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FROM THE DESK OF THE EDITORIAL TEAM

“The United Kingdom (UK) is out”

Voters in the UK voted June 23, 2016 to exit the European Union (EU), and now people are waiting to see how their exit will affect nations all over the world. In the wake of the vote in what had become known as Brexit, England’s Prime Minister, David Cameron, has resigned. He had been a strong advocate for the UK remaining in the EU. His replacement will be the person to work over the next two years on the UK’s exit.

It remains to be seen how the UK will change now that it will no longer be under the laws of the EU. Immigration may certainly an issue to the voters. As a member of the EU, Britain had to allow people from other EU countries to live and work in Britain. If too many people were to decide to live in Britain, that puts a strain on the infrastructure, including education, healthcare, housing, and public services. Supporters of exiting out of the EU claim that Britain would have better control of its borders.

Immigration is a concern for countries all over the world, and leaders want to have control over how many people enter their countries. Refugees from war-torn countries are looking to relocate but being turned away for fear that terrorists are among them. There is also a growing fear that too many immigrants will lead to economic turmoil as there may not be enough jobs for everyone, and the unemployment rate will rise, leaving a country’s citizens without jobs while immigrants have them.

The EU is considered a single market so members do not pay any tariffs on imports and exports between the member states. Where will this leave Britain with its vote to leave the

EU? The economy could be negatively affected as the cost of doing business goes up. The price of goods and services to those living in Britain could rise as well when the extra costs are passed on to the consumer. Supporters of the exit claim that other negotiations could leave Britain in a better trading position that is was as an EU member, but those who argue for remaining believe that any future deal will not be as good as it is as a member.

The consequences of Britain's exit from the EU will be felt not just by its countries but by other countries as well since we live in a time that is increasing the global marketplace every day. No doubt that the decision on the referendum was highly contested and polarizing with Scotland and Northern Ireland actually voting to remain in the EU while England and Wales voted to leave. Although these countries make up the UK, the ones that voted to remain may now be faced with the challenged of remaining. And what if this dissention stirs Scotland and Northern Ireland to leave the UK.

There is much speculation about the short and long term effects of the UK's exit from the EU. Britain has gambled on being in a better situation, but that remains to be seen. The pros may not outweigh the cons. And then what?

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