



# Letters to the Editor

17 September 2019

## Cameron's regrets over the Brexit referendum

Sir, Andrew Billen's interview with David Cameron made gripping reading (Magazine, Sep 14) — particularly Cameron's reflection on his use of the UK's veto in 2011. "Cameron vetoed a change to the EU treaty designed to help tackle the eurozone crisis, and the Europeans ignored him, carried on without the UK "using the same chairs and tables and meeting rooms". This admission undermines all faith in the probity of the EU; such high-handed, unlawful behaviour would not be tolerated in a parish council. Cameron says it is "just not true" that we have no power to stop Turkey joining the EU. If the EU ignored his previous veto, why would they not do the same over a veto to Turkey joining? The EU has form in ignoring votes that run contrary to its wishes — referendums in France and the Netherlands, for example. Such arrogant behaviour underlines the democratic deficit of the EU and strengthens my view that we should not be party to such behaviour at any price.

**Jeremy Norman**  
Sliema, Malta

Sir, Cameron turns out to be another remainder who can't accept the result

of the referendum. He fails to recognise that those of us who voted Leave were not influenced by numbers on a bus, but were voting for sovereignty. Why do we need other countries to tell us how to run our affairs, or another judicial system, based on contrary principles, to override our own tried and tested system? Cameron should be congratulated for calling the vote but derided for his petulance.

**Roger Jobson**  
Totnes, Devon

Sir, Cameron says he knows some will not forgive him for presiding over the referendum, which has proved to be so damaging, and he is right. He assumed Remainers would win and was wholly complacent in the shoddy campaign he ran. The fact that the vote was so close, with accurate information in short supply, has made life for the ordinary citizen and his party difficult and divisive. He has only himself to blame and I believe history will judge him harshly.

**Donald Fowler-Watt**  
Chichester, W. Sussex

Sir, Much is being made of Cameron's failure to prevent the country voting to

leave the EU. But the responsibility for the referendum result lies with voters, while agreeing to a referendum was a democratic imperative. We listened to him put the case for Remain and decided not to take his advice. I believe his conscience should remain clear.

**Alan Kasket**  
Wymondham, Leics

Sir, I have always held a healthy distrust of our political system, but Brexit has changed my opinion. I have watched in amazement as men and women have followed their consciences, throwing away promising careers to vote in opposition to their whip. Whatever the Brexit outcome may we always have men and women of such quality in our parliament.

**Brian Stephenson**  
London E11

Sir, Boris Johnson may regret not taking more time to research his comic-book characters. The Incredible Hulk *did* get stronger as he got angrier — but was created in an accident and spent the rest of his life trying to undo the changes that made him.

**Iain Skelly**  
Neston, Cheshire