

## What Now?

What with the flurry of Brexit activity over the last couple of weeks, is this a good time for the EU to bury bad news? On 13th December, it is said the EU decides on its European Army. Any country that has not said "No" by then will be deemed to have agreed.

The Government has said the UK will not join a European Army but the EU know this as "PESCO" (Permanent Structured Cooperation). We have not said we won't join that! A play on words? Could the UK be in trouble here? I hope I'm wrong and time will tell. Like the Fishing Industry, we don't (yet) know what promises, if any, Mrs May has made in order to get this far.

But what is evident is that Brussels has been forced into a bit of a climb down. For over 40 years, it has made thousands of Laws, Rules, Directives with the overbearing attitude – Don't argue, just pay and obey – and sent them across the channel for Civil Servants to morph into the system. Parliament has the authority to debate and vote any of these down, but in practice, hasn't done this.

But at last, a year or so after the momentous UK's decision to leave this awful 'club', the Commission seems to have realised it is for real. The UK has not only had the infernal cheek to question the commission's stance, but has actually told them "We're Off!".

So carefully was the Lisbon Treaty structured, there was no mechanism built in to cope with such confrontation. The bureaucrats never thought for one moment anyone would want, or dare, to leave. The 2 years notice rule was probably considered enough to frighten anyone off who was thinking about it. Well, how wrong could anyone be? It didn't work, did it, Mr Juncker?

The realisation that its income will reduce substantially, and the strong possibility of trade between the countries of the continent being interrupted is disastrous for the 27 countries left in the EU. The tottering EU Commission and the precarious Euro could go under. The German people are fed up with digging further into their pockets, and German business is desperate for Brexit to be settled amicably.

Trade is of number one importance to the economies of every country. Has the EU Commission come to its senses and just beginning to admit that the changes we cried out for over the decades is now inevitable? It's only cracks in the EU armour at the moment, but once the continent sees us doing well on the world stage, the pressure should be on for the EU to radically overhaul its thinking.

We can only hope for every county's sake.

From: **Stuart Guppy UKIP**