

Britain's turbulent decades in Europe



Britain's first attempt to join six-member Common Market (European Economic

Community, EEC) is vetoed by French President **Charles de Gaulle** who labels UK as **lacking commitment to European integration**



UK wins famous **rebate** from Brussels after PM **Margaret Thatcher**

threatens to halt payments



Euro launched in 11 of 15 EU member states

UK, Sweden and Denmark

stay out of single currency

Britain and Poland opt out of **European Convention on Human Rights**

UK opts out of EU immigration directives, with restrictions for **Third Country Nationals** before they can apply for family reunification

Cameron announces referendum on Britain's membership of EU.

Britain votes 52% to 48% in favour of leaving EU, Cameron resigns

1961-63

1973

1975

1984

1991

1999

2000

2012

2016

2011

2013

2017

Britain joins EEC under Prime Minister

Edward Heath

(right), after new French president

Georges Pompidou lifts veto

Britain holds EEC membership referendum, 67% of people vote to remain

Maastricht Treaty: PM John Major

secures

opt-outs to

Economic and Monetary Union, Area of

Freedom, Justice, and

Security and Social Charter on workers' rights

PM **David Cameron**

clashes with

Brussels over

plans to restrict

London's financial sector

Cameron attempts to renegotiate UK's membership of EU



Mar 13: PM **Theresa May** gets parliamentary approval to trigger **Article 50** to leave EU