

politics

is it really that boring?

To be able to identify, discuss, and analyse political issues in the media

politics is a process by which groups of people make collective decisions & laws



these decisions affect our lives every single day



for example, on January 4th 2011, the VAT rate rose to 20% – putting lots of prices up!

VAT Rate Change Frequently Asked Questions

- UK VAT Rate Increase
- Will prices go up on January 4, 2011?
- What happens if I place my order before January 4, 2011 but it has not been delivered before the VAT change?
- What happens to items left in my basket on January 4, 2011 at 12:00:01 am?
- Will the VAT rate change affect delivery or packaging charges?
- Will all items be impacted by the VAT increase on January 4, 2011?
- What happens to refunds made on items purchased prior to January 4, 2011 after the VAT change?
- Will my order to a non-UK address be charged the higher VAT rate after January 4, 2011?

UK VAT Rate Increase

The UK Standard VAT Rate will increase from 17.5% to 20% on Tuesday, January 4, 2011. Below you will find information about how the VAT-rate increase will affect you.

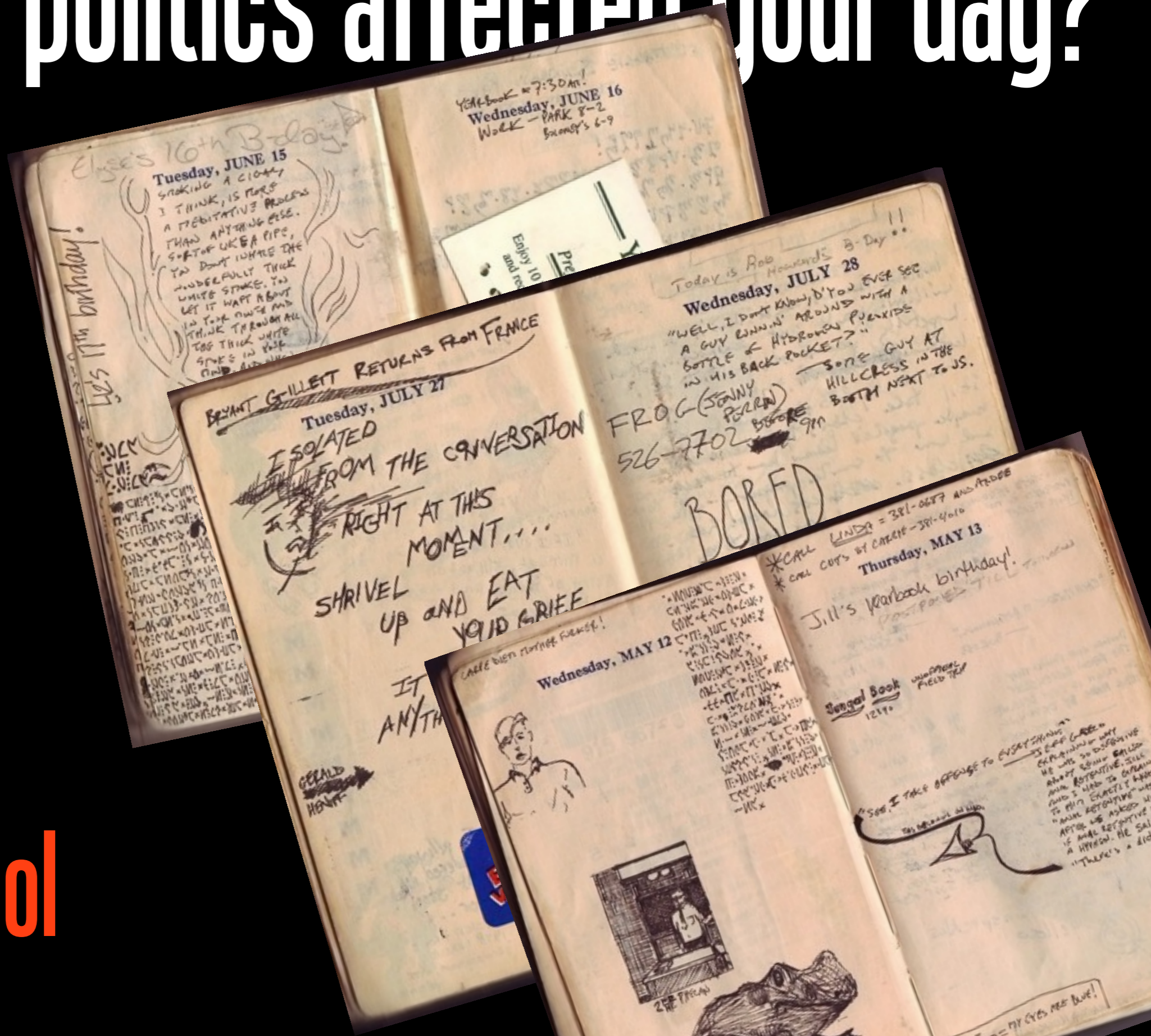
Will prices go up on January 4, 2011?

The VAT rate is one of many factors that is considered when we determine our prices. Prices may decrease or increase depending on any of these factors. Amazon.co.uk will be applying the new 20% VAT rate to all orders dispatched after January 4, 2011 12:00:01am.



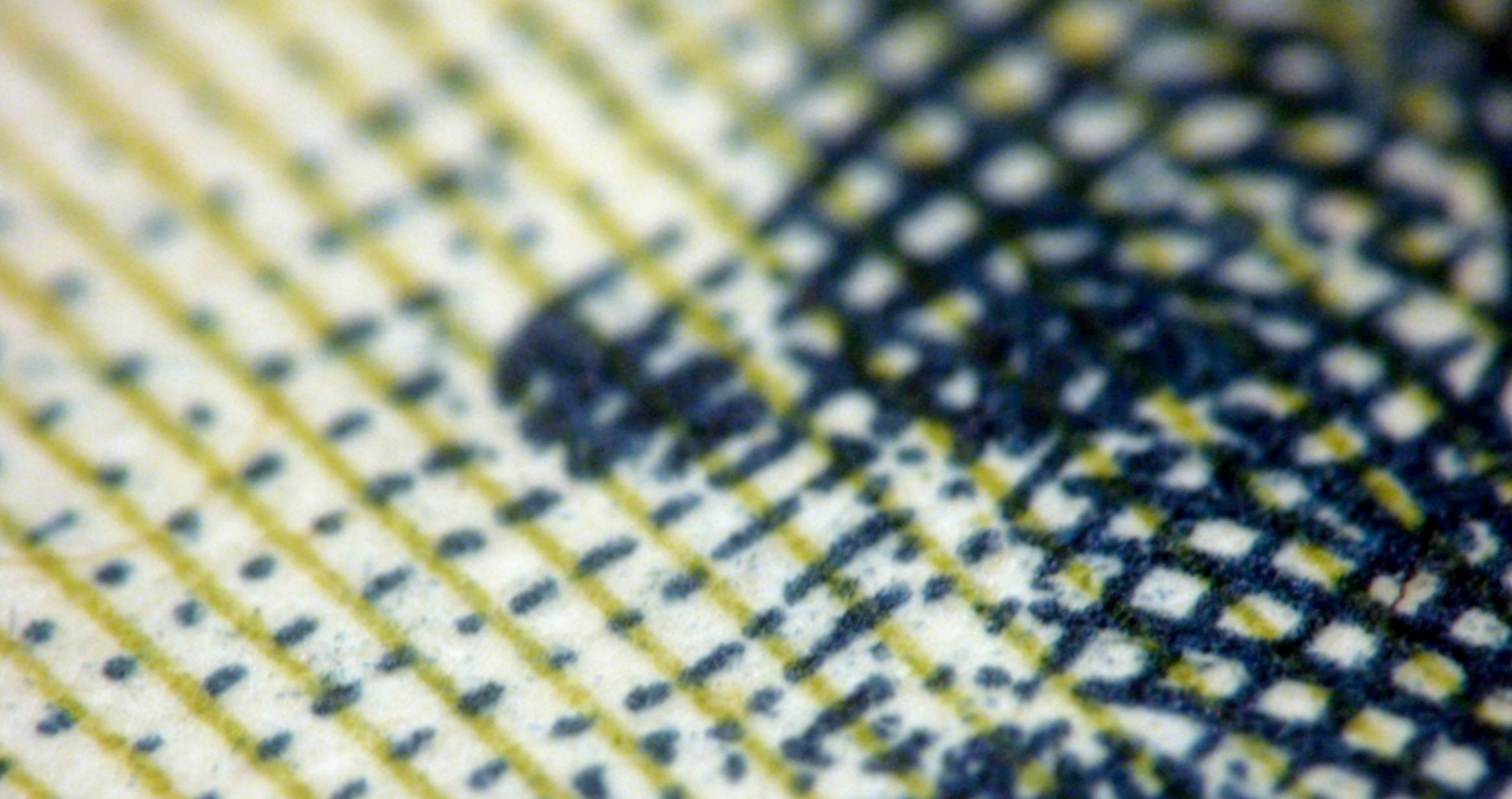
how has politics affected your day?

waking up
breakfast
journey
school
break
more school



because we live in a CAPITALIST economy, the cost of living is central to our lives





What is Capitalism?

Capitalism

A social & economic system which protects individual property rights and supports free market economics.





in a true free market, business is
unregulated

BM&F

SANTANDER

is it?



our economy is not a **true** free market

we have **consumer protection laws**

we have **taxes**

we have **free education**

we have a **health service**

we have **environmental laws**



our economy is managed & regulated



this is a form of SOCIALISM

OCTOBER 23, 2006



all of these laws and others
are debated in the media



socialism

socialism

**Under capitalism,
the means for
producing &
distributing goods
are owned by a
relatively small
group**



wage slaves

The majority of people sell their labour in return for a wage or salary.



wages



If labour costs are kept low, goods can be sold at competitive prices and a bigger profit can be made.



In a completely free market, businesses are free to set the prices and wages that the market will bear.



Wages can be controlled by keeping unemployment high – or by using cheaper overseas or immigrant workers

immigration is a "hot-button" political issue in British newspapers



Daily
www.dailymail.co.uk

Why I admire for defending the who killed their
- BY ALLISON PEARSON

600,000 European migrants already and 350,000 Romanian

HOW MANY MORE CAN WE TAKE!

By James Slack and James Chapman
Up to 350,000 Romanians are expected to flood into Britain when the country joins the EU in 2007. Numbers will swell the 600,000 Europeans who have arrived in Britain since the country joined the EU in 2004. From the Romanian government's perspective, the influx which followed EU accession in 2004 was a disaster. It had almost 25 times the UK's population and 40,000 migrants are expected to arrive in the heart of London. The Home Office is expected to prevent an estimated 100,000 Romanians from entering the country. The Home Office is expected to prevent an estimated 100,000 Romanians from entering the country.



Caprice and the PC who put her in her place

Caprice admitted a drink-driving charge yesterday

SEE PAGE THREE



but a lot of the pressure FOR immigration comes from employers who pay low wages



The Best of Mac: The Politician by Stan Ho Murray is published by Politico. To order a copy for £7.99 call 020 7345 1517 or visit www.politico.co.uk/Backs

580,000 immigrants in Labour's last year

Overseas students help push up population total

By Steve Doughty
Political Editor

NET EDUCATION OVER TRADE

annual this week will ensure



or from universities who collect large fees from overseas students



TAX is another "hot button" issue

Tax Freedom Day

The (imaginary) day at which point an individual stops “working for the government” and starts earning for him- or herself.

In 2011, Tax Freedom Day is 30 May.



*for a mediaeval
peasant, it was
20 February!*



Tax Freedom Days

- 1965, TFD = 27 April - Labour
- 1969, = 29 May - Lab
- 1973, 11 May - Conservatives
- 1979, 29 May - Lab
- 1983, 14 June - Con
- 1987, 5 June - Con
- 1992, 29 May - Con
- 1998, 28 May - Lab
- 2001, 4 June - Lab
- 2007, 4 June - Lab
- 2010, 27 May - Lab
- 2011, 30 May - Con/Lib

The lesson? *No matter what the government, taxes have remained more or less constant since the late 1960s*

Public Spending




- Education
- Health Care (NHS)
- Roads, street lighting
- Defence & Security
- Waste collection, recycling
- Police, Courts, Prisons
- Flood & Sea Defences
- Disaster relief
- International Aid
- Administration

Which would you do without in order to save public money?




British Politics in a Nutshell






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British Politics in a Nutshell

<p>Labour (left-wing)</p> 		
<p>Radical, community values</p>		
<p>Social safety net</p>		
<p>Equality of result</p>		

British Politics in a Nutshell

<p>Labour (left-wing)</p> 	<p>Liberal Democrats (centrist)</p> 	
<p>Radical, community values</p>	<p>Radical, progressive values</p>	
<p>Social safety net</p>	<p>Free market with safety net</p>	
<p>Equality of result</p>	<p>Equality of opportunity</p>	

British Politics in a Nutshell

Labour (left-wing) 	Liberal Democrats (centrist) 	Conservative (right-wing) 
Radical, community values	Radical, progressive values	Conservative, traditional values
Social safety net	Free market with safety net	Free market, low taxation
Equality of result	Equality of opportunity	Individual freedom

Newspaper Obsessions

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Newspaper Obsessions

the guardian		
Education		
Health		
Society		

Newspaper Obsessions

the guardian	The Telegraph	
Education	Taxation	
Health	Crime	
Society	Politics	

Newspaper Obsessions

the guardian	The Telegraph	The Daily Mail
Education	Taxation	Society + Family
Health	Crime	Immigration
Society	Politics	Freedom issues (oh, and tax)

Newspaper Mastheads Match the description to the paper



Traditional, conservative, impatient, often angry!



Wealthy, traditional, sophisticated.



Down-to-earth, solid, straightforward

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More Mastheads

Match the description to the paper



Self-important, price-conscious, defensive



Trendy, design-conscious, liberal & arty



Modern, confident, innovative, in-touch

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53%

**of Daily Mail readers intended to
vote **conservative** before the last
general election**



A close-up photograph of a hand locking a metal padlock onto a wooden ballot box. The padlock is yellow and has the word 'SARGENT' embossed on it. The ballot box is made of dark wood and has the words 'OFFICIAL BALLOT BOX' faintly visible on its surface. A hand with a ring is visible at the top right, holding the top of the padlock. The overall scene suggests a secure voting process.

61%

**of Daily Telegraph readers
intended to vote **conservative**
before the last general election**



53%

of **Daily Mirror** readers intended to vote **Labour** before the last general election

British Politics Today

A photograph of two men in suits standing at a podium with microphones. The man on the left is laughing heartily, looking upwards. The man on the right is also laughing, looking towards the first man. The background is a blurred green foliage.

Mainstream British political parties occupy more or less the same centre ground: they argue over details.



The closer the parties are to each other, the fiercer the argument over peripheral issues.

