A timeline of British EU membership

Landesbildungsserver Baden-Württemberg

1973

Britain joins the European Economic Community (EEC)

1975

First referendum: overwhelming majority to remain in the EEC

1979-1990

negotiates a special rebate for Britain

in favour of free trade

against more political integration

against a European "superstate"

Margaret Thatcher (C)

1997-2010

pro-European attitude

Britain joins European Social Charter

Blair even considers joining Eurozone

Tony Blair 1997-2007 (L)

Gordon Brown 2007-2010 (L)

2010-2016

anti-integrationist agenda

promises second referendum

negotiates further rebate

David Cameron (C)

2016

23/06/2016: Brexit referendum

Leave: 51.89%

Remain: 48.11%

2016-2019

negotiates Brexit deal with the EU

unable to get her deal passed in Parliament

Theresa May (C)

2019-

wins General Election 2019

Parliament passes Brexit bill

UK leaves EU on 31/01/2020

transition phase up to Dec 2020

Boris Johnson (C)