

First one way...

"The EU constitution is a model for the subjection of historic nation-states to unaccountable centralised **institutions which are not, and cannot be, democratic.**"

(Roger Helmer, article at <http://www.brugesgroup.com>)

If we're "lumbered with" a European constitution, "we will be **part of a federal superstate**, we will lose our influence in the UN and NATO and we will be constrained in the war against terrorism".

(Chris Heaton-Harris, 7 February 2003 press release at <http://www.heatonharris.org.uk>)

"Laws and regulations ranging from transport to social policy, from the environment to law and order, would be decided by distant pen-pushers in a foreign country, rather than by elected representatives in Britain."

(Caroline Spelman MP, 15 April 2004, http://www.tory.org.uk/news/article.cfm?obj_id=97356)

"Our country [would] **no longer be able to use British soldiers** to defend our interests abroad."

(Iain Duncan Smith, 9 October 2003, Conservative Party conference)

"[Howard] claimed that if Britain were signed up to the EU constitution, it could have been **the European president and not the prime minister** that would have been in Washington for talks last week."

(BBC, 19 April 2004)

"The truth is that the proposals for a new constitution for the EU, and for the incorporation of the Charter of Fundamental Rights within it, amount to **an effort to establish a United States of Europe** - as M Giscard d'Estaing has so clearly and so helpfully himself indicated. This, if it occurs, will be **the most fundamental change in our constitution since 1688.**"

(Oliver Letwin, foreword to *Free Speech: the EU version*, <http://www.brugesgroup.com/mediacentre/index.live?article=158#foreword>)

"My own belief is that sooner or later the United Kingdom would have to get out

...and then the other

The new constitution is "a great opportunity" to **improve decision making** in the EU.

(Ken Clarke, BBC website, 27 May 2003)

"We have to make clear in the treaty that there is no question of subsuming the individual nations in some other structure, so **people cannot go on pretending we're on a journey to some ghastly superstate.**"

(Chris Patten, BBC Radio 4 Today programme, 29 November 2000)

"For the first time, the limits of EU powers are defined in one document. Only three policy areas will be the exclusive responsibility of the EU - as they are now. Countries will retain their veto in core areas of national sovereignty, such as tax, foreign policy and defence. No wonder Continental federalists bemoan the fact that this treaty is a "British" document."

(Lord Heseltine, 26 April 2004, article in The Telegraph 'Yes, this Treaty is good for us')

"In sum, I believe that the draft convention **leaves foreign policy and defence firmly in the hands of national governments...** The Euro-sceptics will be able to sleep quieter in their beds, for the grand experiment of European unity will have broken down."

(Lord Skidelsky, 9 September 2003, Lords Hansard col. 205)

"What is being proposed **will not herald the 'end of a thousand years of British history', nor does it justify any of the hyperbolic claims that are currently being made...**it is necessary to put in a new constitution in place once sensible concerns have been addressed."

(Ken Clarke, October 2003, *The Conservative Case for a New EU Constitution*)

"The case for the treaty is simple: if it is in Britain's interest to be in the EU, then

of the federal manger. **We are a dog in the manger at the moment always objecting to what the others want to do.**"

(Lord Tebbit,

<http://www.brugesgroup.com/mediacentre/interviews.live?article=141>)

"I am happy for Britain to remain a member of the European Union, provided we can renegotiate – and I make no apology for using the 'R' word – provided we can **renegotiate the terms of our membership**. And the terms on which I would accept our membership is if it was **based on 'free trade', and on intergovernmental co-operation**, then I think it would be acceptable ... provided no-one calls me a 'European citizen'."

(Helmer, 3 November 2001, speech to Bruges Group International Conference)

and finally... Michael Howard can't even agree with himself...

Howard told a conference in Spain that the creation of a political union was an noble ambition but "not something that Britons wanted"...

(8 July 2002, Single Currency Conference, Madrid)

it is also in our interest that the EU work well. **Britain can often achieve more together with our European partners than we can alone.** The new treaty will help us do so more effectively - but without creating a European superstate."

(Michael Heseltine, 26 April 2004, *Telegraph*)

"The alternative idea, of a European free trade area but without any supra-national body to enforce its rules, was tried at the end of the 1950s. The Macmillan Government set up the European Free Trade Association but within two years Macmillan had concluded that EFTA could not meet British needs. We left EFTA to join the Community. **Free trade agreements are worthless without the means to enforce them.**"

(TEN, *Europe: Our Case*)

"The idea that if we were outside the EU we could somehow become a trading haven on the edge of Europe with all the benefits of that vital market of 370 million, while others fix the rules without any regard at all to our national interest, is **cloud-cuckoo land.**"

(John Major, 24 April 1996, Institute of Directors)

...yet recalling his views on the Maastricht Treaty, which established political union in Europe, he said that he was happy signing up to it and wouldn't go back on it!

(13 February, BBC Radio 4 Today programme)