



[Klaus Allion](#)

MD, Owner at ANT Telecom, automated communications specialists |
The power to protect your employees and business

Why should the UK stay in Europe

Jan 7, 2016

I am certainly touching a hot potato that hasn't got anything to do with my business, or not? It certainly will have far reaching economic consequences for the UK and therefore for me, our customers and of course our kids.

We, the UK public will make this decision, but do we actually know the facts and do we have enough information to understand or predict the impact and effects of our decision? Are we going to get a fact-based result or will it be more an emotional reaction when we put the cross in either the pro or against box?

In my business I would want to see a business plan, some projections and the assumption these projections are based upon before making such a significant decision. In comparison am I equally well enough informed and do I know enough to make the right choice? No of course not and that is despite having read a lot and spoken to a variety of people (private, business and political) in the UK and in Germany.

Do I feel the business leaders speaking out for and against Europe know more? Probably yes, but are all of them guided by a long-term view for the UK?

What about the politicians? They are there to study the subject so they would know more than I do, but do I trust all of them - on both sides - to be open, honest and clear?

I think we would have a similar answer to the same question when it comes to the media.

So what we need is an honest and open debate allowing us to weigh up the REAL pro's and con's.

In addition to that are we looking for short term gain such as winning an election or increasing shareholder value and then let someone else deal with the aftermath or are we looking for a mid to long-term sustainable future.

Don't get me wrong I am not sitting on the fence. I am firmly in the pro Europe camp. I absolutely agree Europe needs to change, but listening to the mood across the spectrum here and abroad the momentum for change is gaining support.

I believe we may not get all we want RIGHT NOW, but is this the way it normally works? Do we think if we are out of Europe we will have immediately formed new alliances, entered into new trade agreements and have contracts in place to regulate all other areas of business and life....

Of course not, these agreements take time and we probably would have to negotiate on many fronts at the same time with people who may have other priorities.

I think staying in Europe and promoting and fighting for change is the quicker way and I believe the UK is not on its own as other influential countries such as Germany generally want similar change.

I also generally believe in TEAM (together everyone achieves more). I agree there are many examples where the small "business speed boat" out-performs or even sinks the "tanker", but very often these are disruptors in new market areas and/or in areas where none of the (big and incumbent) competitors actually react quick and strong enough.

Would that apply to governments, countries or trade alliances - in my opinion certainly not yet within the current political and economic landscape and with big players such as China, the US and others.

I want a transparent debate. The subject is too important for the discussion to be fuelled with polemic and cynical arguments sometimes made purely out of the interest for self-promotion.

We also need the other side; we need the people on both sides of the argument speaking. People argue against Europe or the status quo (factually) help to promote change. I want to listen to the (honest and transparent) arguments on both sides, but they are partly muted by the unnecessary noise created by people interested in self-promotion and personal short-term gain.

Let's have Tripadvisor style ratings against the arguments judging honesty, openness, transparency, factuality etc. and let's get a believable plan and projections and an understanding of the assumptions these projections are based upon.

Let's make the right choice not just for 2016 or the short-term, but for the foreseeable future for us and our kids.

I wish all of you a happy and prosperous 2016, 17,18,19 :)