A spectre is haunting the European Union – the spectre of Brexit. All the powers of old Europe have entered into a holy alliance to exorcise the spectre; Merkel and Macron, Tusk and Junker, May and Corbyn. Where is the party in opposition that has not been decried as populist by its opponents in power? Where is the opposition that has not hurled back the branding reproach of Independence?

Everything is now about Independence. Are we as a people, are any people, to be free standing and Independent, or are we to be *dependent*, dependent upon multi-national political institutions, trans-national corporations, foreign armies?

Independence is of course the real name of Brexit.

Independence is an age-old question and has been at the core of politics at least since the time of the Roman Empire. Occasionally in history independence *has* been achieved by countries, but it's very rare that it's been achieved by the *people* of a country.

Those who rule in different nations have always wanted to huddle together in organisations which transcend borders in order to strengthen *their* inherent weakness, and in order to weaken *our* inherent strength.

Whether it was through the Roman Empire, the universal church or the British Empire, the ruling class has always sought to operate across borders.

One of the ways to *define* an Empire is that an empire recognises no borders. *The EU* recognises no borders. It wants no *internal* borders, hence Schengen, and it recognises no *external* borders, gobbling up country after country.

Interestingly of course had the Soviet Union not collapsed the EU as we know it would not exist.

The rise of the *capitalist* EU is a direct product of the collapse of the *socialist* Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, which 11 of the EU's 28 member states – 12 if you include the German Democratic Republic – were members of before 1990. So the distended leviathan that is the EU has only been made possible because of the ending of socialism in Europe. Many of those quite rightly *attacking* the EU are effectively bemoaning the demise of socialism in Europe.

Having no borders is akin to living in a street full of robbers and having no front door. The beginnings of civilisation are found in the need for protection, protection from the elements, protection from those who would harm us. Leaving the EU is an assertion of our right to protect ourselves.

The EU of course views protection in a very different light, being itself nothing more than a protection *racket* - Demanding money with menaces; even demanding money to *leave* the EU, rather like the mafia.

After having thrown off the jurisdiction of the *Bishop* of Rome 500 years ago we were undemocratically dragged under the jurisdiction of the *Treaty* of Rome when we were kidnapped into the EEC in 1973.

Morally we left that organisation on the 23 June 2016.

Legally we *should* have left that organisation on the 29 March 2019.

In practice we are still held against our will.

In order to understand the core thinking of the establishment just consider the two words 'No' and 'Deal'.

If those words are replaced in any sentence with the single word Brexit then things become clearer.

If you see a Newspaper headline saying "Parliament overwhelmingly against No deal" this translates as "Parliament overwhelmingly against *Brexit*."

If we hear someone on the radio say that "There is majority in the Country against No Deal" that is them saying that "There is a majority in the country against Brexit." Which of course is not true.

The General Secretary of Britain's biggest Union recently said There's no such thing as a left-wing no-deal Brexit. That's a contradiction in terms. A no-deal Brexit would be

disastrous for public services, and if the only choice is a bad deal or no deal then it must be for the people to decide.

*Brexit* would be bad for public services?? Where's he been for the last 45 years? Have public services thrived under the EU? Not according to *his* Union; they've been getting worse & worse, and under ever greater threat of privatisation, privatisation which let us not forget is *required* by EU law.

EU membership and having *any kind* of public services is the contradiction in terms, not a progressive no deal Brexit.

Apologies for this next bit, because there'll be some repetition:

The question on the ballot paper in 2016 was, Should the United Kingdom remain a member of the European Union or leave the European Union? The question was not 'Should the United Kingdom remain a member of the European Union or leave the European Union *if there is a deal acceptable to parliament.*'

Nor was it 'Should the United Kingdom remain a member of the European Union or leave the European Union *if there is a deal acceptable to the EU*.'

*In effect*, the question was Should the United Kingdom remain a member of the European Union or leave the European Union *irrespective of whether there is a deal or not*.

Which, put another way, is the same as saying, Should the United Kingdom remain a member of the European Union or leave the European Union *with No Deal!!* 

So the British people voted for a No Deal Brexit.

That should have been, and should still, be shouted from the rooftops. No second referendum is needed. We have had our 'People's Vote'. The people *have* decided.

What patronising bastards though; it's only a 'People's Vote' if we vote to stay in the EU. Anything else is merely 'advisory', although actually we don't hear that argument much now there's a craving for a second referendum in some quarters, because if the first one was only advisory, then surely the second one would be too..... But why would a second referendum be a people's vote but not the first? What was the one we had in 2016? Who was it that voted if it wasn't people? Small furry animals??

None of those clamouring for this second referendum wanted the first referendum!! None of them!

Their new-found desire to seek the views of the people is only because they want to *change the decision* of the people. They don't want to *honour* the decision of the British people, which, let us not forget, they all pledged to do.

Greater hypocrisy we have hardly ever seen before!

And if there *was* a second referendum, which I don't think there will be, and if people *did* vote to stay in the EU, which I don't think they will, why on earth should anyone abide by that decision?

Our betters in the establishment have shown us the way; disregard any outcome you don't like.

That of course is long-standing EU policy;

The history of the EU and democracy has been that if a country votes against an EU Treaty or constitutional change, the EU just makes that country vote on it again and again ad nauseam until the stupid voters change their minds.

That is exactly what the so-called 'People's Vote' crew are trying to get us to fall for now.

Disregarding democratic referendum votes is the road to anarchy, but anarchy may well be what's in store. Anarchy comes with civil war.

The EU's chief negotiator recently said, "I will have succeeded in my job if I get a deal that is so hard on Britain that they'd rather stay in the EU". There you have it; the EU's determination not to let us leave; not to allow the democratic decision of the British people to be carried out.

*We do not need to have a deal with the EU!* Why should you stay in prison when you've served your sentence, just because your jailer has taken a shine you to? Especially if you were wrongly imprisoned in the first place!

The 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2016, the 29<sup>th</sup> March, 12<sup>th</sup> April or 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019 are none of them the *end* of anything. They were the beginning of a lengthy process which will continue for the rest of our lives.

We are entering a period of low intensity Civil War, where either side of this critical argument cannot convince most of those on the other side. We must therefore expect, among other things, sabotage.

In the Soviet Union in the 1920's there were those who predicted that their country could not survive. In the 1930's some of those same people turned their hands to sabotage in an attempt to *ensure* that the Soviet Union couldn't survive, thereby proving themselves right.

*Now* we have those who have predicted that *Britain* cannot survive after Brexit turning *their* hands to full blown sabotage in an attempt to make their prediction come true.

On the one hand we have obfuscation elevated to the level of obstruction in the form of the so-called Irish backstop, which, let us not forget, was introduced not by the EU or even by anyone in Ireland, but by Theresa May.

On the other hand we have deliberate and assiduous attempts to tell us that without the EU we will have gridlocked motorways, no baked beans & no toilet paper, not a nice thing to think about.

All these are forms of sabotage, with much, much more to come.

We are now moving from a period of argument and debate to a time for action. We have declared Britain Independent, so whose laws do we now obey? What should fisherman now do when they are told to throw away perfectly good catches on instructions from a European Union they voted to leave and whose writ should no longer run in this Country?

Why should we contribute the between £200-£300 per year for every man woman & child in this country to an organisation we are no longer members of?

And bear in mind that our budget contribution fell due in mid-April.

Understand this, and you can understand why the extension to Article 50 was timed as it was. Presumably in October they'll say we then owe the following years' contribution.....

Should we then perhaps refuse to pay taxes? Or at least knock £300 quid off when we do?

If they are not incorporated into British Law, why would we abide by any EU regulation or legislation? That organisation and its paraphernalia is now a foreign jurisdiction.

With a single vote in a referendum - a single People's Vote - the British people brought down a government, neutered another, ended the career of two Prime Ministers and brought the EU to its' knees. Imagine what a class-conscious well-organised people can do if it really set its' mind to it.

Why on earth should we be worried about the future? Only those worried about losing their privileges and the comfort blanket of having the EU do their thinking for them have cause to worry.

Referring again to that Union General Secretary, he has said, This last year has witnessed the demise of our politics. Well it might have witnessed the demise of *his* politics, but for millions of people, many of them his members, the last year has confirmed an important truth; *the existing political system doesn't work*.

It cannot carry out the instructions of the British people; it cannot act in our interests. It is that political *system* that is fatally undermined, not any particular political party.

That is why a general election would not solve anything. In fact it would be a mighty distraction, just as the 2017 election was. The 2017 general election was May's greatest, and cardinal tactical error.

Politicians want an election so badly because they want to claw back control into their hands, away from the people who voted for a no deal Brexit.

Mind you, that might change with the emergence of the Brexit Party, which is now, wonderfully, ahead in the recent YouGov opinion poll about voting intentions in the euro elections that we've now been forced to participate in against seemingly everyone's will. I don't know about you, but I think we should vote for that party in that election.

The flowering of grass roots organisation up & down the land has been perhaps the greatest achievement so far of the post-referendum period, and a fine mark of the demise of 'our politics'.

It is also unprecedented in our history since the growth of workplace Trade Unionism in the nineteenth century.

The kind of country we'll have after Brexit will be determined by the kind of Brexit we have. Those who voted to leave must stay solid, they must not be intimidated. The pressure on us all will inexorably be ratcheted up, and people not used to that kind of relentless political pressure may wilt, although to their great credit there's been no sign of that so far. If leave voters stay solid, they, we, *will* prevail.

Those who are bored with Brexit are bored with life. People declaiming that they are fed up with it all may as well say that they take no interest in their own lives. Or they could be more honest and say they're fed up with it because they hate the word Brexit, because they hate what it means.

Well I'm afraid they are in for a bit of a shock - Brexit and the arguments around it are with us now for the foreseeable future and that is greatly to be welcomed.

Can you imagine the nightmare of having *lost* the Referendum? That *would* have seen the demise of our politics. The EU would have moved swiftly and inexorably to strengthen its grip on our country, *and on every other country in Europe*.

Instead, Britain did the peoples of Europe a great service in voting for independence, as we did an even greater service in 1940, when without Britain and in the following year the Soviet Union, a different flag would fly over Brussels and not a Jew would be left alive in Europe.

More countries will follow us out of the EU. We can build friendly trading relations with them all and even develop new organisations to do this, but only if we decide to, not because we're told to. Germany has been involved in a 150 year-long struggle to dominate Europe. It has failed in war, but at massive cost. Britain leaving the EU is a body blow to that German objective, and that is why *they* are so determined to prevent it.

We denounce the craven cowardice of a British Prime Minister, a *British Prime Minister*, who lied to everyone in Britain, including her own cabinet, while cooking up a deal with the German Chancellor. Or would it be more accurate to say, being dictated to by the German Chancellor. Not for the first time a British Prime Minister has been dictated to by a German Chancellor.

We know that the so-called Withdrawal Agreement – actually designed to prevent withdrawal! - was actually written in Angela Merkel's office & not in Downing Street, still less in Chequers. *That* is an act of treason.

The difference between what May did & what Chamberlain did was that May's deal was agreed in Berlin, Chamberlain's in Munich.

Never in our lifetimes has change been so swift, or so fundamental.

The future though is bright, and is ours. We have a people ready to build, and building that needs to be done.

We have fish in the sea, coal in the ground, brains in the schools and Universities. We have the economic, industrial and artistic muscle to thrive without the EU, spending the billions we will save for the future protection and prosperity of those who come after us, and not for the enrichment of bankers, owners of capital & bloated Brussels bureaucracies.

Trials aplenty lie ahead. But they are good trials to have. They are the trials that come with independence, with adulthood as a people. If we can break free of the Treaty of Rome then there's no reason why we can't break free of economic enslavement too. We are shaking off the dirty rags of social democracy, the idea that others should act, and even think for us.

As Robert Southey said in memory of Wat Tyler, leader of our 1381 Peasants Revolt,

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'On, on to Freedom; feel your own strength, / Be but resolved, and these destructive tyrants / Shall shrink before your vengeance.'

As Communists we take second place to no-one when it comes to patriotism, the patriotism that leads to national independence.

We are for the kind of nationalism that supports internationalism; the kind of internationalism that begins at home.

We support the fight for national independence throughout the world, in Cuba, Venezuela, Ireland, but we demand it for Britain too.

Apart from tonight's collection, we take no money from anyone; we didn't take a penny from the Soviet Union and, unlike most political organisations in Britain, haven't taken a penny from the EU. Our hands are clean.

We know that plans exist to put troops on the streets, and for tens of thousands of specially-trained police to be deployed in the event of a no deal Brexit - this is not to police people queuing for toilet rolls. It is to deal with the potential disturbances which holding Britain in the EU against its' will may bring.

That is how serious the establishment takes Brexit. We, the people, need to take it equally seriously.

So to conclude; May Day is a time for celebration, and today we celebrate our freedom from the European Union.

On May Day we always celebrate the beginning of new life, and today we celebrate the beginning of a new life outside of the European union.

Free of the mind-forged manacles that have convinced us for too long that we can't stand on our own feet.

We can stand on our own feet, and we will.

We can rebuild Britain, and we will.

We can leave those who come after us a better future, and we will.

Long live May Day!

Long live an independent Britain!