

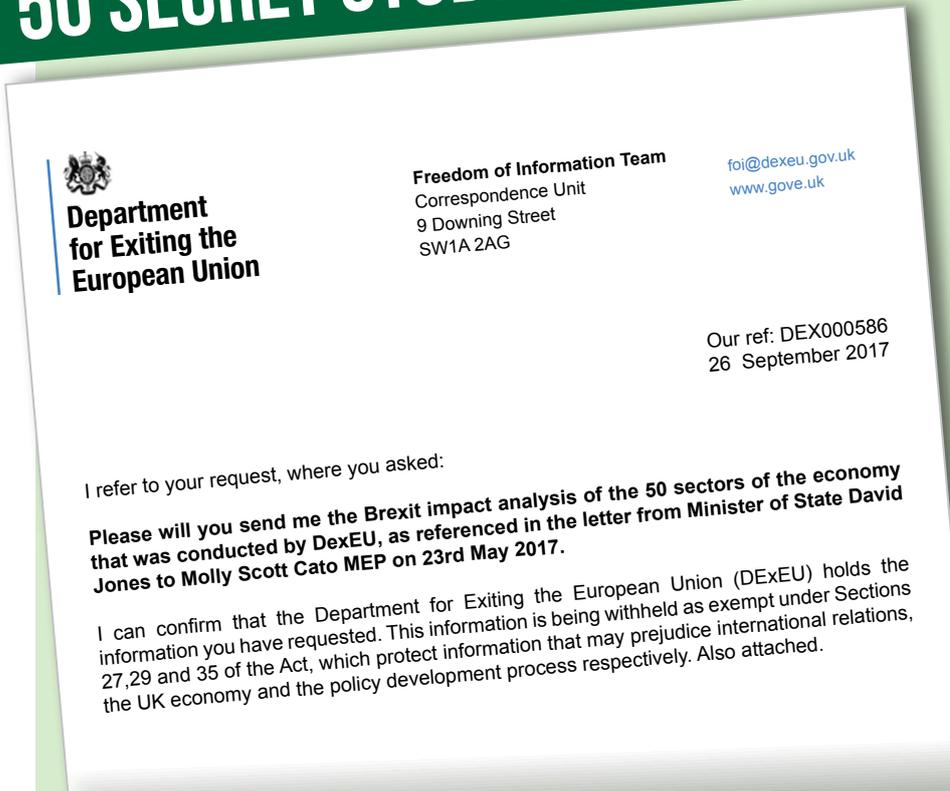


GREENING EUROPE

NEWS ABOUT THE WORK OF MOLLY SCOTT CATO MEP AND THE GREEN GROUP IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

AUTUMN 2017

50 SECRET STUDIES ON BREXIT



Molly, who is Green Party Brexit spokesperson, has been leading efforts to get the government to release 50 or so studies they have undertaken into the impacts of Brexit. Despite several requests and questions, including one Freedom of Information (Fol) request, the government has refused to make the studies public. The government claim that by releasing the studies they would risk damaging the UK's negotiating position on Brexit. They are also using sections of the Fol Act to withhold the information.

Molly said: "To conceal these studies under the guise that it weakens the government's negotiating position can mean only one

thing: that they reveal Brexit will have a negative impact on the UK. If the findings were in any way positive or strengthened their negotiating hand, you can bet they would have been released long ago. The government is running scared. It knows that the impacts of Brexit will be disastrous on our economy."

Further information on Molly's website: <http://mollymep.org.uk/brexit/> and Twitter: [#50SecretStudies](https://twitter.com/50SecretStudies) Molly provides regular updates on Brexit from a Green perspective. Sign up to receive these here: www.bit.ly/mscbrexit



COULD TOXIC PESTICIDE BE BANNED IN EUROPE?

Molly, who is a member of European Parliament's Agriculture Committee, has welcomed the growing opposition to the renewal of an EU license to sell the controversial pesticide, glyphosate.

She has challenged Environment Secretary Michael Gove to ban the toxin which is linked to numerous health and environmental threats. Nearly a million and a half European citizens have to date signed a petition calling for a Europe-wide ban of the substance, best known as **Roundup**, produced by Monsanto

Molly said: "Glyphosate is the world's most used pesticide, yet it is a suspected carcinogen, is claimed to cause birth defects, and has been linked to a host of other health problems. I welcome the fact that the future of this dangerous chemical hangs in the balance, with EU countries set to ban its use in Europe.

"Michael Gove has promised a 'Green Brexit'. It is clear that this must involve the precautionary principle, and where there are threats to health from the use of toxic chemicals, we must ban them."

KEEPING UP WITH MOLLY

For the very latest news www.mollymep.org.uk

Sign up to regular e-news <http://bit.ly/mscnews> Sign up to Brexit updates:

www.bit.ly/mscbrexit Follow her parliamentary activities http://bit.ly/MS_Cato

Twitter [@MollyMEP](https://twitter.com/MollyMEP) Facebook [Molly Scott Cato MEP](https://www.facebook.com/MollyScottCatoMEP)





OFFSHORE WIND CHEAPER THAN NUCLEAR: SCRAP HINKLEY!

Following news that energy from offshore wind is now considerably cheaper than the cost of electricity that will (if ever!) be generated from Hinkley, Molly has renewed a call for the project to be scrapped.

She said: “Only an economically illiterate government would continue with this white elephant. The South West

has an abundance of renewable energy resources, chief amongst them off-shore wind.

“Wind technology is moving ever faster forwards with innovation delivering ever cheaper energy and overcoming technical difficulties and environmental concerns. Meanwhile nuclear is stunk in the bunker sucking up billions of pounds

and failing to deliver.

“Not only through its operation can wind power create many more jobs than nuclear, there is also huge potential to create a new green industrial revolution in the South West. The manufacture of wind turbine blades and components has huge potential to become a major manufacturing industry for the region.”

AMAZON RESERVE SAFE — FOR NOW

Molly has welcomed a decision by the Brazilian government to reinstate a mining ban in the Renca Amazonian nature reserve. In August, President Temer announced that an area the size of Denmark would be opened for exploitation. But an international outcry, which Greens were part of, has led the Brazilian government to reverse its decision and restore protection for the reserve. Molly has called for the EU Commission to block imports of any minerals and other resources extracted from Amazonian reserves.

She said: “Opening up the Amazon for

exploitation by large mining companies would be catastrophic for the earth’s climate, for biodiversity and for local indigenous communities, so I am delighted the Brazilian government has responded to international pressure and overturned what would have been a hugely destructive act.

“We need to remain on our guard however. Brazil’s President is a friend of big business and will continue to be lobbied by those who would happily tear up the Amazon for profit. We must match that lobbying, tirelessly repeating the important message that the Amazon is not for sale.”

EMBARGO ON ARMS EXPORTS TO SAUDI

The European Parliament has voted in favour of a Green report which challenges the EU Commission to introduce an embargo on arms exports to Saudi Arabia. The report also calls for a new process to sanction EU countries which do not comply with EU rules on arms exports.

Molly said: “The support for this Green initiative shows again the crucial role the EU and European Parliament play in opposing violence and promoting peace. MEPs have pledged to get tough on nations exporting

these vile weapons to notorious regimes such as Saudi Arabia. The UK is one of the largest arms exporters in Europe and has consistently failed to comply with EU reporting obligations. Sadly, at a time when Europe is looking to crack down on arms sales to Saudi Arabia, and sanction countries that fail to uphold the rules, the UK is set to leave the EU. And it is clear, that with a Tory government at the helm, arms manufacturers will continue to sell their weapons of death with impunity.”

OTHER GREEN ACHIEVEMENTS IN EUROPE IN BRIEF

- A majority of MEPs adopted a report from Green MEP Sven Giegold on **transparency in lobbying to expose the links between politics and big business.**
- The Greens called on the European Commission **to facilitate discussions between the Spanish and Catalan authorities** to help resolve the political situation and heavy handed crackdown on dissent around the proposed **referendum on Catalan independence.**
- The European Parliament approved a report led by the Greens which will see **books made more accessible for blind and visually impaired people.**

CONTACTS

South West based enquiries
office@mollymep.org.uk

Press and media enquiries
media@mollymep.org.uk

Brussels office
molly.scottcato-office@europarl.europa.eu

South West office
194 Cheltenham Road, Bristol BS6 5RB
Tel. 0117 924 0700