

HE EU DEBATE has been reduced in the establishment media to a clash between different wings of the Tory party. It's Cameron vs Boris, they say – two old Etonians, with another ex-public schoolboy Nigel Farage in the ring too.

But what if you're outside the 1% elite? Struggling to get by on low wages, a zero-hour contract maybe, or facing soaring rents and under-funded public services? What are our interests in the debate?

The Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition (TUSC) is arguing for a leave vote in the June EU referendum. We stand in the tradition of the late Bob Crow, the RMT transport workers' union leader and one of the cofounders of TUSC. Bob was well-known for his support for international workers' solidarity while opposing the EU as a body that was pushing anti-worker and pro-austerity policies.

TUSC's core policies include the renationalisation of the railways, Royal Mail and other privatised public services, industries and utilities; defending the right to asylum and opposing racist immigration controls; and democratic public ownership of the banks and major companies. None of these policies are compatible with the EU treaties. So why should we give a vote of confidence to laws which, as Greece shows, would be used to try and block socialist policies?

REAL INTERNATIONALISM

TUSC stands for real internationalism. Many of our problems - from economic stagnation, endless wars, the appalling treatment of refugees, to planet-threatening global warming - can only be solved at an international level. If society remains organised as it is today, based on a capitalist economic system that puts private profit first and divided into competing nations, the prospects for humanity will be bleak indeed.

But that's why we need a socialist Europe, not the 'Employers' Union' that is the EU, with its austerity agenda.

Voting Leave on June 23rd is a step towards defeating a weak and divided Tory government and building a movement that can unite with workers across Europe to fight for a different world.

THE SOCIALIST CASE AGAINST THE EU





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THE EU IS AN OBSTACLE TO SOCIALIST POLICIES

he TUSC core policies listed below are incompatible with the rules, directives and laws set by the EU treaties. It is true that, like other unjust laws against working class interests – the poll tax is one example – they can be made to be ineffective if they are faced down by a mass movement of opposition.

But why give a positive vote on June 23rd to rules and regulations that will be used to create obstacles to the implementation of socialist policies?

- Re-nationalise all rail, bus and ferry services to build an integrated, low-pollution public transport system.
- Private hands off our NHS for a high-quality, free National Health Service under democratic public ownership and control.
- Reject the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) treaty being negotiated between the EU and the US, which will significantly increase corporate power and its ability to take over our public services.
- Take Royal Mail back into public ownership to guarantee our postal services.

- Bring the privatised public utilities, including the energy companies, back into public ownership. Invest in renewable energy – publicly-owned and controlled. No fracking.
- Stop the moves towards a capitalist, militarist United States of Europe – the EU's so-called Common Security and Defence policy. No to a new generation of nuclear weapons, aircraft carriers or eurofighters – convert arms spending into socially useful products and services.
- Tax the rich. For progressive tax on rich corporations and individuals and an end to tax avoidance.
- For a democratic socialist society run in the interests
 of people not millionaires. Bring the major companies
 and banks that dominate the economy into democratic
 public ownership, so that production and services can
 be planned to meet the needs of all and to protect the
 environment.
- No to racism, austerity and anti-working class policies, whether they come from politicians in the EU or Britain.
 Yes to workers' unity and real international solidarity.

DAVE NELLIST, Former Labour MP

Dave Nellist, the chair of the Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition, was a Labour MP until 1992. Dave was first elected to parliament in 1983 on a Labour Party manifesto that called for exit from the EU, then the European Economic Community.

He says:

"The experiences of workers in countries like Greece make it even more clear than it was in 1983 that the EU is an employers' union, acting in the interests of big business against the working class.

"I campaigned in the past alongside labour

Tony Benn and Bob Crow against the EU and I'm proud that TUSC is carrying on that struggle today".

WHAT IS THE TRADE UNIONIST AND SOCIALIST COALITION?

As its name says TUSC is a coalition, involving the RMT transport workers' union, the Socialist Party, the Socialist Workers Party, and individuals. It was set-up in 2010 to enable trade unionists, community campaigners and socialists to organise against pro-austerity establishment politicians at the ballot box and beyond.

