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SPEECH AS DELIVERED

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**'THIS HOUSE BELIEVES THAT THE TREATY OF ROME'S ASPIRATION OF AN EVER
CLOSER EU IS MORE IMPORTANT TODAY THAN EVER'**

SPEECH TO THE GLASGOW UNIVERSITY ENGLISH SPEAKING UNION SCOTLAND

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1. Introduction – About the UK Independence Party (UKIP)

Mr Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you for the honour of inviting me to Glasgow University and the English Speaking Union.

Struan Stephenson MEP has already touched on aspects of the Constitution / 'Reform Treaty', but I'd like to say a little more on this, before seeking to outline a positive, alternative vision of a freer and independent Britain - UKIP's view.

Now, let's not play down how serious a change this Constitution represents. It is fundamental – the end game. The British people only ever voted for a Common Market, yet this is the stuff of a political state, a United States of Europe. Mr David Martin MEP was right when he said, quote, "Let's stop defending, pretending and apologising - a Socialist superstate is exactly what we do want to create." [Source: 'Europe: An Ever Closer Union' by David Martin]

But it is two less prominent elements of this Constitution that are really dangerous. Firstly, the fact that the EU will obtain a legal status of its own, able to make binding treaties on our behalf, and making us citizens of the EU. This all done without any vote, or any UK political party advocating such a dramatic change in its manifesto.

If that wasn't enough, second, this Constitution will be self-amending. That means that there will be no need for further treaties or discussions. Further serious changes - the total takeover of our nation, adding a single army – which the German government wants. All of this can be done behind closed doors, in secret.

Consider what the founder of the European Union, the master bureaucrat, Jean Monnet, said: "Europe's nations should be guided towards the superstate without their people understanding what is happening. This can be accomplished by successive steps each disguised as having an economic purpose, but which will inevitably, and irreversibly lead to federation".

One day we will wake up and realise that our country is gone - the UK, Scotland, all of it - and we now live in a country called Europe. And then it'll be too late. And that's the intention.

But if the option of an ever closer union is so wrong for us, what alternative does Britain have ?

2. There is an alternative: a positive vision of life outside the EU

Well firstly, don't believe the scare stories. That 3 million jobs would be lost. Of a sidelined Britain becoming isolated, lonely, friendless, down at heel - a country no one will love.

What a nonsense !

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Let's look at the economic facts. This country is the fifth largest economy in the

world. As big as China's. Yes, China is overtaking us, and it will overtake everyone, but it has a billion people, we have 60 million. But our economies today are now the same size.

Britain is the second largest global investor, the third largest trading nation in the world. Just us. We are the largest investor in the US, as the US is the largest investor in Britain.

The City of London has done better since the Euro than before it, and trades in more Euros than Frankfurt, more dollars than New York. It is global not merely European.

And we now export more to the rest of the world than we do to the EU. For the fastest growing export markets are outside the EU.

Indeed, only 10% of the British economy depends on trade with the EU, another 10% with the Rest of the World, but 80% of the UK economy involves British citizens - Scotland with England. So why does that 80% have to abide by EU regulations ?

And if we left the EU today, Britain would immediately be the EU's largest trading partner. We import more from the EU than we export to them. Our trade deficit is now over £ 30 billion. So would they withhold their wine and BMWs and Ferraris from us, and stop buying our pharmaceuticals, whisky and Rolls Royces because

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we have become independent ? Of course not.

So, we'd be 'better off out' in the following ways, I suggest:

- 1. Firstly, we could leave the EU in a day at present. Just by repealing the European Communities Act 1972. That's all it would take at this point.**

- 2. Second, we could be like Norway and Switzerland are now – they are the richest two countries per head in Europe, but are not in the EU. We would trade happily with the EU, but not be part of the political union. And we're much bigger, and could negotiate a very good free trade deal.**

- 3. We would go and cut back all those 120,000 directives and regulations, that mass of red tape. Costs would tumble, competitiveness surge, investment, profits and tax takes rise.**

- 4. And we could rebuild our links with the Commonwealth. India, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa – powerful economies and shared values. In Kampala this week, HM The Queen stressed “the importance of Parliamentary democracy to the Commonwealth as a whole.”**

Just look at India's potential: In July, 8 million phones were sold there. It's growth is 4 times that of the EU. And by 2050 India's economy will be larger than all 27 EU countries put together.

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The modern Commonwealth represents 53 countries, a third of the world's population, a quarter of international trade. Its combined national wealth is almost equal to the USA's, it contains thirteen of the world's fastest growing

economies, all united with a common language and common laws – English.
In Kampala today there will be no official interpreters. The EU needs hundreds.

5. We would also take back control of our own trade agreements from the EU, and negotiate directly. Not leave it to Peter Mandelson. We could help developing nations far more, which are being so hurt by EU trade barriers.
6. We would repatriate the £6 billion cash contribution we pay to the EU and spend the savings on our own people, our own schools, hospitals, transport and defence.
7. We would re-establish the primacy of Westminster and our own Scottish and English laws and courts.
8. We would grant licences for our restored fishing grounds, worth £2.5 billion a year, and we'd replace the £15 billion of C.A.P payments to farmers with environmental grants.
9. We would take back national control over immigration and asylum seekers, and restore Britain's borders, checks and controls with a fair system of work permits to manage numbers.

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10. And we would scale back Government. And, finally, we would reduce the numbers of politicians (don't all cheer at once !) - recalling our MEPs and UK officials.

3. Conclusion

So in conclusion, Ladies and Gentlemen, that's our alternative vision: A

**prosperous, free trading, free standing, independent Britain, trading
happily**

**with the EU, but looking anew to the globalised world and the
Commonwealth. That's what we mean by true UK independence.**

**Now Mr Martin quoted Churchill. It is true that Churchill did foresee a United
States of Europe - but he never intended us to be in it. He saw
Britain belonging to... an English Speaking Union !**

Thank you. I urge you to oppose the motion.