



bureaucracy
treaties

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DISCUSSION & REVIEW QUESTIONS:

- Mr. Farage begins the video by stating, “If one big government is bad, imagine how much worse two big governments would be. But that’s what people living in Europe have had to deal with: their own nation’s bloated government and the super-national government of Europe now known as the European Union.” Why do you think that Europeans adopted a system whereby they would be beholden to two bureaucracies and two sets of laws to govern them? What are some contributing factors as to why a system like this could never work well? Explain.
- Mr. Farage goes on to note that, “To their everlasting credit, that’s just what happened on June the 23rd, 2016: The United Kingdom [voted to leave] left the European Union. The world [now] knows it as Brexit.” Why do you think that the majority of Brits decided to leave the European Union? Do you think that the British people should have left the European Union? Why or why not?
- Then, Mr. Farage explains that, “Brexit is a statement of national sovereignty. Don’t misunderstand me: I like nations. I like borders. I like the people that live within those borders making their own laws, but I don’t like it when faceless bureaucrats make laws for nations they don’t even live in. But that’s what they do in the European Union. Imagine a Belgian telling a Brit how much he can charge his customers or the reverse. The EU bureaucrats do this in a myriad of different ways, all day, every day. It is a conspiracy of the elites, [but] who are [these] those elites?” What do you think Mr. Farage means by Britain leaving the EU being a ‘statement of national sovereignty?’ What kind of equality and equity issues do you think arose as a condition of having politicians in one nation making laws for another? How would you answer Mr. Farage’s last question? Explain.
- Later in the video Mr. Farage laments that, “People will say, ‘but isn’t there a Parliament, a European Parliament, that represents the people of Europe?’ Well yes, but this body has got no real power; it can’t make its own laws. Rather, the power resides with the European Commission. They’re unelected and they can’t be removed, and that’s how absurd the whole thing is.” Why do you think that the European Union was set up this way? Who do you think benefits most by having this sort of power structure?
- At the end of the video, Mr. Farage concludes by sharing with us that, “I want good relations between all European Nations. I want prosperous, free, and fair trade between those nations. I haven’t got a problem with multi-lateral trade or security agreements as long as every party benefits. I have no problem with sensible, controlled immigration, and I’ve always been a big supporter of NATO. But I am not willing to give up my rights as a British person so that some bureaucrat can tell me how to live.” Do you think that Mr. Farage’s final point is a valid position to take? Why or why not?

EXTEND THE LEARNING:

CASE STUDY: European Union

INSTRUCTIONS: Read the article “REVEALED: The EU’s top ten pointless decisions the UK can now get rid of,” then answer the questions that follow.

- Under EU law, what must all bananas be, and how straight do cucumbers have to be? What kind of horses cannot be eaten? What could bottled water companies not put on their labels? Why? How many people faced losing their drivers licenses due to being diabetic? How must eggs be sold? How many watts was the EU limit for vacuum cleaners? What did a jam with less than 50% sugar have to be referred to?
- Why do you think that the European Union passed such absurd laws? Explain. What might be some of the best ways for nations to cooperate well with each other without having an umbrella organization to manage and control the whole region?
- Does this article give you a better understanding of why many Brits were fed up with the European Union? Explain. How does this article support the position taken by Mr. Farage in the video?



QUIZ

BREXIT: WHY BRITAIN LEFT THE EUROPEAN UNION

1. Brexit is a statement of national sovereignty.
 - a. True
 - b. False

2. The European Parliament meets in _____.
 - a. Paris
 - b. London
 - c. Brussels
 - d. Strasbourg

3. How many member governments of the EU must agree in order to change any treaties?
 - a. 7
 - b. 14
 - c. 28
 - d. 50

4. European Commissioners are _____.
 - a. elected every four years
 - b. elected every two years
 - c. elected biannually
 - d. not elected

5. As members of the European Union, the UK was only allowed to catch _____ of the fish swimming in territorial British waters.
 - a. 20%
 - b. 40%
 - c. 60%
 - d. 80%



QUIZ - ANSWER KEY

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REVEALED: The EU's top ten pointless decisions the UK can now get rid of

By Rebecca Perring

PUBLISHED: 19:20, Sat, Jun 25, 2016 | UPDATED: 18:08, Wed, Jul 6, 2016

Iceland Foods Limited

This article originally said that “Of course some British supermarkets considered themselves well above this law in 2012. The horse meat scandal hit Britain when equine DNA was discovered in value Tesco and Iceland beef burgers.” Following a complaint on behalf of Iceland Foods Limited the article was amended on 06 July to include the following observation.

Only a very small (0.1%) amount of equine DNA was found in two of their own brand quarter pound burgers when tested by the FSAI. Iceland point out that result is well below the threshold level of 1% which the UK FSA applies as indicative of contamination or adulteration, and that a test result of 0.1% is so low that it could amount to a “trace” level.

Iceland subsequently tested samples of burgers from the same production batch to the same tolerances used by the FSAI and no evidence of any equine DNA was found. Iceland also state that since then over 2000 tests of Iceland beef products have been carried out and no trace of horse meat or equine DNA has ever been found.

AS Britain prepares to leave the European Union, Express.co.uk takes a look at the barmy decisions made by Brussels that we can say goodbye to. Voters demanded the UK untangle itself from the 28-country bloc in a historic referendum that will free the nation of some of Brussels most pointless laws.

17,410,742 Britons voted to quit the EU with 16,141,241 voting to Remain.

Here Express.co.uk lists the top ten of crazy EU directives - which are actually real.

Cucumbers and bananas should not be bendy

International ridicule erupted when the EU stated that all bananas must be "free of abnormal curvature".

Under the rules, cucumbers were to be "practically straight" and bent by a gradient of no more than 1/10.

But imperfectly-shaped fruit and vegetables were back on the supermarket shelves by 2009 when Britain opted to reform the crazy rule.



GETTY

EU lawmakers ruled bananas and cucumbers should be straight

It's illegal to eat your pet horse

In 2009 the EU introduced a law which suggested it was illegal to eat "pet" horses after staggering figures revealed that around two million pet horses are eaten across the EU each year.

Of course some British supermarkets considered themselves well above this law in 2012. The horse meat scandal hit Britain when equine DNA was discovered in value Tesco and Iceland beef burgers. Lidl and Aldi were also rocked by the scandal.

Just remember it's okay to be so hungry you could eat a horse - as long as you don't own it.

Water does NOT prevent dehydration

If you've been on a mighty old work out or you're struggling with a sore head from a heavy night out, drinking water will NOT ease your pain.

Well, that's according to the EU.

In 2011 they passed a law, which claimed scientists had found no evidence to suggest drinking water stopped dehydration.

This meant manufacturers of bottled drinking water were prohibited from labelling their product with anything that would suggest consumption would fight dehydration.

Prunes will NOT fight your bowel problems

Meddling legislators made it illegal for prunes to be sold as a super food that acts as a laxative.

And after a thorough investigation, the EU ruled: "The evidence provided is insufficient to establish a cause and effect relationship between the consumption of dried plums of 'prune' cultivars and maintenance of normal bowel function"

But anyone who has ever taken part in a 'who can eat the most prunes' competition would surely disagree with this.

Turnips are NOT swede

In 2010 the EU decided to make sure one and all knew the difference between a turnip and a swede.

Now supermarkets are encouraged to avoid confusion when labelling both vegetables.

And this is because locals in Cornwall often refer to their swedes as turnips.



GETTY

Locals in Cornwall often mix up turnips as swede

Diabetics should be BANNED from the roads

Up to one million drivers faced losing their driving licenses - because harsh EU experts deemed people with diabetes "unfit" to drive.

The illogical rules were never enforced but ridiculed and mocked widely back in 2010.

Eggs CANNOT be sold by the dozen

Fury erupted when shopkeepers were told all food must be weighed and sold by the kilo - instead of the number contained in the packet back in 2010.

And even though British shoppers can still buy a dozen of eggs, it is now priced based wholly on the weight.



GETTY

Eggs cannot be sold as a dozen

Washing up gloves must be able to handle DETERGENTS

The price of marigolds and oven gloves soared when the EU imposed rigorous testing on these household products to stop people being injured.

Bonkers Brussels deemed it to be important that washing gloves could withstand standard kitchen detergents and oven gloves underwent tests to ensure they could cope under the pressure of 200c heat.



GETTY

Washing up gloves were tested to ensure they can handle detergents

Super vacuum cleaners BANNED

It was as though the British way of life was under threat when the EU looked to target the nation's kettles, toasters and even lawnmowers.

Their plans to erode the lifestyle choices of ordinary people were followed by the banning of the powerful vacuum cleaner.

In 2014 vacuum cleaners, which had motors above the EU limit of 1,600 watts had to go.

But it was all for a good cause because it was in a bid to cut energy usage.

EU in a JAM over preserves

Barmy EU regulators stopped sellers using the word 'jam' on their products if the sugar content was more than 60 per cent.

Instead anything containing less than 60 per cent of sugar had to be called a "fruit spread", while a low sugar jam with less than 50 per cent of sugar was named a "conserve".

But lawmakers got themselves out of the sticky situation by relaxing these laws in 2013.



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Fruit preserves must have more than 60 per cent of sugar to be named jam