



Brexit: How Did We Get There?

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1. A Eurosceptic Political Tradition

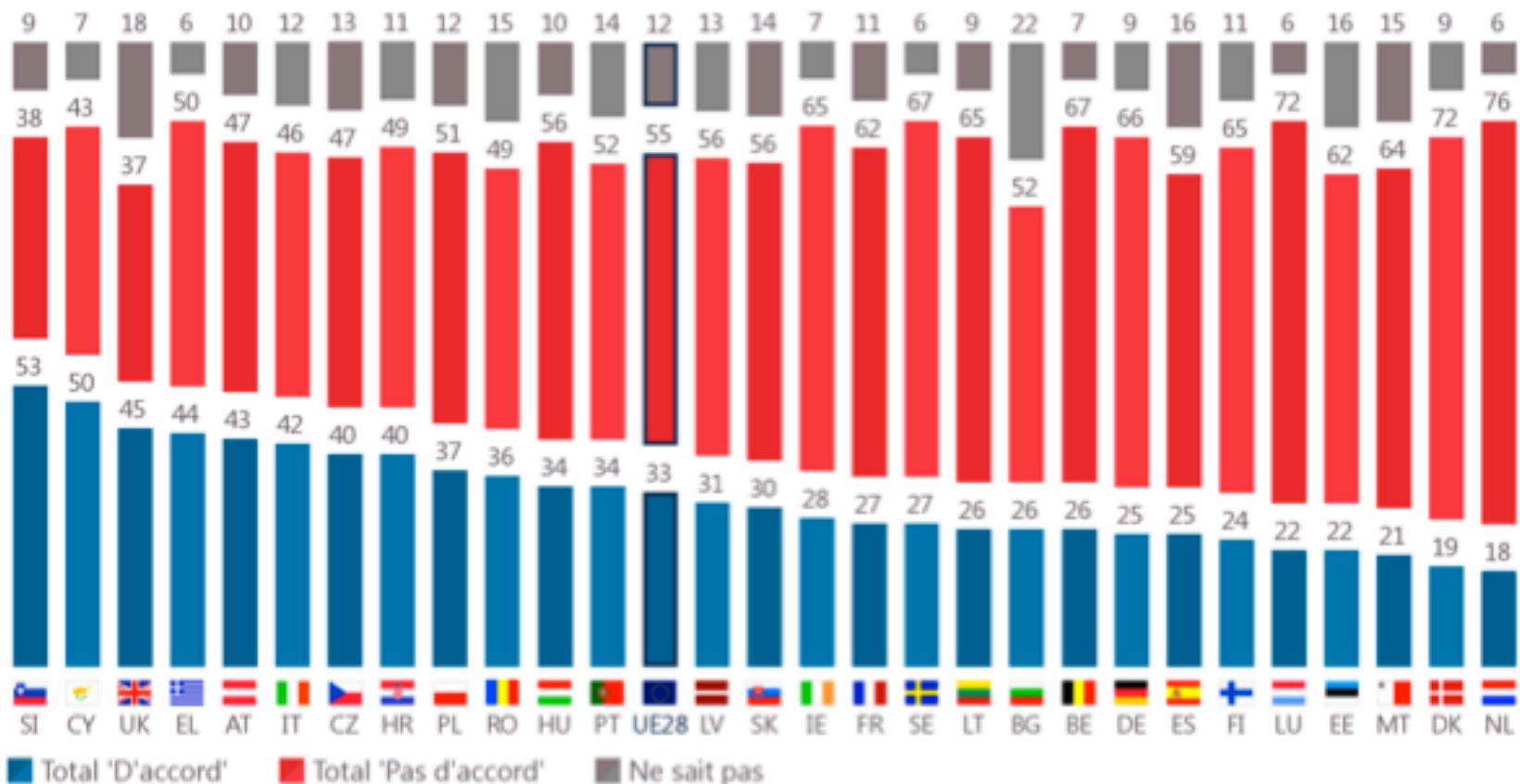
- Word invented in the 1980s but long tradition
- Debates in the 1950s and 1960s: sovereignty, Commonwealth
- Utilitarian view of the EEC
- Divided political parties
- Turning point in the 1990s
- No positive discourse in the debate

Public Opinion

	Stay in the EEC/ EU(in %)	Leave	No opinion (%)
1977	47	42	11
1989	60	29	11
1999	44	39	17
2003	49	41	10
2007	51	39	10
2011	41	49	10
2014	56	36	8

Source: <https://www.ipso-mori.com/researchpublications/researcharchive/2435/European-Union-membership-trends.aspx>

**QA19a.5 Dans quelle mesure êtes-vous d'accord ou pas d'accord avec chacune des affirmations suivantes ?
(NOTRE PAYS) pourrait mieux faire face au futur s'il\elle était en dehors de l'UE (%)**



2. Yet a different status in the EU

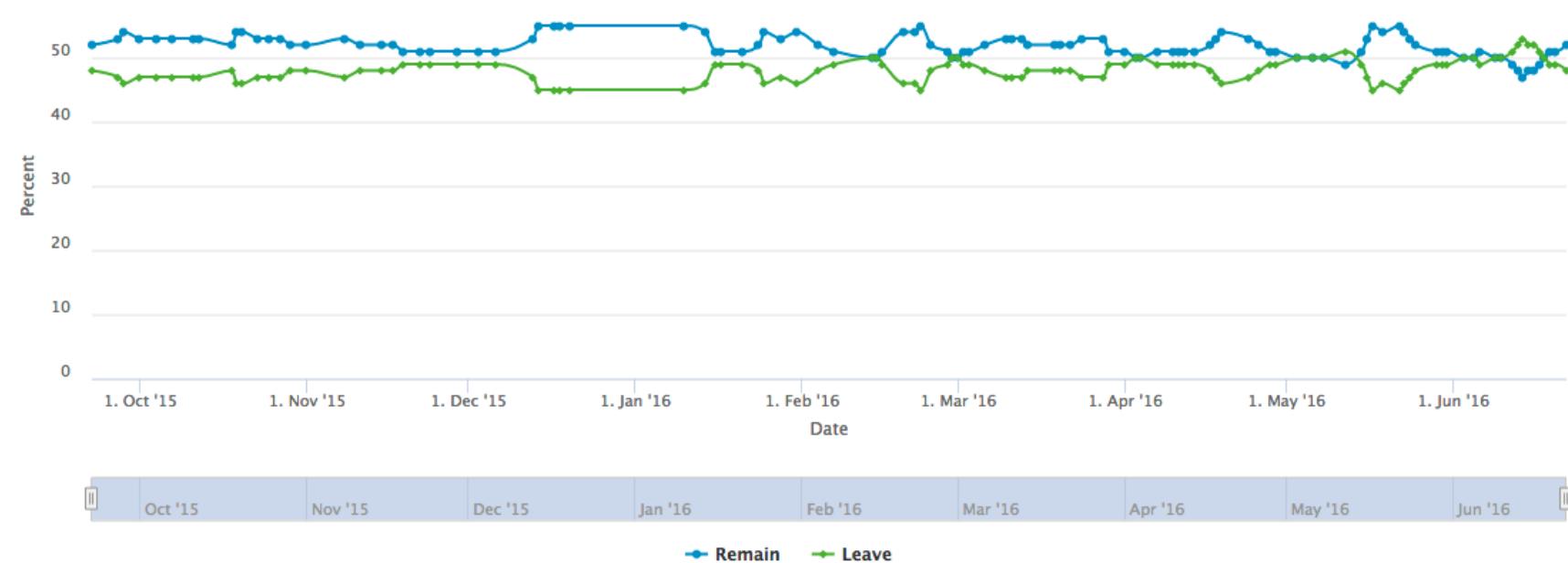
- Euro
- Schengen
- Police and justice
- Paradox of a more British EU
- Contrast between Westminster et Whitehall

3. Immediate Factors

- Opening of borders in 2004
- MPs expenses scandal 2009 – loss of confidence
- Consequences of austerity policies since 2010
- Eurozone and refugee crises

Referendum Vote Intention Poll of Polls

From 22/09/2015 To 22/06/2016



4. Results

- Cities and university towns for ‘Remain’

London: 60%

Manchester 60%;

Liverpool 58%;

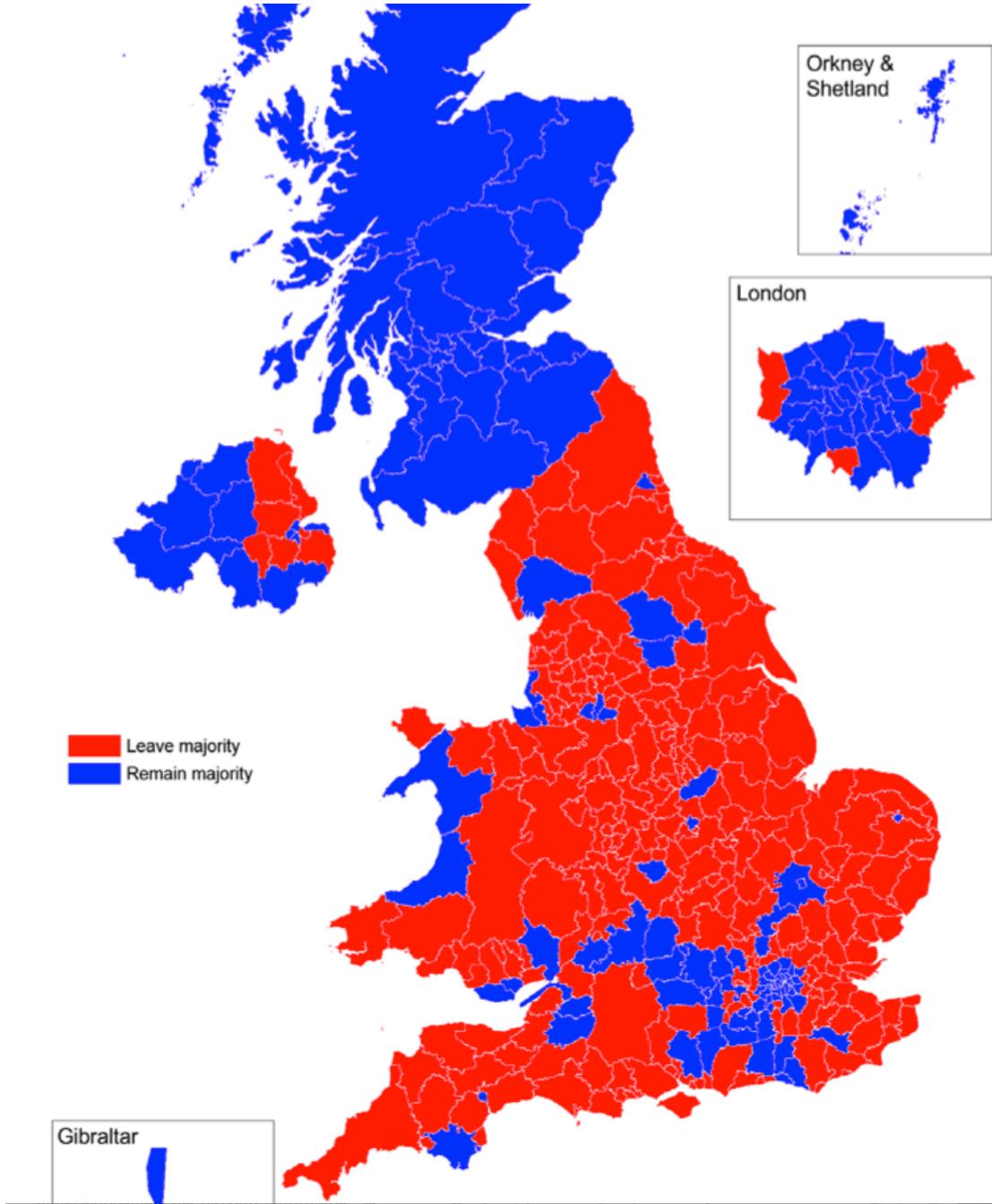
Bristol 62%

Oxford 70%

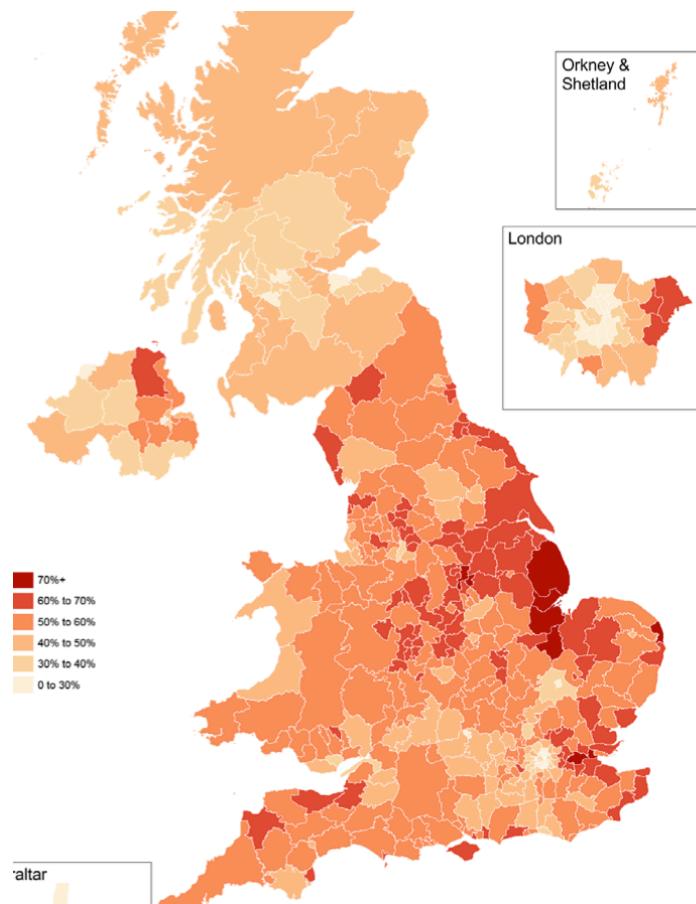
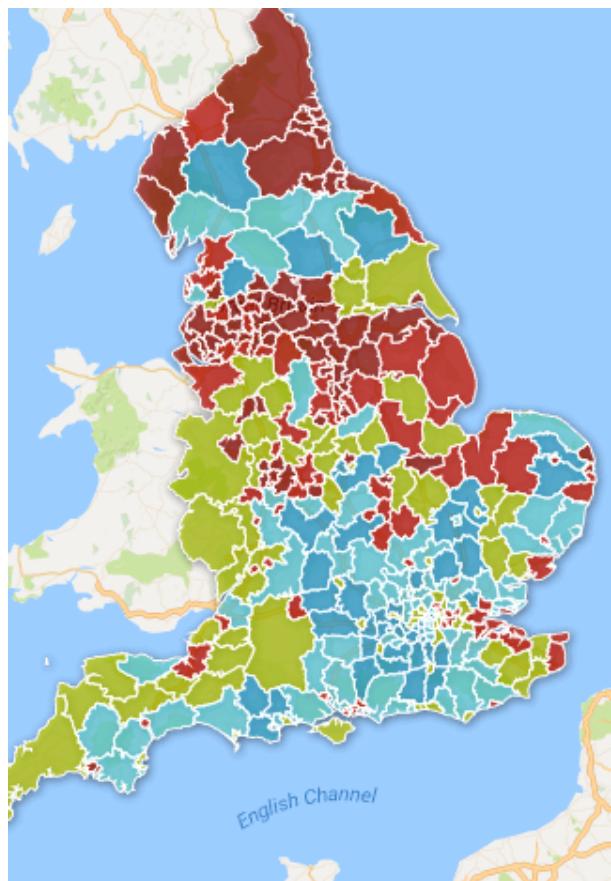
- But Birmingham 50.5%

Leicester 51% for ‘Leave

Sheffield 51’



Poverty Risk



Main dividing lines

- Age
- Education
- Poverty
- Sovereignty
- Immigration
- Divisions and tensions over: globalisation, anti-establishment, anti-London, crisis of the party system

5. The Brussels Negotiation

- Discours de T. May en janvier: ‘Hard Brexit’: ‘cake and eat it’
- Vote du Parlement sur l’article 50
- 2 ans de négociations sur accord financier, de transition et sur la suite
- Accord trouvé en décembre 2017 sur transition: facture, droits des citoyens et principe frontière irlandaise



La négociation à Londres

Divisions du parti conservateur: ‘Hard Brexit’ au Cabinet et Parlement



‘Soft Brexiters’ et ‘Remainers’



Divisions au parti travailliste

- Opposition leader/MPs et adhérents
- Ambiguité de Corbyn: un Brexit dans le marché unique sans libre circulation





The Irish border issue

- Belfast Agreement 1998
- EU role
- Economic and symbolic



- Specific political situation in NO
- 'backstop'

Chequers Plan July 2018 : free-trade area for goods only with common regulatory regime

Resignations: Davis et Johnson

Deal with EU November : budget, EU citizens' rights and backstop for Northern Ireland

But no ratification in Parliament in January and March 2019

Fragmentation of Parliament betw supporters of no deal, May deal, customs union (Corbyn), single market and second referendum. Cut across traditional party divides