My take on BREXIT. I don't claim that the following is accurate in every detail, but it is how I see the situation personally. For more background information, go to:

GENERAL: http://www.vervinomni.net/default2.htm IMAGES: http://www.vervinomni.net/id/def.htm

BACKGROUND

Membership of the EU has long been controversial in the UK. When we joined the EU in 1973 we were not told that the ultimate aim of the EU was to create a European federal state, a United States of Europe. The then Prime Minister Edward Heath said:

"There are some in this country who fear that in going into Europe we shall in some way sacrifice independence and sovereignty. These fears, I need hardly say, are completely unjustified."

THAT WAS A LIE. Since then there has been a relentless erosion of sovereignty with more and more regulations from Brussels. The introduction of the euro against the advice of most economists was specifically designed to further federation, since a common currency is a key feature of a unified state. The euro has in fact led to decades of stagnation in Southern Europe, sacrificed on the altar of federation while benefiting Germany in particular.

The European political elite is obsessed with federalising Europe. In 2006, they tried to enact "The European Constitution", the title of which was in itself a dead giveaway. The French government was bold (or rash) enough to give their people a referendum, in which they voted to reject the treaty. The EU and French governments then fiddled around with the Constitution, made some insignificant changes and then got it passed in the French parliament as The Lisbon Treaty.

Voting against any EU proposal is very non-PC in Brusselian terms and will always be overturned one way or another.

HOW WE GOT HERE TODAY

There has always been considerable unrest about UK membership of the EU, and UKIP (The United Kingdom Independence Party) was launched in September 1993 specifically to fight for BREXIT as it has become known. In the European Parliament elections of 2014 UKIP won more seats than any other British Party. This result would be difficult to achieve in the UK parliament, which has a unique non-PR "First Past The Post" voting system. Nevertheless, the British political establishment was fearful that the anti-EU feeling (now hilariously and stupidly called "populism") might grow and threaten their joint pro-EU stance. David Cameron, elected British PM in 2015, wanted to squash UKIP once and for all, and promised to hold a referendum on UK membership.

The Political establishment never in a million years dreamed it could lose this referendum, especially after a four-month campaign during which the people were bombarded by a tsunami of pro-EU propaganda and even lies in the so-called "Project Fear" campaign. ("If we leave the Eu then we will all starve and die." sort of thing.) You had to have lived through that to appreciate the hideous crassness of the whole approach.

Despite "Project Fear", the LEAVE campaign won by a small but decisive margin. Mr Cameron had promised (HA, HA) to carry out the wishes of the electorate and invoke Article 50 to launch the exit process "the next day". Instead, he almost immediately resigned and the Tory party elected Theresa May as their leader and thus automatically PM. She had campaigned for REMAIN and now waited an entire year before invoking Article 50. Nobody knows why, and I personally have never heard her explain why. One supposes it can only have been in the hope that something would happen to allow the government to thwart the referendum result - (possibly an obvious and even violent change in the public mood.) REMAINERS never accepted the result (unlike those AGAINST the EU in 1973, who just had to grin and bear it as their fishing industry was nearly destroyed) and frequently claimed that LEAVERS "didn't know what they were voting for." The insults of the REMAIN faction have in fact been huge, crude, patronising and hideously insulting, displaying a staggering self-righteousness and contempt for democracy.

LEAVE clearly won the vote, but the result has never been accepted by many REMAINERS, who have tried every trick in the book to overthrow it. This of course is typical EU behaviour. What REMAINERS and the EU seem unable to understand is that the British are fiercely democratic. We do NOT want to abandon our sovereignty and we will NOT be dictated to by foreigners OR have or democracy insulted and betrayed.

I will not enter into the reasons for LEAVING the EU here; all the arguments have been covered endlessly and can be found here:

http://www.vervinomni/default2/htm

I would image that most people on the Continent haven't a clue about the reasons for the UK voting to leave, but they are actually clear, concrete, logical and incontrovertible.

After a year of delay, Mrs May invoked Article 50 and started the process of negotiating a "deal" with the EU, but often by-passed her Cabinet and worked hand-in-hand - and often secretly - with civil servants, all of course zealously pro-EU like the rest of the Establishment.

It has seemed to the public that she has spent as much time talking to Frau Merkel as she has with her own government. In any case, the perception is that any deal done would have to be approved by she who has become known as "The Mad Empress of Europe".

After her nearly three years of procrastination, fudge and shambles Mrs May has finally come up with a "deal" with the EU that most experts agree is simply BRINO (BREXIT in NAME ONLY). It is all rather technical, but in summary it does not take us FULLY OUT of the EU and free of EU regulations, laws and treaties. On the contrary,. It seems to bind us TO the EU in perpetuity, yet bizarrely, Mrs May claims it is "the best deal for Britain".

But we voted to LEAVE the EU and be like the other ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FIVE nations on the planet which are not in the EU. There was no vote *on "LEAVING but continue to abide by this or that law or procedure"*; it was to LEAVE or REMAIN, and what Mrs May has proposed IS NOT THAT. She has, therefore, betrayed the people and the democratic vote that was carried out.

This is why a large number of her party have written to the party chairman expressing "no-confidence" in Mrs May as leader. By tomorrow, we will know whether the Tory Party has voted to remove her as leader or not.

Nobody is quite sure what will happen if she IS removed. A new leader will of course have to be elected and there may be a general election if a vote of no-confidence in the HOC (House of Commons) is passed. There, the Tories have a small majority, but ONLY if the DUP (The Democratic Unionist Party of Ireland) continues to vote with the government. They are very unhappy with Mrs May's deal because they say it treats Northern Ireland as different from the rest of the UK, and that is something they do not accept.

If she WINS this evening, she will stagger on as leader, and the next hurdle will be a vote in January (postponed from this week because she was sure to lose it) on whatever new "deal" she will by then have managed to get out of Brussels.

However, Mrs May does not seem to have a very firm grasp of reality. Consider this:

- 1) Her "deal" will clearly not get passed in the HOC, either now or in January.
- 2) The EU has said there can be NO material CHANGES to her "deal". (hardly surprising, since it is immensely favourable to the EU.)

So it is hard to see how she can avoid losing the January vote on whether to accept her deal or not. Logically, she should resign, but she seems to be a person without honour or reason.

If there is a continued impasse (and it is an absurd situation), then the UK will leave the EU in four months time come what may, since LEAVING is enshrined in British law. Theresa May triggered the LEAVE process on 29 March, 2017, meaning the UK is scheduled to leave at 11pm UK time on Friday, 29 March 2019. It can be extended if all 28 EU members agree, but at the moment all sides are focussing on that date as being the key one.

If there is NO agreement and NO extension, the UK will then "crash out" of the EU and trade with it and the world under WTO provisions. The term "crashing out" is one invented by REMAINERS as suggesting chaos. There WILL be some chaos, but principally because Mrs May has not prepared to LEAVE the EU properly as per the referendum. In any case, ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FIVE NATIONS trade under WTO terms and some with special arrangements they have made with various states.

REMAINERS have constantly tried to resurrect "Project Fear" of the referendum campaign, which is risible since NONE OF THEIR PREDICTIONS OF DOOM CAME TRUE. We were told in 2016 that:

- the £ would collapse
- the stockmarket, the housing market and exports would collapse
- unemployment would rocket
- there would be food and medicine shortages etc etc etc

In fact, everything continued more or less as before and unemployment actually FELL to its LOWEST LEVEL in FORTY-TWO YEARS. If people want to know how bad the EU is for unemployment, they should look at Greece, Italy, Spain and Portugal - and even France, which would die for the UK's unemployment figures even AFTER we voted to LEAVE.

A few important and inter-connected facts:

- Trading under WTO terms is the NORM on the planet, not the exception. It holds NO fear for the UK.
- You obviously do not have to be in the EU to trade with it! As I said, this is obvious, but the
 way REMAINERS talk you would think that leaving the EU means cutting ourselves off from
 civilisation. However, MOST OF THE WORLD trades freely with the EU with NO PROBLEM
 at all.
- The EU has a £60,000,000,000 trade SURPLUS with the UK. It sells US SIXTY BILLION
 GBP worth of goods MORE than we sell it. The idea that this trade would dry up is stupid;
 that would mean the loss of HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF JOBS on the Continent, and
 if Brussels thinks that "populism" is a danger for them NOW, then let them see what cutting
 off trade with the UK would do.
- Negotiating BREXIT would have been somewhat easier without the special situation in Ireland, which is currently divided into Eire in the South and Northern Ireland in the north. Northern Ireland is PART OF THE UK. Logically, therefore, if we are NOT in the EU there should be a "hard border" with Eire because customs tariffs and regulations would be different, whereas they are currently the same since the UK is in the EU "single market. The Southern Irish do not want a hard border because they prefer to feel that their island is as united as possible. For decades there was a guerilla war waged by the IRA (Irish Republican Army) to free Northern Ireland of British control. This only came to an end with the "Good Friday Agreement" of April 1998, part of which was that there would be NO hard border. The British government is reluctant to modify this agreement for fear of relaunching IRA activity. There are technical ways to get round this problem, but they are no in place yet and Mrs May has done NO PREPARATION for this eventuality.
- Without an agreement and if Britain "crashes out" the EU will be in very serious financial trouble. Britain is a major NET CONTRIBUTOR to the EU, and without its money the EU will have to cut its expenditure drastically. OR, they may try to make the Germans pay more, but the latter are reeling from an economic downturn and the huge costs of the MILLIONS of economic migrants that Merkel has idiotically allowed to enter the country. The German Milch Cow taxpayer will eventually rebel just as the French have done.
- However, Mrs May completely idiotically in the view of many Brits has agreed to pay they
 EU £39,000,000,000 (THIRTY-NINE BILLION POUNDS) for the privilege of not really leaving
 the EU. Nobody I have talked to can explain WHY we have to pay this huge sum. In fact,
 legally we do not HAVE to pay it al all. It seems to be May's idea of a goodwill gesture, but IT
 IS OUR MONEY. Europeans are FED UP with politicians wasting OUR MONEY.

The EU finances of course are already in poor shape. Several countries are technically bankrupt; German and other banks are seriously exposed to Italian and other countries' debt; France has just caved in to plebian riots and scrapped proposed taxes, with the result that its debt is going to soar OVER the agreed EU permitted maximum - which in theory means that the EU will FINE France as it proposes doing with Italy (cue a huge increase in the dreaded "populism"). Italy of course has set a budget that could well bring about its financial collapse and many economists do not expect the euro to survive much longer.

• FINALLY: it is hard to predict how the UK will emerge from this chaos, which is entirely of its own making. I say "its own", but of course the blame lies wholly with the government. Many suspect that the shambles has been deliberately engineered in the hope that the British public will become fed up with the whole thing and demand to REMAIN in the EU. THAT has probably been the secret REMAINER plan all along. So far, however, the mood in Britain seems to be as determined as ever to LEAVE.

Strangely, many REMAINERS and most of the EU and Continent simply do not understand that you cannot insult the average Brit's intelligence for ever, and that once we make up our mind we are as stubborn as hell and will not be bullied. A study of the events of 1939 and 1940 might help people to understand us better.

Chris Snuggs - 13 December 2018