

Standing for the truth

CHRISTIAN peoples ALLIANCE

The Best Party
for Britain

Foreward by CPA Leader, Sid Cordle MBE

The Christian Peoples Alliances' vision for our nation arises from the conviction that the Creator knows best how His creation is ordered. Truth exists and so does a set of objective, moral norms that can guide all human society in the pursuit of true peace, justice, charity and the opportunity for each individual to fulfil their human potential. It is for this reason that a party which seeks to ground itself on Gospel values and the example of Jesus Christ is necessary for our nation. It is through the adoption of Christian Democracy that Britain can play a just and meaningful role in the wider human family of nations.

We seek to base our policies upon a principled respect for creation and the conviction that, as human beings are made in the image and likeness of God, everyone is of infinite and equal value before Him. Without the right to life, all other rights and laws are rendered meaningless. The Christian Peoples Alliance will therefore promote unequivocally the sanctity of human life from conception until natural death. As part of this culture of life, we hold to the conviction that marriage and the family are crucial building blocks of society. We will therefore seek to protect and promote these Biblical and fundamental institutions. The pursuit of peace is also fundamental to our political vision.

Jesus said "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called children of God." That's why as Christian Democrats we seek peace at every level of our society. We abhor weapons of mass destruction and we seek the end of all wars. Equally we seek reconciliation within our society and the end of forces that bring separation, especially deep inequalities. That doesn't mean compromise. It means encouraging everyone to honour God and his laws but doing it with respect and compassion. Ultimately we believe that our nation prospers only to the extent that it makes righteous decisions.

This Manifesto for Europe is based on these values.



The CPA Position on the EU as it is Now

The CPA is calling for a referendum on remaining in the EU and if the vote was taken tomorrow would be campaigning to leave the EU. Until then and so long as we are part of the EU we will be working with other Christians in the European Christian Political Forum to bring about moral and democratic reform.

The idea that Britain has to remain in the EU and has to accept all its myriad of regulations is palpably false. Statistics show clearly that by 1990 our growth in the EU had declined to zero. The mass of new regulations have hurt our economy and the growth in our exports has been more outside than inside the EU. It was only after we left the ERM (Exchange Rate Mechanism) in 1992 that growth increased.

It is now absolutely clear that we are better off outside the single currency, though the Labour and Liberal Democrat parties and many in the Conservative Party wanted us to join the euro. One of the main arguments for this was that if the European Central Bank were situated in Frankfurt, and Britain was not a member of European Monetary Union, the financial centre of London would lose its importance. In fact in the latest Global Financial Centres Index (GFCI 12) London is not only still rated first, it has improved its lead over New York. Frankfurt is rated thirteenth its rating having declined and it is also behind 2 European cities that have never been in the EU, Zurich and Geneva. Frankfurt is not among the 10 centres likely to become more significant. London is, despite already being top. Neither is Frankfurt among the top 10 centres where financial institutions say new offices will be opened. London is third. The cities that have really lost out are Paris (29th) and Amsterdam (31st) which are in the eurozone.

Economically Britain has gained enormously by having an inflation target instead of an exchange rate target since 1992. This is what has led to a stable currency and stable low interest rates. The CPA will examine the facts and speak out the truth. There is no economic argument left for us to join the euro. There are massive economic arguments for us to keep the pound.

The idea that only a federal structure can keep the peace in Europe has been shown to be palpably false by the way the federal republic of Yugoslavia disintegrated amid massive bloodshed. The break up of the old Soviet Union is another example. A federal structure therefore is no more likely to solve conflicts than any other. Rather, history has shown democracy to be the most effective means of ensuring peace between nations. Rarely has there been war between two democracies. The EU, however, is undermining the democratic relationship between the nation states and the people they represent by imposing laws with no democratic mandate.

The key reasons we were told we had to be in the EU in the first place, economic gain and keeping the peace in Europe have therefore both been shown to be false.

Furthermore we must also leave the EU for the following reasons:-

1 Corruption. In the last audit 4.8% of the EU budget was missing. That amounts to £5.4billion, more than the whole budget of the United Nations. This is an increase from 3.9% last year so the problem far from being dealt with is getting worse. For 19 years now auditors have not been able to sign off the EU budget. If this were a company it would be put into forcible liquidation as a result. This money is coming into the EU. Someone must know where it is going. When 640 million euros was found missing from Eurostat (the EU statistics agency), in 2003 the action taken was completely inadequate.

2 Failure to respect the Christian heritage of Europe. The whole focus of Europe has been on human rights legislation. Some of this is good but it has also been used to shift us away from Christian values of right and wrong, good and evil. These values are the true foundation of authentic human rights. They have underpinned our laws down the centuries and are being eroded. When the draft constitution was produced in 2004 several countries led by Italy, Poland and Spain wanted it to respect Europe's Christian heritage but they were voted down.

3 Lack of Democracy. Only the Commission can initiate legislation in Europe. The Council of Ministers and the European Parliament can only agree or disagree with what the Commission proposes. The Commission also controls the executive in Europe, its civil servants. It is totally unelected. It has been said of the current British Commissioner, Baroness Ashton, that she has never been elected to anything. More often it is made up of politicians who have lost elections or resigned from office like her predecessors Leon Brittain, Neil Kinnock and Peter Mandelson. "Unaccountable politicians" as they have been called.(1)

David Cameron says that prior to a referendum he will negotiate a new deal for Britain. If so then there must be change in the areas we are highlighting for us to change our position but we consider this impossible given the EU structures and the terms of our membership. We believe his negotiations are doomed from the outset.

We are therefore now faced with a likelihood that some time soon there will be a referendum on our continued membership of the EU and a likelihood that when it is held the majority in the UK will vote "No". The next question is therefore **what sort of country will we be outside the EU and which is the best party to take us into that future?** It is our contention that the old parties of the Conservatives, Labour and the Liberal Democrats, who have all deceived the British people over a long period, cannot now be the champions of a new Britain outside the EU. Equally UKIP's vision for us of a nation that cancels all Overseas Aid, blames foreigners for crime and supports nationalism, does not provide the prospect of a Government the majority of British Citizens would want to live under.

The CPA offers a different vision and one that can unite the nation within the freedom of open debate and discussion.

Our vision for Europe

We want:-

1 Britain to be part of a Europe and indeed of a world of **sovereign Governments co-operating** with each other as much as possible. There is no doubt that trade is to everyone's benefit in an open way. We do not want to see a return to mass trade barriers. This was the "intergovernmental" vision of Winston Churchill. (2) The EU sadly has gone down a different track. It is not Europe's fault but the fault of the drivers for an EU superstate to which we must now say our "Non".

2 A Britain that plays its **full part in the world through the United Nations** where we must maintain our permanent seat on the security Council. We must be involved and give support to international peace agreements and international trade agreements. We must re-establish a close relationship with the Commonwealth and maintain the special relationship with the USA.

3 **We believe in Overseas Aid** to help the poorest in the world. Grinding poverty still holds 2.8 billion people around the world in its grip. The Bible makes it clear with over 3,000 references to poverty that God hates injustice and that to love our neighbours as ourselves is a mandate that Britain should follow. For the Christian Peoples Alliance, poverty is not an accident. The CPA will therefore pursue policies that challenge its root causes, such as wars, generalised violence, persecution, human rights abuses, the arms trade, corrupt government, the crippling debt burden and unfair trade practices that distort the economies of poor countries. Tear Fund alone received £18.6million in 2012/13 in Government Grants according to their accounts (3) all of which is going to the poorest and most destitute in the world. Others would take all this away which is absolutely wrong. but we will also ensure that the emphasis of our foreign aid is on development for the recipient's self-sufficiency, rather than rewarding inefficiency and corruption, or funding politically correct causes. We would restore the reduction from £24.1m in 2011/12. The response to disasters such as that in the Philippines shows that the British people do care about those abroad that need help. We must be ready to extend a compassionate hand to anyone in our human family who needs it, wherever they are in the world.

The Christian Peoples Alliance has the right policies to take Britain forward in the world when we leave the EU.

The Way forward

Practically the first thing which will happen is that the British Parliament will repeal the European Communities Act and any other laws that tie us to the EU. We will then produce a new Magna Carta of British Freedoms. The CPA then has the following plans for the government of our independent nation:-

All major industries including the car industry should be given capital injections to help increase efficiency and increase production. We must not go back to producing cheap subsidised products that have no future. Companies like McLaren must be our standard, producing the best possible product in their field and increasing the range of products so the man in the street can benefit from world leading technology. We will again be proud of our industry. We want to see capital injections into our steel industry, into our shipbuilding industry into energy industries to rebuild them into the powerhouses they once were. This approach is completely banned by the EU rules.

Our **farmers** must be given immediate support but by way of capital injection into the farms for new livestock and efficiency drives so our food production is greatly increased and our dependence on imports greatly reduced. Government subsidies should be kept to an absolute minimum. The focus will be on capital injection to improve efficiency. The Common Agricultural Policy has been a massively expensive disaster for our farmers.

At the time of joining the EU Britain had 80% of the EU's fish stocks. The Common Fisheries Policy has been the biggest disaster imaginable for our fishing industry. Our **fishermen** were shamelessly abandoned. We will immediately reassert our international fishing rights where British boats will be allowed to fish exclusively. All fish quotas will end. We will subsidise the building of new efficient fishing boats and if necessary provide training for new fishermen.

We will rebuild **favourable trading relationships** with any country in the world which wants to join with us in doing so to our mutual benefit provided they do not have an unacceptable human rights record. Prior to our membership of the EEC this was granted to Commonwealth countries and they will probably be the core of these new arrangements but not necessarily so. The reality is that before we joined the EEC, or the EU as it now is, we had a small trading surplus with the other EEC nations. After we joined that quickly became a large deficit. That means that our membership of the EU has been more beneficial to other EU nations than it has been to the British. We want to be a country that plays its full part in the world and seeks trade agreements with the new economic powerhouses of China, Russia, India and Brazil as well as the emerging powerhouse of Africa. Trade with Europe may initially be diminished if we leave the EU but we will then be in a stronger position to increase our trade with the rest of the world, especially the Commonwealth. Over time there is no reason why we should not develop mutually beneficial trading relations with the EU as indeed Switzerland and Norway have done both of whom have stayed outside the EU.

The increased **wealth which will come through these measures must be spread throughout society**. Bonuses must be paid to everyone in a company proportionate to their basic salary. If bonuses are paid only to executives then they will be heavily taxed. Company shares must be allocated on the same basis to all employees and those who acquire shares through being employees of a company must have much greater voting right than investors from outside so there is a much greater sense of employees having a say in how their company is run. Executives should be rated as Companies

are rated for their credit worthiness by credit rating agencies. This will end the absurd position where Executives are valued according to how much they are paid and extreme salaries are the result. Ours is not the policy of envy; it is the policy of efficiency and fairness. Wealth creation must seek to lead to full employment using all measures to improve our education system to make as many people in the country as possible employable. We must also constantly improve schemes to help people to find work. There must be a safety net but that will be a last resort not a first resort.

Taxation will be fair according to what is required. It is anticipated that with greatly reduced red tape and reduced regulation the public sector as a whole can be reduced so easing the burden on the need to tax heavily. Every organisation which receives Government money such as quangos will be reviewed. Our aim is to balance the budget over time and live within our means and reduce tax. This will happen as the results of capital investment yield their results and new jobs come on stream.

As a transitional measure all **existing regulations** must stay in force but we will immediately move from rigorous implementation of regulations to a light touch in every business sector. At the same time a new regulatory review body will be set up to go through the process of reviewing all regulations. Any business or individual will be able to appeal to this body if they feel that regulations are being imposed on them that in practice are harmful. Over time when this body has completed its work we will move back to rigorous implementation of a much simplified and reduced regulatory system but will maintain the right of appeal.

With this vision we are committed to **holding the British Isles together as one nation**. Scotland Wales and Northern Ireland will be central to all our policies. Scotland in particular will benefit enormously from being free from EU rules on fishing. Before a referendum on EU membership Scotland will have a vote on whether to be independent from the United Kingdom but remain in the EU. This will mean that the EU will continue to control all Scotland's fishing and the EU will control the oil pumped from its shores. It could no more be called "Scottish oil", as Alec Salmond likes to claim it would be if Scotland separated from the UK, than it is now. The real independence for the Scottish people will come when Britain leaves the EU. We will also work with the Republic of Ireland to greatly improve relations with them whatever they decide to do as a sovereign nation.

There is no question that outside the EU we can be and will be a more prosperous, juster and fairer nation if the transition is handled correctly.

We will preserve our freedoms

Today the Christian heritage of these islands is as strong as ever preserved by the churches and remembered by the nations of the UK on the Saints Days. They brought Christianity to Britain which later was enshrined in the Magna Carta. Produced on 15th June 1215, almost exactly 800 years ago, it became the basis of law throughout the British Empire and is said to have inspired the constitution of the USA. Lord Denning described it as “the greatest constitutional document of all times – the foundation of the freedom of the individual against the arbitrary authority of the despot”.

The clauses of the 1297 Magna Carta still on statute are:

- Clause 1, the freedom of the English Church
- Clause 9 (clause 13 in the 1215 charter), the “ancient liberties” of the City of London
- Clause 29 (clause 39 in the 1215 charter), a right to due process.

Last year clause 1 was put under considerable strain as the Government initially tried to impose same sex marriage on the church and then others tried to impose it through the courts. However they have not been able completely to destroy the Christian heritage of Britain.

Clause 29 says “NO Freeman shall be taken or imprisoned, or be disseised of his Freehold, or Liberties, or free Customs, or be outlawed, or exiled, or any other wise destroyed; nor will We not pass upon him, nor condemn him, but by lawful judgment of his Peers, or by the Law of the land. We will sell to no man, we will not deny or defer to any man either Justice or Right.” This is still a foundation of our law.

In the Christian Peoples Alliance we as a party stand to continue and promote these ancient liberties which politicians of all the old parties have been so ready to discard.

Wilhelm Nolling of the German Bundersbank said in London, “British participation in the EMU designed by Maastricht would be inconsistent with Magna Carta.” The EU refused to honour God in the draft constitution most of which was later enshrined in the Treaty of Lisbon signed by the EU member states on 13 December 2007 without the referendums promised prior to its introduction. The treaty moved from unanimity to qualified majority voting in several policy areas in the Council of Ministers, a consolidated legal personality for the EU and the creation of a long-term President of the European Council and a High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy. The Treaty also made the Union’s bill of rights, the Charter of Fundamental Rights, legally binding. Without a referendum and by stealth the British Prime Minister signed an agreement that put over the UK a bill of rights which our law courts are forced to follow. This was later ratified by the UK Parliament with no political mandate. Out of this has come all sorts of problems for British Industry as well as for our Christian Heritage.

The Christian Peoples Alliance argues strongly that this country’s Christian heritage must be safeguarded, as it underpins the values of a just and free society. We called at the last European elections for Europe to honour it. They refused and now we are right to reconsider our position in the EU unless they change their mind.

The following, for instance, is an example of one of the latest threats to our Christian heritage and individual freedoms:-

Call for EU to set up state surveillance of 'intolerant' citizens

A group of European former heads of State has called on the EU to set up surveillance units to monitor citizens suspected of "intolerance".



The European Council on Tolerance and Reconciliation (ECTR) - a "tolerance watchdog" - said in its report: "There is no need to be tolerant to the intolerant," especially "as far as freedom of expression is concerned."

A spokesperson for European Dignity Watch, a civil rights group based in Brussels, warned that if the document is adopted by the European Parliament "faith-based groups and schools, adherents of a particular religion or even just parents who want to teach their children certain moral values would all be put under general suspicion of being intolerant."

"Even worse," she added, this language "could lead to the possibility that charges are brought on unclear or even without legal grounds."

A full record of the Christian Heritage of our nation is given in Appendix 1 which we will work hard to preserve and re-invigorate.

Key Moral Issues

We support the following vital Christian principles:-

1 The importance of marriage as the fundamental building block of society and the safest environment for the bringing of children into the world. We have detailed proposals to strengthen marriage and encourage its stability. Government figures show the cost of marriage breakdown is costing the country £46 billion per year with an anticipated rise to £49 billion. First we want a grant (initially set at £10,000 per couple) to be made available to all couples on the occasion of their first marriage provided that they go for at least 3 sessions of marital awareness training and have a joint bank account. Second we want a grant (initially set at £5,000) to be made available to couples who have their first child within wedlock again provided they go for at least 3 sessions of training in child raising. This training will also be made available to all parents, including single parents, because the child is the priority. Third, we want the tax threshold to be fully transferable from husband to wife if there is a child under 5 in the family so that there is a tax benefit for one parent to stay at home with young children. Equally there will be an incentive for the other parent to look for work when the youngest child reaches age 5. The reason for these measures is that research has shown that too many couples are sliding into marriage without properly thinking about what they are doing. Equally many parents receive little or no training and so do not cater for the needs of their children as they should. The whole of society will benefit from a change of culture which these measures will bring about.

One Christian leader stated regarding marriage, "Marriage is like a structural wall in a building. If we destroy marriage the whole of society can come crashing down." (Jonathan Olyede of the Global Day of Prayer) Another said, "at stake is the identity and survival of the family: father, mother and children. At stake are the lives of many children who will be discriminated against in advance, and deprived of their human development given by a father and a mother and willed by God. At stake is the total rejection of God's law engraved in our hearts." (Pope Francis 2010)

We reject all attempts to redefine the meaning of marriage and will be working to repeal all laws which have already attempted to do this. Real marriage can only be between one man and one woman; it is based on the biological fact of the complementarity of the sexes. Our concern should be focused on the needs of children and we should be doing all we can to rebuild a society where children live with their natural parents. Of course we must give help and support to lone parents but not at the expense of seeking to solve the reason why families are breaking down in the first place.

Schools should not be used as an apparatus for social engineering and promoting the secular liberal agenda. They should respect the views of parents and the cultural background of pupils. Schools must not be able to take action against teachers who support real marriage.

2 The sanctity of life from conception to natural death. No life is unimportant or not worth living. . The abortion statistics in the UK are a national tragedy. Over 7 million unborn children have lost their lives to abortion since the passing of the 1967 Abortion Act. In 2011 alone, for women resident in England and Wales, the total number of abortions was 189,931.

The Christian Peoples Alliance is unashamed to declare its commitment to the principle of respect for life. God values everyone equally and so every citizen from conception (fertilisation) to natural death deserves the protection of the law. The language of human rights is often heard in both our

national and the European Parliament, but rarely that of the most basic human need – to be born, nurtured and protected without fear of death in utero. Abortion leads to increased exploitation of women, not their ‘liberation’. Abortion violates the dignity and integrity of women. It leaves a trail of anger, guilt, resentment, depression and loss of self-respect. Whenever we act or speak, we pledge to do so, however, without judging or condemning any individual, especially any woman who has been involved in abortion.

This compassionate Christian approach also requires that we speak up for those who, because of age or infirmity, are perceived in many European states to be a burden on others, and will strongly oppose the growing euthanasia culture. EU member states which proclaim their commitment to equal opportunities for disabled adults often ignore their duty to afford equal protection to disabled pre-born human beings. They have adopted a double standard. We will use our voice in the European Parliament to challenge these primitive prejudices and fears concerning disability. Negative and defeatist, deeply insulting to the born disabled, eugenic abortion also causes severe trauma to the mother.

CPA members will wake up Europe to the reality of the demographic consequences of an anti-life culture. With many European birth-rates falling dangerously below replacement levels, we now face major economic and social problems associated with an ageing population. The issue of live birth-rate in turn has implications for the question of migration. Member states which kill their unborn and do not support marriage and family life, are having to replace this missing workforce through liberalising the numbers of people they admit, with inevitable issues relating to integration.

Much western aid to developing countries is ruthlessly anti-life, with tens of millions of taxpayers’ money being spent on promoting abortion and sterilisation in China, Bangladesh and elsewhere. The CPA deplores such ‘aid’ programmes: they do not provide solutions to poverty but merely export our ‘culture of death’ to countries struggling to develop their economies.

In the European Parliament, we pledge ourselves to a continent in which all citizens enjoy equal status, in which the extended family is reinforced as the bedrock of social structure, where motherhood is once again respected, and where we use with wisdom the fruits of new scientific discoveries.

MEPS for the CPA therefore pledge to:

- Challenge the European culture of death by seeking legislation which confers the full protection of the law on all human life from conception until natural death.
- Ensure recognition for the millions of women who have been violated. Post-abortion trauma must now be recognised as a women’s disease in all member states.
- End across Europe the practises of cloning, embryo experimentation and all reproductive technologies which lead to the intentional destruction of human life.
- Support legislation to prevent the patenting of natural genetic material, modifications to the human germline and the trade in sperm, ova and human beings at the embryonic stage of development.
- Outlaw voluntary, non-voluntary and involuntary euthanasia by omission or by direct act, including neonatal euthanasia and euthanasia of patients in a ‘persistent vegetative state’.

- Seek the Europe-wide provision of pro-life pregnancy care services, including provision of accommodation for women made homeless by pregnancy, pregnant women with special needs and one-parent families. We also want post- abortion counselling, hospices (capital and running costs) which provide terminal or palliative and respite care for adults, children and infants.
- International aid will be ended to any agency or government which promotes abortion, euthanasia or sterilisation programmes, coercive contraception or other violations of human rights (e.g. arbitrary imprisonment or deportation, slavery, or sale of women or children).

3 Care for the poor. It is easy to assume that things cannot change for the British workforce. But it is possible, relatively quickly, to change the work patterns of substantial numbers of people for the better. Working with business organisations, unions and employers forums, the Christian Peoples Alliance will seek a substantial increase in the minimum wage. It will also identify ways of overcoming problems related to over-work, so that time is released for people to spend in rest and recreation and in developing relationships, especially with older relatives and with children.

Restoring Sunday as a day of rest would be a radical social revolution - slowing the pace of life, tackling the waste of resources and confronting empty consumerism.

Christians have long been involved in many initiatives 'on the ground' in their communities, including foodbanks, debt counselling, and practical care for people on the streets. We don't just talk good policies we act then out whether or not we are elected to public office. In everything we do we will seek to support all initiatives that help the poorest in our society.

Immigration

It is essential we have a mature and balanced approach to this problem and avoid emotional rhetoric that can lead to racism and hatred of others. The Christian position is based on a common humanity being in God's Image (Imago Dei). Neither nationalism nor ethnicism overrides the basic Imago Dei.

However, nationalism and ethnicism belong to a fallen world, and can lead to social discord, whereas the new covenant urges social peace within the global gospel. Even as we have an obligation to UK politics, we have an obligation to UK society's harmony under God. Responses must not be anti Christian.

The Christian position does not disallow identity change: certainly the UK has undergone many, such as Romanisation and Normanisation. However, it disallows identity change by foul means. Immigration should be fair.

Definitions

The term 'immigrant' defines someone who has permanently moved into a country, while migrant generally refers to someone who has entered an area (or country) from outside for a short term work or educational objective. There are numerous instances where official migrants remain without permission beyond their legal term and so become illegal immigrants. Unrestricted immigration is unfair, both on existing citizens and those who seek to settle here by legitimate and legal means; and it costs are considerable.

Our Christian duties.

God told His chosen people: "Don't mistreat or oppress an immigrant, because you were once immigrants in the land of Egypt" (CEB: Ex.22:21). This means that, once welcomed, immigrants are to be well treated as neighbours. This does not mean, however, that Ethnic Israel was to let mass immigration reculturate their land. Reculturation was forbidden. Whilst, in certain respects, Israel constitutes a special development in salvation history, it still offers wisdom for us today. If our immigration priorities are to provide a safe haven and to acquire into the country necessary skills, then immigration need not, and indeed should not, be at the expense of the values, freedoms and culture of our nation.

Statistical Reality

Population Density: England is the sixth most crowded country in the World. 1997-2010 showed a net immigration gain of about 2 million, with roughly 80% from non-EU countries, and figures project an extra net increase of 7 million by 2027, two-thirds of this by immigration. Approximately 45% of Londoners are now White British, down from 58% in 2001. (3) Far right politics have been a reaction to fears of overcrowding and significant changes in the ethnic makeup of our population. Christians, however, must take both a realistic and grateful view of the natural and human resources that God has provided, and must never be motivated to base citizenship rights on specifically racial grounds.

Asylum Seekers

The Convention on Refugees 1951 (globalised by the 1967 Protocol) states that countries should offer first port of call shelter for those perceived to be fleeing from unjust persecution. If Port 1 is overloaded, subsequent ports should be open for fair distribution. The wisdom and fairness of the UK Border Agency

has long been suspect. Their policies and actions must be audited for just ethical standards, including a proper up-to-date awareness of worldwide human rights issues, such as the way conversion to Christianity and other faiths can lead to serious persecution, including a death sentence, in many countries; for instance, in a number of Islamic nations such as Iran and Saudi Arabia. We will certainly give priority to those who have faced or may face persecution in such countries.

Economic/Educational Immigrants

The UK needs guest workers due to declining and ageing populations. But it is unjust to take migrant professionals from developing countries to meet our own skills shortages, whether nurses, doctors or IT specialists. This long term issue will be addressed by our policies to support marriage and family life to reverse the domestic de- population trend.

Until the declining birth rate is reversed, we favour a UK or EU version of the American Green Card system for determining who can come to work in Britain. The system is basically designed to assess how useful applicants are likely to be to the UK workforce, or how genuine their claim to student status is. Its Tier 3, designed to monitor low-skill short-term economic immigration, has never been used since the European Economic Area (EEA) visa-free door remains open to EU citizens, who can be tempted in by guaranteed benefits and even bogus offers of paid employment. EEA access should have a monitored condition which makes migrant workers and their sponsors responsible for housing and medical cover independent of the State. This will broaden accountability and encourage self-responsibility for those without current citizenship status, whilst reducing the burden on the taxpayer. After leaving the EU it is only fair that EEA migrants should also be subject to the same points system.

An official mechanism to help immigrants enslaved (trafficked) without passport protection, such as those groups like 'Hope for Justice' seek to help, should be widely publicised. Such agencies deserve State funding. Economic migrants can, by stolen passports, be enslaved, their wages stolen by traffickers, and also deprived of many of the protections relating to health, pay, housing, travel, and other welfare needs that many of us take for granted. They can end up homeless and completely disempowered. It is reported that about 20% of international students remain legally; the remaining 80% go largely unmonitored.(4)

It is crucially important that the citizenship status of both parties to a marriage should be checked, and both parties fully warned about the possibility of illegal immigrants being denied a right to remain, before any wedding is conducted. Marriage should not be abused merely as a way of gaining citizenship status.

Illegal Immigrants

There are an estimated 0.5 million illegal immigrants in the UK, mostly in London. The UK Border Agency is tasked with finding & deporting them: it is costly and time consuming. We should not be legitimising illegal immigration but ensuring that the system is fair for those who wish to live and work here legally, and for genuine asylum seekers

1 We reject a Qualified Amnesty. It may cause financial & social problems down the line. Crime should not pay. There inevitably has to be a time, however, when illegal immigrants have been here so long without committing any crime and without recourse to the State that they should be allowed to remain. We consider this point to be 10 years though there should be a further limit of 5 years for such people before State benefits can be claimed.

- 2 We will **reward voluntary surrender** by more sympathetic evaluation and free repatriation if required. We will punish concealment with tough penalties. Attrition through enforcement could make it harder to obtain benefits such as paid employment, medical care, and formal education, significantly reducing the size of the illegal population at reasonable cost by making emigration the best option. We will then pay for the air fares of those returning on the condition that it is understood they will never be allowed to visit the country again unless the cost is refunded.
- 3 We will **greatly increase the efficiency** and effectiveness in which our borders are managed. If we remain in the EU this will be managed within EU rules. Outside of the EU it can be much more effective and fairer to all non Britains wanting to come here.

Other Proposals

Youth Policy

According to The European Monitoring Centre on Change (EMCC) Some 14 million young people are not in employment, education or training across the EU as a whole. (7) However rates vary widely from around 5.5% of 15-24 year olds in the Netherlands to 22.7% in Italy. Britain's youth unemployment is much lower, coming in at 13pc at the end of last year - below the EU average. (8) Changes to the welfare state for unemployed under 25's is further exasperating their sense of hopefulness and mental health.

The prospect of young people becoming home owners seems daunting with a generation either living with parents or renting. The cost of living standards has reduced many skipping meals during the day and in some areas resorting to loan sharks as a first option to manage bills. What are the solutions, CPA would advocate with businesses a series of campaigns to encourage apprentice schemes/voluntary placements and become a community mentor. This would not be motivated by greed for 'financial sweeteners' but desire to give a young person a chance.

There is so much disparity between the rich and poor that many have become demoralised of their future in Britain with so much tension from the Far Right parties scaremongering with immigration, racism and xenophobia. The ethos of loving our neighbour has almost become outdated whereby we may not even know who are living on our streets? Encourage more safer neighbourhood schemes and initiatives whereby we look out for our elderly in our community with projects aimed at volunteering skills to help each other. More community spirit than division.

Alarming reports of children engaging in emotional and physical abuse towards their parents and society, breakdown of moral signposts from a very young age has become a norm. We would like to encourage more community role models/mentoring to assist vulnerable families before police or social services intervention. More respite centres for families experiencing breakdown and donations from supermarkets, faith groups directly to vulnerable groups rather than relying solely on foodbanks.

Democracy

We want open debate on all issues. The truth has been a casualty of the EU's development. It would appear that some people now are wanting to introduce a one world Government in a similar way, by stealth. Others want to introduce Sharia law. Increasingly our attention is being drawn, even in the media, to some of the questions that have not previously been asked of Islam. We want such questions answered in open debate. People should know, for instance, what the Qur'an says about violence; what it says about women, and what the historical truth is about Jesus and Muhammed. Furthermore, everyone should have the right to choose what they believe and debate alternatives without fear.

Those that want to impose their religious laws with threats of violence must be stopped. In Pakistan the law 295C states that anyone who criticises Muhammad should be sentenced to death and whoever criticises the Qur'an sentenced to life imprisonment. We will actively campaign for the repeal of such laws through the United Nations. They are absolutely abhorrent to any open and democratic society, and akin to the evil apartheid laws of South Africa, since Christians and those of other faiths have been treated as second-class citizens as a result of them. We will take up the cause of persecution on the grounds of belief wherever it is found in the world.

A report from Release International in January states that, "December 2013 the constitutional Federal Shariah Court in Pakistan, in regards to the blasphemy laws, ordered the government in Islamabad to implement death as the only penalty for someone found guilty of blasphemy. It has been thought that the government would not accept this order but would appeal against it. However, there appears to have been only silence from the government and so concern has been expressed that the 60-day time limit to accept or appeal against this order will soon pass with the result that the order will proceed unchallenged." (6)

Christians and other religious minorities in Pakistan will be deeply concerned that the blasphemy law will become a Shariah law and that cases will start to be heard in Shariah courts. The current blasphemy laws, which even Pakistani politicians have admitted have been misused to settle personal scores, will become even more open to abuse and the accused will become even more defenceless and vulnerable.

It is also feared that a climate of intolerance created by a move towards cases being heard by religious courts will lead to more incidents of public retribution and vigilante killings as justice moves increasingly into the hands of clerics and away from the state judicial system."

A court in the Pakistani city of Rawalpindi sentenced a 65-year-old British man Mr Asghar to death after convicting him of blasphemy on 23rd Jan 2014. His lawyer told the BBC's Saba Eitizaz that she was forcibly removed from the case by the judge and that proceedings were carried out behind closed doors. Such blatant persecution and injustice has to stop and we will do all we can to highlight these issues and campaign against them in the EU Parliament.

Before the General Election in 2015 we will produce a more comprehensive manifesto which covers policies in many other key areas such as the NHS, education, crime and local government. These will be a development of the key themes above. The Christian Peoples Alliance is committed to providing a powerful guiding vision for Britain and candidates in every seat, so that when that election comes the people of Britain will have a positive alternative to the three main failed old parties, as well as the nationalist UKIP.

APPENDIX 1

The Christian Bedrock of the UK.

The history of Britain has a Christian bedrock. Each nation has a patron saint that played a major part in bringing Christianity to these shores. Our head of state, the Queen, is constitutionally the defender of the Christian faith. We will promote and build on that heritage because it offers the best foundation for our society. We now examine it from an historical perspective:-

St. George of England

Many miracle stories have been created, and it is naive both to affirm and to disaffirm all miracle stories: God is known for miracles, but not for gratuitous miracles. With regard to Saint George, "if we disbelieve these details, we can still trust in the substance of the story". (9) The core account will have been passed on in conversations from those who knew him when alive, as well as knew him die; and he was clearly regarded as someone outstanding. All accounts become subject to the law of creative enrichment. His fight with a dragon may, using imagery from Revelation, picture his Christian witness as defeating the evil dragon Satan, which was attacking the church, the bride of the King's son.

Historically George (an Anglicised form of his original (Turkish?) name), had probably held high command in the Roman Army, shortly before Rome converted to Christianity. In his time when Christians were fair game for being attacked, being as they were members of a non-authorised non-national religion, many non-Christians must have secretly looked into Christianity, some becoming so convinced that they would rather die than deny their newfound faith. George may well have been such, executed (probably in Lydda, Palestine, late C3 or early C4) as a traitor to the Empire. The sincerity in which he died must have evoked much support at the time and is an outstanding example for us today.

Adopted around the 14th century as Patron Saint of England, St. George remains a symbol predating the Norman Conquest that overrode a rich Anglo-Saxon culture. The flag associated with him (white background, red cross) may have come from the great scholar Aurelius Ambrosius of Milan (St. Ambrose), being used in Genoa where George became patron saint. Though we may smile at the fanciful miracles linked to George, his story can be seen as a rich moral and religious parable, of Christians reaching into the superhuman in acts of great virtue, encouraging others to follow the spirit of the gospel. It is a story of defiance against human governance that seeks to usurp God's lordship; a story we must take inspiration from in our own day.

St. Andrew of Scotland

A short-term disciple of John the Baptist, Andrew was probably a younger brother of Simon [Peter], to whom he introduced Jesus as Messiah. While the honour of "first called" more likely goes to Philip, at the critical hour Andrew, whose remembered name reminds us of his multiculturalism, highlighted the global desire to see Jesus – the internationalism of the gospel (Jhn.12:21).

A number of possible links between Andrew & Scotland exist. Some argue an evangelistic link between Andrew and the Scythians, and an ethnic link between the Scythians and the Picts (Northerners whose identity merged through marriage into the Scots' people). And there is a story that in the age of relics some of his bones were taken to Fife by St. Regulus, who founded St. Andrew's. Or, some say, the C8th Picts' king MacFergus obtained some of Andrew's bones from Hexham's bishop, and installed them at St. Andrew's. There is a story that a Pictish king, Angus, asked God for help against the Saxons, saw a

diagonal cross (saltire) shaped cloud in the blue sky, and took that to be the flag of victory, and Andrew to be the official patron saint. Only after Robert the Bruce's victory at the Battle of Bannockburn (C14th), did Andrew & the Saltire become Scotland's national icons. It may be that it was missionary monks, venerating St. Andrew, who created a deep respect for him. Claiming St. Andrew as Patron certainly aided Scotland's political defence. Whatever the true history, his name has been a godly name for the people of Scotland. It is right to see all peoples as global family.

St. David (Dewi Sant) of Wales

There is no reliable biography of him, though written and oral memories existed before the 11th century. Bishop Rhygyfarch/Ricimas drew up a politicised account. It is generally agreed that he died in 601, and had earned a Christian name of high regard. It seems he had been a strong monastic leader, probably overseeing the establishment of numerous monasteries in Wales.

Whatever the facts, he left enough of a feel-good factor for Bp. Rhygyfarch to add miracle stories to the narrative, along with a history that he himself might well have believed genuine; although today these are generally at best doubted, and regarded by some to have been more of a political invention by the bishop seeking Welsh independence from Canterbury and the Normans. David's name features in an 8/9th century record about martyrs, those who died as good witnesses to Christ.

Accounted part of his deathbed goodbye, the saying "Do ye the little things in life" ("Gwnewch y pethau bychain mewn bywyd") remains common in Welsh. Perhaps this reflects a man who did much but humbly accounted it little. A C10th popular poem predicted the Welsh would rally under David's flag. In 1120 David was officially canonised (recorded as a saint) by Pope Callixtus 2. We can do worse than simply doing the little things in life we ought to do, in the political as well as in the spiritual.

St. Patrick of Ireland

The son of a British Christian town councillor and grandson of a Christian priest, Patrick probably grew up as a nominal Christian. In his turbulent mid-teens when Roman Britain was breaking up, and before the Anglo-Saxon period began, he underwent six years of slavery in Co. Mayo, Ireland, where he "discovered God in the misery of his lonely exile [of] herding animals in forests and on a cold wet mountainside" (10). With God's help, he escaped home. In spite of (or perhaps because of) his substandard moral and intellectual youth, God called him to return to missionise Ireland. He undertook basic education skills, then returned to Armagh, Ireland, where he lived about 30 years in the early C5th, arbitrating, evangelising, and mentoring. A key skill had been learning Latin, since the only Bible version permitted for evangelisation was the Latin Vulgate version. Although the pope sent Palladius to convert Ireland, "it was Patrick, about the same time, whom Ireland...was to remember as the bringer of its faith" (11). God doesn't always work through official channels.

The life of Patrick shows us that however sinful, uneducated, and wayward we have been, God can use us for great works and blessings if we submit to him. Sadly, Patrick's name has sometimes been misused to unite faith and fatherland, as in a C16th rebellion against the Reformation. For their part, many Reformers had foolishly wedded faith with imperialist Anglicisation. Christ and nationalistic culture are not natural bedfellows. It is right to walk in the light we have, yet seeking more and St. Patrick witnesses to God breaking through barriers of them-and-us, of forgiveness and of love.

APPENDIX 2

Of 13 UKIP members elected in 2009 six have left the party. This is what happened to them:-

Godfrey Bloom (expelled),

Nikki Sinclair (expelled),

David Campbell-Bannerman (defected),...

Mike Nattrass (resigned),

Trevor Coleman (quit Ukip's European grouping)

Marta Andreasen (defected).

6 UKIP members of the Lincolnshire County Council elected in 2013 have been expelled. Many other individual UKIP Councillors have left the party.

References

- (1) Margaret Thatcher memoirs p 558
- (2) Winston Churchill's speech Great Hall of Zurich University 19/9/1946 reported in The Times 20/9/1946. It was also the vision of Margaret Thatcher in her famous Bruges speech, "Willing and active co-operation between independent sovereign states is the best way to build a successful European Community" she said.

<http://www.tearfund.org/~media/files/main%20site/about%20us/tearfund%20annual%20report%20and%20financial%20statements%20year%20ended%20march%202013.pdf> p.17

www.balancedmigration.org
- (3) www.migrationwatchuk.com: Press Release 05062013

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- (4) <http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/emcc/labourmarket/youthinfographic.htm>
- (5) Research Source http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp171776_355123.pdf
- (6) Christopher Stace's St. George: Patron Saint of England, 2002:viii.
- (7) Bradshaw & Keogh's Christianity in Ireland: Revisiting the Story, 2002:17
- (8) Owen Chadwick's History of Christianity, 1996:288.

The logo for the Christian Peoples Alliance, featuring the words "CHRISTIAN", "peoples", and "ALLIANCE" in white text on a purple square background. "CHRISTIAN" and "ALLIANCE" are in all caps, while "peoples" is in lowercase.

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