

INDEPENDENCE

IT IS POSSIBLE!

1 Isn't Wales too small to survive as an independent state?

No! Wales, a country of 3 million people, is not too small to survive as an independent country. It is a fact that there are over 100 other independent countries in the world that are smaller than Wales. Of the top 10 wealthiest countries in the world in terms of GDP per capita, all 10 have a population of less than 10 million, 5 have a population of less than 5 million, and 4 have a smaller population than Wales.

8 of the top 10 most prosperous countries in the European Union are small countries. Economic prosperity is no longer achieved by being a large country or an empire, or by using military power to reach markets. There is no link between a country's size and its economic success.



We want to be a full part of the international community. An independent Wales would still be a neighbour to the other countries of the United Kingdom. There will always be strong, social, cultural and economic bonds between the people of the countries of the UK. The difference would be that we could be a partner to the other countries with our own voice being expressed. This would make for a stronger relationship.

2 We're stronger together! Why break-up Britain?

3 Most people in Wales feel both Welsh and British - they will never support Welsh Independence.

In the modern world it is inevitable that people within Wales will have several identities. Identity is a personal thing and is separate from questions of democratic accountability. Personal identity does not necessitate support for a particular way of being governed.



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4 Wouldn't Wales' budget deficit be too big for it to cope?

The UK currently has one of the biggest budget deficits in the developed world. The argument that Wales gets more in public spending than it pays in taxes is often seen as evidence that Wales cannot pay its own way. When you consider the deficit of the UK as a whole, the argument does not stand up to scrutiny. Wales has produced a large percentage of the UK's wealth, but has kept a tiny percentage of it. The challenge to those who oppose independence on the grounds that Wales cannot afford it is to explain how - as part of the United Kingdom - the Welsh economy remains relatively weak.

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5 People don't care about independence. It's a distraction from real issues that matter to people.

We believe that independence for the people of Wales is central to a prosperous economy and society. The quality of local services, job security, affordable housing - which are the issues that affect people's lives - can be dealt with far better by an accountable Welsh Government with full powers, elected by the people of Wales. To be independent is to run our own affairs, no more, no less. Our challenge to those who oppose it is to ask why the people of Wales should be deemed incapable of doing so?

6 Independence is irrelevant in the modern globalised world.

The inter-dependence of countries is a fact of modern life. We want to play our part in the international community. As Winnie Ewing of the SNP put it: 'Stop the World, we want to get on'. The British empire was

based on the fantasy that it was better than everyone else. An independent Wales wants to be the same as everyone else: an equal, treated on equal terms, in a world of equal nations..

An independent Wales becoming a full member of global institutions and playing a full part in the global economy would give Wales the opportunity to thrive.



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