri ministri quando vanno a Bruxelles possono strappare accordi a noi favorevoli".

Ognuna delle fazioni ha ripetuto il proprio mantra, il Leave ha puntato sulla forza dell'inglese, lingua internazionale, quello del Remain sull'Unione Europea che "non è certo perfetta, ma dobbiamo lavorare per migliorarla".

Nonostante il dibattito sia stato particolarmente movimentato, non è riuscito a cambiare di molto le opinioni dei delegati che hanno effettuato una prima votazione ad inizio sessione ed una seconda alla fine. Tra le due lo scarto è stato di un 5%, a favore del "Remain".

La visione delle imprese non era certo un mistero, infatti, in caso di uscita le perdite per le imprese potrebbero essere alte, in particolare sul fronte delle esportazioni, dovendo la Gran Bretagna stipulare nuovi accordi commerciali.



Campaign for Clarity

Results:

87 media articles, including live TV and radio coverage

Reach:

430,995,635 (please see separate sheet for explanation)

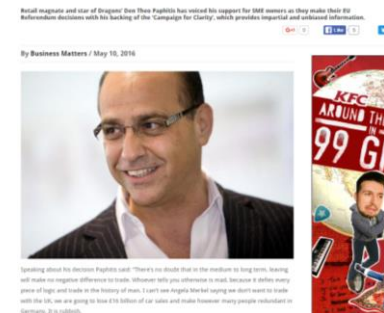


As the EU referendum on 23 June draws closer, many small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) and their owners are still unclear on how leaving or staying in the EU will affect their businesses.

UK200GROUP LAUNCHES NEW CAMPAIGN FOR CLARITY AHEAD OF EU REFERENDUM



Dragon Theo Paphitis lends support to EU referendum 'Campaign for Clarity'



Expert Law and Accountancy Advisers Challenge Bank of England Ahead of EU Referendum

