

PRESS RELEASE

HEADLINE - UN Decolonization process initiated by Liberation Scotland

DATELINE – 11th March 2025, Scotland

LEAD - Scotland's decolonization process has begun with the submission of Scotland's case to the United Nations Special Committee on Decolonization (C-24).

On 7 March, on behalf of more than 17,000 members of Liberation Scotland, Justice pour Tous Internationale notified the Secretary-General of the United Nations in New York and the Chair and Bureau of the United Nations Special Committee on Decolonization (C-24) of the establishment of Scotland's peaceful liberation movement. It also submitted an advance notice of petition for the formal recognition of Scotland as a Non-Self-Governing Territory under the United Nations decolonization framework, in accordance with the principles enshrined in United Nations General Assembly Resolutions 1514 (XV), 1541 (XV), and 1654 (XVI), and Chapter XI of the UN Charter. Together, these establish the legal basis for decolonization (that is, independence) and the right to self-determination for peoples under external governance.

The Advance Notice argues that the UK government has actively obstructed Scotland's right to self-determination, in contravention of UN General Assembly Resolution 1514 (XV), which states, *"all peoples have the right to self-determination"* and that the *"subjection of peoples to alien subjugation, domination and exploitation constitutes a denial of fundamental human rights."*

Professor Alf Baird, co-convenor of the Liberation Scotland committee said:

"Scotland's political and constitutional status aligns with the established international criteria for recognition as a Non-Self-Governing Territory. The forthcoming petition aims to rectify Scotland's exclusion from the UN decolonization agenda by formally requesting its inclusion on the list of Non-Self-Governing Territories, thereby initiating the process for Scotland's recognition as a territory entitled to self-determination and independence under UN oversight." He added: *"This is a momentous development but necessary due to the undemocratic nature of our political system whereby successive elected majorities of nationalist politicians in Scotland have failed to deliver independence, with the UK Government continuing to block the inalienable right of Scots to self-determination. There is also the realization that colonial exploitation and domination of Scotland and its people must be ended and can be, via the UN decolonization process Liberation Scotland has initiated. Almost all former colonies that have become independent countries since the creation of the United Nations in 1945 have done so through the UN self-determination and decolonization process."*

Sara Salyers, Director Salvo Scotland, the Campaign Organization of Liberation Scotland, commented:

"Contrary to what we in Scotland – as well as the world at large – have been led to believe, the historical incorporation of Scotland into the United Kingdom in 1707 did not constitute a voluntary partnership. It was never an expression of self-determination, but a process marked by political coercion, by the threats of economic sanctions and military invasion and by bribery. Ultimately, it saw the abandonment by England of the Treaty of Union in favour of the annexation and ongoing colonization"

of Scotland. The dissolution of Scotland's independent governance structures followed, along with the displacement of the indigenous population, the suppression of Scotland's cultures, and the colonial exploitation of Scotland's maritime and territorial assets, The denial of Scotland's democratic rights has continued ever since.

By misrepresenting Scotland as a voluntary partner in the creation of a new state, rather than a dependency of the English Crown, the UK government has failed to meet its responsibility under the criteria set forth by the United Nations under Resolution 1541 (XV): Principles which should guide Members in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for under Article 73e of the United Nations Charter.

What Liberation Scotland now seeks is both internationally lawful and a fundamental, human right. It is simple justice for our nation and long overdue."

Sharof Azizov, Executive Director, Justice pour Tous Internationale has commended the strength of the case:

"The Advance Notice of Petition convincingly argues that Scotland lost its political autonomy and became a colony under Westminster's governance and that this and other institutions of the state have systemically eroded Scotland's constitutional distinctiveness and suppressed Scotland's rights to self-determination."

Given the compelling evidence demonstrating Scotland's continued governance under external authority, its lack of full self-government, and the systematic denial of its right to self-determination, the Advance Notice will follow in due time with a formal request urging the C-24 to formally recognize Scotland as a Non-Self-Governing Territory within the UN decolonization framework, in accordance with the legal criteria set forth in Resolution 1541 (XV) (1960) and the principles articulated in Resolution 1514 (XV) (1960). The evidence presented in this submission will establish that Scotland satisfies the requirements for classification as a territory that has not yet achieved a full measure of self-government and therefore qualifies for inclusion on the UN list of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

A copy of the Advance Notice of Petition and supporting papers can be viewed on the Liberation movement website: www.liberation.scot

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For further information contact: – Secretariat@Liberation.scot

BACKGROUND

Liberation Scotland is a peaceful movement committed to restoring the inherent national rights of Scotland and the constitutional and human rights of our people, including their inalienable right to self-determination, usurped through an act of annexation by the Anglo-British state. The movement is represented by the elected Liberation Scotland Committee, secretariat and Salvo Core.

Justice pour Tous Internationale is a not-for-profit human rights organisation based in Geneva which, through legal representation and advocacy, combats injustice and protects the fundamental freedoms of individuals and nations over influential multilateral platforms, such as the United Nations, the Council of Europe, and the OSCE.

**Advance Notice about Upcoming Submission of the Petition for
Recognition of Scotland as a Non-Self-Governing Territory
Under the UN Decolonization Framework**

07 March 2025

To: - H.E. Ms. Menissa Rambally, Ambassador, the Chairperson of the Special Committee on Decolonization (C-24) and Permanent Representative of Saint Lucia to the United Nations in New York – info@stluciamission.org

- H.E. Mr. Ernesto Soberón Guzmán, Ambassador, Vice-Chairperson and Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations in New York – cuba_onu@cubanmission.com

- H.E. Mr. Hari Prabowo, Ambassador, Vice-Chairperson and Deputy Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations in New York – ptri@indonesiaun.org

- H.E. Mr. Michael Imran Kanu, Ambassador, Vice-Chairperson and Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations in New York – sierraleone@pmun.net

- H.E. Mr. Koussay Aldahhak, Ambassador, Vice-Chairperson and Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations in New York – syrianmission-ny@sar-un.org

CC: - Office of the Special Committee Secretary, C-24 – c24@un.org

- H.E. Mr. António Guterres, the Secretary-General of the United Nations – antonio.guterres@un.org

- H.E. Mr. Walton Alfonso Webson, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Antigua and Barbuda to the United Nations in New York – unmission@ab.gov.ag ; jackley.peters@ab.gov.ag

- H.E. Mr. Diego Pary Rodríguez, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Bolivia to the United Nations in New York – boliviaunmission@gmail.com

- H.E. Mrs. Paula Narváez Ojeda, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations in New York – chile.un@minrel.gob.cl

- H.E. Mr. Fu Cong, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations in New York – chinesemission@yahoo.com

- H.E. Mr. Lazare Makayat-Safouesse, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Congo to the United Nations in New York – cgbrazzadel60@gmail.com

- H.E. Mr. Tiémoko Moriko, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Côte d'Ivoire to the United Nations in New York – cotedivoiremission@yahoo.com

- H.E. Mr. Philbert Aaron, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Dominica to the United Nations in New York – dominicaun@gmail.com

- H.E. Mr. Andrés Efren Montalvo Sosa, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations in New York – onunewyork@cancilleria.gob.ec

- H.E. Mr. Tesfaye Yilma Sabo, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations in New York – ethiopia@un.int

- H.E. Mr. Filipo Tarakinikini, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Fiji to the United Nations in New York – mission@fijiprun.org
- H.E. Mr. Ché Ajamu Phillip, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Grenada to the United Nations in New York – gmun@mofa.gov.gd
- H.E. Mr. Harish Parvathaneni, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations in New York – india.newyorkpmi@mea.gov.in
- H.E. Mr. Amir Saeid Iravani, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Iran to the United Nations in New York – Iranunny@mfa.gov.ir
- Mr. Abbas Kadhom Obaid Al-Fatlawi, Minister Plenipotentiary, Deputy Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations in New York – Iraq.mission@iraqmission-un.com
- H.E. Mr. Issa Konfourou, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Mali to the United Nations in New York – miperma@malionu.com
- H.E. Mr. Jaime Hermida Castillo, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Nicaragua to the United Nations in New York – nicaraguaunny@yahoo.com
- H.E. Mr. Fred Sarufa, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Papua New Guinea to the United Nations in New York – pngun@pngmission.org
- H.E. Mr. Vassily A. Nebenzia, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations in New York – press@russiaun.ru
- H.E. Ms. Mutryce Agatha Williams, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Saint Kitts and Nevis to the United Nations in New York – info@nymission.gov.kn
- H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to the United Nations in New York – svgmission@gmail.com ; ambassadorassistantsvg@gmail.com
- H.E. Mr. Dionisio Da Costa Babo Soares, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Timor-Leste to the United Nations in New York – timorleste.unmission@gmail.com
- Ms. Takoua Ben Abdallah, Minister Plenipotentiary, Permanent Mission of Tunisia to the United Nations in New York – tunisia@un.int ; tunisiamission@usa.com
- H.E. Mr. Suleiman Haji Suleiman, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations in New York – tanzania.un@nje.go.tz
- H.E. Mr. Samuel Moncada, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Venezuela to the United Nations in New York – misionvenezuelaonu@gmail.com
- H.E. Mr. Joaquín Alberto Pérez Ayestarán, Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative of Venezuela to the United Nations in New York – misionvenezuelaonu@gmail.com

Dear Madam Chairperson, Distinguished Vice-Chairpersons, Esteemed Members of the Special Committee on Decolonization (C-24), and His Excellency, Secretary-General António Guterres,

Justice pour Tous Internationale (JPTi) presents its respectful greetings to you and extends its sincere appreciation for your unwavering commitment to advancing the principles of self-determination, decolonization, and fundamental human rights, as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations.

This advance notice is respectfully submitted in anticipation of your important deliberations scheduled to take place during the 2nd Plenary Meeting of the Special Committee's 2025 session on 10 March.

With this communication, JPTi formally informs your esteemed offices of our forthcoming petition concerning the recognition of Scotland as a Non-Self-Governing Territory

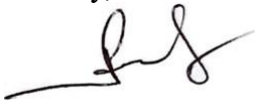
under the United Nations decolonization framework. The petition seeks to address the historical and continuing denial of Scotland's fundamental right to self-determination, invoking the Special Committee's authoritative mandate to ensure that international legal standards for decolonization are consistently, appropriately, and equitably applied.

We humbly request your careful attention to the arguments and factual considerations presented herein, as they demonstrate the urgent necessity of the Committee's consideration of Scotland's status within the established framework of international law.

We deeply appreciate your kind consideration of this significant and timely matter and remain confident in your commitment to ensuring compliance with international legal obligations and standards governing the self-determination of peoples.

With assurances of our highest consideration,

Yours sincerely,



Sharof Azizov

Executive Director

Justice pour Tous Internationale

INTRODUCTION

On behalf of Liberation Scotland, Justice pour Tous Internationale, (JPTi), respectfully informs the Secretary General of the United Nations and the Chair of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, which is also known as the Special Committee on Decolonization, or C-24, of the establishment of the peaceful Scottish liberation movement and also submits Advance Notice of a petition for the formal recognition of Scotland as a Non-Self-Governing Territory under the United Nations decolonization framework.

This submission is made in accordance with the principles enshrined in United Nations General Assembly Resolutions 1514 (XV), 1541 (XV) and 1654 (XVI), as well as Chapter XI of the UN Charter, which collectively establish the legal basis for decolonization and the right to self-determination for peoples under external governance. Scotland's political and constitutional status aligns with these established criteria for recognition as a Non-Self-Governing Territory and with broader decolonization principles.

Scotland's historical and legal distinctiveness as a separate jurisdiction, acknowledged even within the UK's constitutional framework, underscores its status as a distinct geopolitical entity. Scotland is an ancient nation and a former independent state with a long established and separate geopolitical boundary, identity, culture and history of development of its own. Established as a nation around 843 CE, by the time of the supposed union in 1707, Scotland was politically, militarily, culturally and socially developed to at least an equal degree with England. Its national character differed then and now in cultural and linguistic essentials from that of England. Its separate Crown, though dormant, remains as a constitutional instrument in law, maintaining Scotland's distinct territorial boundaries to this day.

The forthcoming petition aims to rectify Scotland's exclusion from the UN decolonization agenda by formally requesting its inclusion on the list of Non-Self-Governing Territories, thereby initiating the process for Scotland's recognition as a territory entitled to self-determination under UN oversight. By addressing Scotland's unresolved colonial status within the framework of international law, this petition will seek to reaffirm the fundamental right of the Scottish people to determine their own political future free from external interference.

The legal basis for Scotland's recognition as a Non-Self-Governing Territory is rooted in the fundamental criteria outlined in UN Resolution 1541 (XV). This resolution establishes that a territory is considered non-self-governing if it is geographically distinct from the administering power, possesses a distinct ethnic, cultural, or linguistic identity, and lacks a full measure of self-government. Scotland meets all these conditions.

Scotland's political and constitutional status aligns with the established criteria for recognition as a Non-Self-Governing Territory under UN Resolution 1541 (XV) and broader decolonization principles. The historical incorporation of Scotland into the United Kingdom in 1707 did not constitute a voluntary and democratic act of self-determination but rather a process marked by political coercion, bribery, the threat of economic sanctions and military force, and the dissolution of Scotland's independent governance structures. The Treaty of Union, rather than creating a unified and equal partnership between two sovereign nations, was employed to effectively subsume Scotland into the English political framework in which ultimate constitutional legislative authority is vested in the English Parliament at Westminster to this day.

Unlike modern federations or voluntary political unions where member entities retain the constitutional right to exit, the UK legal framework denies Scotland any unilateral mechanism to withdraw from the union, thereby violating the principle of freely determined political status. The Treaty and Acts of Union of 1706 - 1707, while incorporating Scotland into a new state of Great Britain, (now the United Kingdom), did not dissolve Scotland's distinct national identity. The ability of Scotland to unilaterally determine its own political future was also protected by the terms of the Treaty. The resulting governance structure, however, subjected Scotland to administrative control from London without possibility of self-determination.

Scotland's political and constitutional status meets all established criteria for recognition as a Non-Self-Governing Territory. The people of Scotland have been denied the ability to exercise their right to self-determination, and the UK government has failed to uphold its obligations under international law.

Given these facts, the upcoming petition requests that the UN Special Committee on Decolonization (C-24) recognize Scotland as a Non-Self-Governing Territory and recommend its inclusion on the UN decolonization agenda. The UK's continued refusal to acknowledge Scotland's right to self-determination, coupled with the historical and legal evidence of Scotland's distinct status, necessitates UN oversight to ensure that Scotland is afforded the same decolonization rights as other territories in similar circumstances. Given the international legal framework governing decolonization, the exclusion of Scotland from the UN's Non-Self-Governing Territory list constitutes a failure to apply established principles consistently. The UN must address this oversight to uphold its commitment to the right of all peoples to self-determination and decolonization and the Special Committee on Decolonization (C-24) will be urged to take the necessary steps to formally recognize Scotland within the UN decolonization process and initiate measures to ensure that its right to self-determination is upheld under international law.

LEGAL BASIS FOR INCLUSION

The legal justification for Scotland's recognition as a Non-Self-Governing Territory under the United Nations decolonization framework is firmly grounded in international law, particularly General Assembly Resolution 1541 (XV) (1960), which establishes the criteria for determining whether a territory is non-self-governing. The petition will further demonstrate that Scotland's current constitutional and political status does not meet the threshold of genuine self-government, and that the continued control exercised by Westminster over Scotland violates the right to self-determination enshrined in Resolution 1514 (XV) (1960).

1. Scotland Meets the Criteria Established in UN Resolution 1514 (XV) (1960)

UN General Assembly Resolution 1541 (XV) lays out the defining characteristics of a Non-Self-Governing Territory and establishes the criteria by which a territory is considered to be under the administration of another power without possessing full self-governance. According to Principle IV of Resolution 1541 (XV), a territory is deemed non-self-governing if:

- *It is geographically separate from the administering power.*
- *It possesses distinct ethnic, cultural, or linguistic characteristics.*
- *It lacks a full measure of self-government.*

Scotland's classification as a Non-Self-Governing Territory under international law is firmly supported by the criteria established in United Nations General Assembly Resolution 1541 (XV) (1960). Scotland meets each of these criteria, as its governance remains subject to Westminster's control, and its distinct legal, cultural, and political identity has been historically and contemporarily recognized.

It is geographically separate from the administering power.

Scotland is in the same landmass as England but is geographically separate from it. It is also a nation whose Crown remains as a constitutional instrument so that its status as a kingdom continues, though dormant, and it remains a sovereign territorial nation with its territorial boundaries distinct to this day. Scotland's historical and legal distinctiveness as a separate jurisdiction, acknowledged even within the UK's constitutional framework, underscores its status as a distinct geopolitical entity.

The distinct border between the two countries has existed since 1237, reflects the territorial jurisdictions of the English and (dormant but extant) Scottish Crowns and has not been disputed for 280 years. Precedents such as Gibraltar and New Caledonia illustrate that territories can qualify as non-self-governing despite geographical proximity to the administering power. Scotland's historical and legal distinctiveness as a separate jurisdiction, acknowledged even within the UK's constitutional framework, underscores its status as a distinct geopolitical entity. Scotland's internationally recognized territorial boundaries, which remain separate from those of England, reinforce its claim to be a distinct geopolitical entity. Despite being governed by Westminster, Scotland retains a separate legal and political framework that is widely acknowledged in both domestic and international law.

It possesses distinct ethnic, cultural, or linguistic characteristics.

Scotland's status as a distinct nation is further supported by its unique ethnic, cultural, and linguistic identity. Scotland was first established as a nation around 843 AD and by the time of the supposed union in 1707, was as developed politically, militarily, culturally and socially as that of England. Its national character differs in cultural and linguistic essentials from that of England, or Britain.

Legal System. Scotland's maintains a separate legal system which continues to function independently from England in both civil and criminal law matters. The country's legal system has evolved since Scotland became a nation state under Kenneth McAlpine in 843 CE (80 years before England became a unified nation state). Scotland's legal system is rooted in Roman law traditions and remains fundamentally different from English common law. The preservation of Scotland's independent judiciary and legal institutions highlights its distinct constitutional identity.

Education System. Similarly, Scotland operates its own education system, reflecting long standing national policies that distinguish it from England. Scotland's education system is fundamentally different in curriculum, administration, and governance from the system in England.

The recognition of Scotland's separate legal and educational systems demonstrates that a distinctive national framework has been maintained despite Westminster's overarching control.

Linguistic. Furthermore, Scotland retains a unique identity, and cultural heritage which reinforces its distinction from England. The Scots and Gaelic languages, which are spoken in Scotland, form an essential part of its cultural identity. Our national poets Robert Burns (wrote in Scots) and Alasdair MacMhaighstir Alasdair (wrote in Gaelic) continue to be celebrated and taught in our schools and universities. Burn's Night on 25th January each year pays tribute to the legacy of Scotland's National Bard, Robert Burns. The event is demarked with renditions of Burn's poetry in the Scots language, a dinner of cuisine of haggis, neeps and tatties and a dram (Scotland's national drink of whisky) is raised to toast the immortal words of Burns. Our distinct culture and languages have informed Scotland's unique folklore of selkies and brownies, stories which are passed down to the next generation. Our national writers, among the most famous of which are Sir Walter Scott and Robert Louis Stevenson, who wrote in Scots, narrating the injustices experienced by the Highlands Scots and the colonial expansionism of the English after the 1715 and 1745 Jacobite uprisings, continue to be taught in our schools and universities, helping to keep Scotland's history alive. Yet Scottish children are prevented from learning either Gaelic or Scots in Scottish schools. Instead they must learn 'proper English' if they are to advance and hope for any kind of professional career.

Music and Folksongs. Scotland's distinctive linguistic identity has also informed Scotland's music. Our musical events take the form of ceilidh's where traditional music is played on traditional instruments – fiddles (Scottish violin), accordions, clarsachs (Scottish harp) and the bagpipes. These distinctive instruments, together with traditional poems and stories set to traditional music gives Scotland and unique cultural identity. Scotland has its own, unofficial national anthem, Flower of Scotland, which is sung at events when Scotland's national teams are playing/taking part, including international events such as the Commonwealth (aka Colonial) Games.

Traditions. There are uniquely Scottish events throughout the calendar year. In addition to Burn's Night (25 January), Scots celebrate their patron saint on St Andrews Day (30 November) with their national flag the Saltire. On 31 December Scots celebrate Hogmanay with ceilidhs, after the bells, "first footing" neighbours, the first person crossing the threshold after midnight is said to bring good luck for the coming year. Throughout the summer, virtually every community in the Highlands of Scotland holds highland games featuring highland country dancing, piping and drumming competitions, caber tossing and other events.

National dress. Scotland's national dress is the tartan kilt, plaid or tartan trews (trousers), sporran and sgian dhu (black dagger) which is worn at Scottish events and weddings.

National dishes. Scotland's unique cultural expression extends to the country's unique cuisine of haggis (meat and oatmeal) neeps (turnips) and tatties (potatoes), porridge, cullen skink (haddock soup), black pudding and deserts including cranachan (raspberry and oatmeal), tablet and shortbread. Our national drink is whisky which is a registered Geographical Indication (GI) in many overseas markets including the EU.

Religion. The Presbyterian Church of Scotland is the state church of Scotland whereas the Anglican Church of England is the state church of England. Religious customs, practices and services differ in each country. There is also a significant Roman Catholic community in Scotland since the earliest recorded times.

Ethnicity. The ethnicity of Scots is predominantly Celt, whereas English ethnicity is predominantly Anglo-Saxon.

The presence of national institutions, national anthem and unique cultural expressions, further distinguish Scotland as a separate national entity with a separate national identity. These characteristics align with the UN's criteria for identifying Non-Self-Governing Territories, as Scotland's national distinctiveness remains intact despite being politically incorporated into the United Kingdom.

Its people lack a full measure of self-government while Scotland occupies a unique legal and constitutional position - a dependency misrepresented as a partner.

The legal personality of Scotland has been defined by the Administering Power, the United Kingdom, as that of a voluntary partner in a union, (that is, in a free association with an independent state). This partnership is said to have been established through a distinct, legal and constitutional event, the Treaty of Union 1707, which dissolved the two former independent states of England and Scotland to create a new state now known as the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Uniquely, this 'merger by treaty' establishes a precise genesis for the state of the United Kingdom and defines the status of Scotland as a partner, or parent to the state thus created. This definition is offered by the Administering Power, the United Kingdom, as testimony that Scotland is *not* a dependency. Scotland was never voluntarily unified with England, however. Instead of the union defined by treaty, Scotland was annexed and incorporated into the hegemony of England, which state continued as Great Britain, (later the United Kingdom of Great Britain), altered only by the addition of Scotland to the English Crown, the dissolution of the Scottish Parliament and the addition of a handful of Scottish MPs to the English Parliament at Westminster.

As a result, Scotland remains a dependency subject to external governance, unable to exercise full sovereignty over its political, economic, and legal affairs, suffering from underdevelopment and deprivation while its territorial assets and resources, the exclusive property of the Scottish people, are administered by the UK state to the benefit of the metropole.

The most critical factor in Scotland's classification as a Non-Self-Governing Territory is its lack of full self-government. While the devolved Scottish Parliament was established in 1999, it does not exercise a full measure of self-government and remains politically subordinate to Westminster. The UK Parliament retains ultimate legislative supremacy over Scotland, with the power to override or unilaterally revoke or alter devolved powers at any time. The passage of the United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020 serves as a clear example of how Westminster continues to exert legislative control over Scotland. This act significantly restricted the Scottish Parliament's ability to regulate its own internal market, reinforcing the reality that ultimate decision-making authority rests with the UK government rather than Scotland's elected representatives.

Additionally, Scotland lacks control over crucial areas such as foreign policy, defence, nationality and citizenship (or immigration), trade and industry, broadcasting, transport, telecommunications, taxation, currency, financial services, and constitutional matters, all of which are reserved to Westminster. The inability to legislate independently on these critical matters denies Scotland the full measure of self-government required to be considered a truly self-governing entity under international law.

The repeated rejection by the UK government of Scotland's democratic mandates for a legally binding independence referendum further confirms that Scotland lacks genuine self-governance. The refusal to grant Scotland the ability to determine its own political status in accordance with democratic principles contradicts the UK's obligations under international law.

Summary: Scotland meets the key criteria outlined in UN General Assembly Resolution 1541 (XV) for classification as a Non-Self-Governing Territory. Its geographical distinctiveness, independent legal and cultural identity, and political subordination to Westminster provide a strong legal basis for its inclusion in the UN decolonization framework. Scotland's continued lack of full self-government, as demonstrated by its inability to control its own constitutional future and legislate independently in key areas, underscores the urgent need for international recognition of its right to self-determination. Given these factors, Scotland's status must be reviewed by the UN Special Committee on Decolonization (C-24) to ensure compliance with the principles of decolonization and self-governance enshrined in international law.

2. Scotland's Political and Constitutional Status.

Scotland's political and constitutional status has long been misrepresented as the product of a voluntary agreement between two equal nations. However, historical records and contemporary legal analysis demonstrate that the Act of Union of 1707 was not a genuine exercise of self-determination by the Scottish people but rather the result of military threat, economic coercion, bribery, and external influence. The incorporation of Scotland into the United Kingdom fundamentally altered its self-governing status, stripping it of its independent legislative authority and subjecting it to governance from Westminster without the right to unilaterally determine its political future.

Before the union, Scotland was an internationally recognized sovereign state with its own monarchy, parliament, legal system, and diplomatic relations. Its status as an independent nation was affirmed through centuries of treaties and international recognition. The Act of Union led to the dissolution of Scotland's independent parliament and the transfer of legislative authority to Westminster. Unlike modern federations or voluntary unions, where constituent nations retain the right to self-governance and the ability to negotiate their continued participation, Scotland's incorporation into the United Kingdom did not grant it constitutional safeguards for self-determination. The UK structure operates under a centralized framework in which sovereignty remains concentrated in Westminster, preventing Scotland from exercising meaningful political autonomy.

A defining feature of a genuine self-governing entity is its ability to freely negotiate constitutional arrangements or withdraw from a political union if its people so choose. In contrast, Scotland lacks the legal right to unilaterally exit the union, a fundamental limitation that contradicts international principles of self-determination. Unlike other cases of political unions that have been revised or dissolved through democratic processes, Scotland's constitutional status remains rigidly controlled by the UK government.

The refusal of Westminster to acknowledge Scotland's right to hold a legally binding referendum on independence further underscores its lack of sovereign agency. Even when Scotland's elected representatives and democratic institutions have sought to negotiate a constitutional mechanism for withdrawal, these efforts have been blocked by the UK government, demonstrating the inherent subordination of Scotland within the UK framework.

The absence of any formal process through which Scotland can renegotiate its relationship within the UK, combined with Westminster's unilateral control over constitutional decisions, places Scotland in a position that aligns more closely with a colonial dependency than with a self-governing nation. The inability to amend the terms of the union, negotiate treaty revisions, or pursue constitutional reforms that reflect contemporary political realities further reinforces Scotland's status as a territory governed without full self-determination. Under the principles of international law, particularly those enshrined in the United Nations Charter and General Assembly Resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1654 (XVI), the denial of a people's right to determine their own political status constitutes a breach of their fundamental right to self-determination.

In light of these realities, Scotland's political and constitutional status must be reevaluated in accordance with international legal standards. The continued refusal of the UK government to allow a democratic mechanism for withdrawal, despite persistent and growing support for independence within Scotland, demonstrates that Scotland does not possess the full measure of self-government required to be considered a sovereign entity.

The inability to freely determine its constitutional future and the lack of an exit mechanism underscore the necessity of international intervention to assess Scotland's right to self-determination under the UN decolonization framework. Given these factors, Scotland's case must be reviewed by the UN Special Committee on Decolonization (C-24) to ensure that the principles of self-governance and decolonization are upheld in accordance with international law.

3. The UK's Continued Suppression of Scotland's Right to Self-Determination

UN General Assembly Resolution 1514 (XV) (1960), known as the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, explicitly states that:

"All peoples have the right to self-determination; by virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development."

The United Kingdom's continued suppression of Scotland's right to self-determination stands in direct violation of fundamental principles of international law, particularly those enshrined in the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 1514 (XV) (1960), also known as the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. This resolution unequivocally asserts that "all peoples have the right to self-determination; by virtue of that right, they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social, and cultural development." The UK government's persistent denial of Scotland's ability to exercise this right and hold a referendum on independence, despite clear and repeated democratic mandates from the Scottish electorate in favor of independence, contravenes the international legal obligation of administering powers to facilitate decolonization where there is clear political demand, constituting an obstruction of the very principles that govern the international legal framework on decolonization.

The suppression of Scotland's self-determination has been particularly evident in Westminster's refusal to permit a legally binding independence referendum following Scotland's overwhelming rejection of Brexit in 2016. While Scotland was allowed to hold a referendum in 2014 under the terms of a temporary agreement with Westminster, this was presented as a one-time event, with no permanent mechanism provided for Scotland to revisit its constitutional future despite shifting political circumstances. Following Brexit, in which Scotland voted decisively to remain in the European Union but was forced to leave against its will, the UK government has unilaterally blocked all further attempts by Scotland's elected representatives to pursue another referendum. This deliberate refusal to recognize Scotland's political will is not merely an internal constitutional matter but a fundamental breach of international norms requiring administering powers to facilitate decolonization where there is clear political demand.

The UK's legal justification for denying Scotland's right to self-determination was solidified in the ruling of the UK Supreme Court in November 2022, which determined that the Scottish Government does not have the legal authority to hold an independence referendum without the explicit approval of Westminster, underscoring the fundamental power imbalance in the UK's constitutional structure. This ruling prevents Scotland from determining its own political status and confirms that Scotland remains politically subordinate to the UK government, reinforcing the argument that it does not possess a full measure of self-government.

A fundamental characteristic of self-governing entities is the right to freely decide their constitutional future. Scotland's lack of unilateral legal authority to hold a referendum or even negotiate the terms of its continued participation in the union, demonstrates that its governance structure is one of external control rather than an equal partnership.

Scotland meets all three criteria set forth in UN Resolution 1541 (XV) (1960) for classification as a Non-Self-Governing Territory, and the ongoing refusal of the UK government to allow democratic self-determination strengthens its case for international recognition under the UN decolonization framework. The fact that Scotland's constitutional status cannot be

altered without Westminster's consent places it in a position analogous to that of a colonial territory, rather than a nation within a voluntary union.

This continued suppression of Scotland's political agency violates not only the principles of self-determination but also the UK's international legal obligations under the UN Charter.

Scotland's current political and constitutional status within the United Kingdom (UK) obliges UK to transmit information in respect of this territory under the criteria set forth by the United Nations under Resolution 1541 (XV): Principles which should guide Members in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for under Article 73 of the United Nations Charter:

Principle IV

Prima facie there is an obligation to transmit information in respect of a territory which is geographically separate and is distinct ethnically and/or culturally from the country administering it.

Principle V

Once it has been established that such a prima facie case of geographical and ethnical or cultural distinctness of a territory exists, other elements may then be brought into consideration. These additional elements may be, inter alia, of an administrative, political, juridical, economic or historical nature. If they affect the relationship between the metropolitan State and the territory concerned in a manner which arbitrarily places the latter in a position or status of subordination, they support the presumption that there is an obligation to transmit information under Article 73e of the Charter.

Principle VII

... (b) The associated territory should have the right to determine its internal constitution without outside interference, in accordance with due constitutional processes and the freely expressed wishes of the people.

In light of these legal and factual considerations, Scotland's inclusion on the UN list of Non-Self-Governing Territories is not only justified but necessary to uphold the international legal standards governing decolonization. The persistent obstruction of Scotland's right to determine its own future requires international oversight to ensure that Scotland's case is treated in accordance with the principles of decolonization, as outlined by the United Nations.

Therefore, the forthcoming petition will formally request that the Special Committee on Decolonization (C24) review Scotland's status and consider the appropriate measures to recognize Scotland as a Non-Self-Governing Territory. By doing so, the UN would initiate the process of self-determination under international supervision, ensuring that Scotland's political future is decided in accordance with established UN decolonization procedures, rather than being subject to unilateral obstruction by the UK government.

COMPARATIVE PRECEDENTS IN UN DECOLONIZATION

Scotland's case for inclusion on the UN list of Non-Self-Governing Territories aligns with multiple historical precedents under the purview of the Special Committee on Decolonization (C-24). The UN has recognized various territories as non-self-governing despite

claims by their administering powers that they already exercise self-government. These precedents establish that the existence of devolved governance, local referenda, or internal autonomy does not preclude a territory from being classified as non-self-governing if it remains under external political control. Scotland's situation shares critical similarities with other cases where territories have been successfully placed on the decolonization agenda.

The recognition of New Caledonia, administered by France, as a Non-Self-Governing Territory (1986) provides a particularly relevant comparative legal precedent further strengthening Scotland's case for inclusion on the UN list of Non-Self-Governing Territories. Despite holding multiple referenda on independence, France retained ultimate decision-making authority over constitutional matters, which was deemed sufficient for the UN General Assembly to continue to classify New Caledonia as a Non-Self-Governing Territory due to concerns over political fairness, external influence, and the long-term legitimacy of the referenda process. Scotland faces a similar situation, where Westminster exercises final authority over Scotland's constitutional status and governance, denying it the right to unilaterally determine its own political future. Scotland's independence referendum in 2014 did not provide a permanent resolution to its self-determination question, and Westminster's continued refusal to permit further referenda denies Scotland the ability to freely determine its political future. The case of New Caledonia demonstrates that even when a population has engaged in voting mechanisms on self-governance, continued oversight by the C-24 remains necessary when external political constraints persist. This comparative legal precedent further illustrates that territories under European control can be placed on the decolonization agenda when they lack full self-government and maintain a distinct national identity.

Another key precedent is the recognition of **Tokelau** (1976), a New Zealand-administered territory that held two referenda in 2006 and 2007 to determine its political status. Although majorities voted to maintain their relationship with New Zealand, the UN continues to monitor Tokelau under the decolonization framework because its people have not exercised full sovereignty. This precedent is crucial in understanding Scotland's case, as it highlights that partial self-governance under an administering power does not negate the right to self-determination.

The case of **French Polynesia**, another French-administered territory, is also highly relevant. Despite being removed from the Non-Self-Governing Territory list in 1947 without a referendum, French Polynesia was re-inscribed on the list in 2013 after sustained advocacy and international recognition of its continued colonial status. The case illustrates that territories previously considered part of a larger political entity can be reassessed under the UN decolonization framework when political realities shift. This precedent supports the argument that Scotland's case should be considered despite its historical 'integration' into the United Kingdom. The legal framework of the Treaty of Union cannot supersede Scotland's right to self-determination under international law especially when its primary effects, the creation of a single kingdom and a new Parliament and state, remain inoperative and replaced by annexation and Administration by England-as-UK.

Other UK-administered territories, such as **Gibraltar** and the **Falkland Islands**, remain on the UN list of Non-Self-Governing Territories despite referenda in which their populations voted to maintain British sovereignty. The UN has upheld that self-determination must be assessed not merely based on local voting outcomes but on the broader legal and political structure that defines a territory's status. In both cases, the UK retains ultimate control over constitutional decisions, foreign relations, and defence, preventing these territories from

exercising full sovereignty. This situation is directly comparable to Scotland, where Westminster's refusal to recognize an independent Scottish referendum without UK government consent demonstrates a similar lack of full self-governance.

A particularly important precedent is **Western Sahara**, where Morocco claims sovereignty over the territory, yet the UN continues to recognize Western Sahara as a Non-Self-Governing Territory due to the lack of a legitimate self-determination process. Scotland's case shares key similarities, as Westminster's unilateral authority over constitutional decisions prevents Scotland from freely determining its political status. The international legal principle upheld in Western Sahara's case reinforces that a people's right to self-determination cannot be denied by the political or legal structures imposed by an administering power.

These cases collectively support the argument that Scotland qualifies for consideration under the UN decolonization framework. If territories such as New Caledonia, French Polynesia, Tokelau, and Gibraltar remain under C-24 supervision despite varying degrees of self-administration, Scotland's claim for inclusion is both legally sound and politically justified. The existence of a devolved government does not negate Scotland's right to self-determination under international law, particularly when the UK government retains unilateral control over Scotland's constitutional future. By drawing upon these comparative precedents, Scotland's case can be presented as a legitimate and urgent matter requiring UN oversight.

REQUEST FOR RECOGNITION AND INCLUSION IN THE UN LIST OF NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES

In light of the legal arguments and historical precedents outlined in this submission, JPTi respectfully submits this Advance Notice of a formal request to the Special Committee on Decolonization (C-24) to take the necessary steps to recognize Scotland's status as a Non-Self-Governing Territory under the framework established by the United Nations. The principle of self-determination enshrined in the UN Charter and successive General Assembly resolutions obligates the international community to ensure that all peoples subjected to external control are afforded a legitimate pathway to determine their political status free from obstruction by an administering power.

Given the compelling evidence demonstrating Scotland's continued governance under external authority, its lack of full self-government, and the systematic denial of its right to self-determination, the formal request will urge the C-24 to take the following actions: First, that Scotland be formally recognized as a Non-Self-Governing Territory within the UN decolonization framework, in accordance with the legal criteria set forth in Resolution 1541 (XV) (1960) and the principles articulated in Resolution 1514 (XV) (1960). The evidence presented in this submission establishes that Scotland satisfies the requirements for classification as a territory that has not yet achieved a full measure of self-government and therefore qualifies for inclusion on the UN list of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

Second: that the C-24 recommend to the United Nations General Assembly that Scotland be placed on the official UN list of Non-Self-Governing Territories. Precedents such as New Caledonia, French Polynesia, and Tokelau demonstrate that territories with distinctive legal, historical, and political identities - despite being administered by larger states - may be granted recognition under the decolonization framework when clear evidence is provided that their self-governance is restricted or denied. Scotland's continued subordination to Westminster's legislative authority, the UK Supreme Court's ruling against Scotland's right to

hold a self-determination referendum, and the absence of any legal mechanism by which Scotland can exercise a unilateral exit from the United Kingdom all underscore the necessity for UN intervention.

The failure of the UK government to fulfill its obligations under Article 73 of the UN Charter further justifies Scotland's inclusion as a Non-Self-Governing Territory. We shall request that the United Kingdom, as the administering power, be formally reminded of its obligations under **Article 73 of the UN Charter**, which requires all Member States administering Non-Self-Governing Territories to submit regular reports to the United Nations on the political, economic, social, and educational conditions of such territories. The UK submits such reports for territories like Bermuda and Gibraltar but has not done so for Scotland, despite clear evidence that Scotland lacks full self-government. The UK has systematically refused to acknowledge Scotland as a Non-Self-Governing Territory, despite Scotland's distinct legal and political identity and the growing democratic mandate for self-determination. This selective application of international obligations highlights the need for UN intervention to ensure consistency in the recognition of dependent territories. Should Scotland be formally placed on the UN list of Non-Self-Governing Territories, the UK would be required to fulfill its reporting obligations, providing transparency on its governance over Scotland and facilitating an eventual process of decolonization under international supervision.

In light of these considerations, Justice pour Tous Internationale will urge the Special Committee on Decolonization to initiate proceedings for the recognition and inclusion of Scotland in the UN list of Non-Self-Governing Territories in accordance with its mandate. Doing so will uphold the United Nations' commitment to the principles of self-determination, ensure compliance with international legal obligations and provide the Scottish people with a legitimate pathway to determine their own political future under the established decolonization framework. Justice pour Tous Internationale (JPTi), therefore, respectfully advises that it will request the following actions in accordance with the mandate of the Special Committee on Decolonization (C-24):

1. That Scotland be formally recognized as a Non-Self-Governing Territory under the UN decolonization framework.
2. That the C-24 recommend to the General Assembly that Scotland be placed on the list of Non-Self-Governing Territories.
3. That the UK be formally requested to fulfil its reporting obligations under Article 73 of the UN Charter regarding Scotland's political and constitutional status.

CONCLUSION

Scotland's political and constitutional status within the United Kingdom meets all established criteria for recognition as a Non-Self-Governing Territory under international law. The historical circumstances of its incorporation into the UK, the lack of a constitutional mechanism for unilateral withdrawal, and the repeated suppression of its right to self-determination all substantiate the claim that Scotland remains under external governance and domination. The evidence presented in this submission demonstrates that Scotland fulfils the conditions outlined in **UN General Assembly Resolution 1541 (XV) (1960)**, as it is geographically distinct, possesses a unique legal and cultural identity, and has been systematically denied full self-government.

Furthermore, the UK government has actively obstructed Scotland's right to self-determination, in contravention of **UN General Assembly Resolution 1514 (XV) (1960)**, which explicitly states that "all peoples have the right to self-determination" and that the "subjection of peoples to alien subjugation, domination and exploitation constitutes a denial of fundamental human rights."

The refusal of the UK government to permit a legally binding independence referendum, coupled with the ruling of the UK Supreme Court preventing Scotland from unilaterally deciding its future, reinforces the claim that Scotland does not exercise a full measure of self-government and is therefore subject to external control.

The Special Committee on Decolonization (C-24) has been entrusted with the responsibility of identifying and addressing cases where the right to self-determination is being denied. By the 10th of March 2025, JPTi will formally request that Scotland's case be given due acknowledgement and consideration in advance of the petition requesting that appropriate steps be taken to include Scotland in the UN list of **Non-Self-Governing Territories**. By doing so, the UN would uphold its decolonization mandate, ensure compliance with international legal principles, and affirm the Scottish people's right to determine their own political future through a transparent and legally recognized process.

In anticipation of the coming petition, JPTi urges the **Special Committee on Decolonization**, in accordance with the commitments of its mandate, to investigate the question of Scotland's status as a dependency, not a voluntary partner integrated within a larger state, and to consider the necessary procedures for Scotland's recognition as a Non-Self-Governing Territory. Ultimately, by this action the UN will ensure that Scotland's case is addressed under the established UN framework, reaffirming its commitment to **self-determination, decolonization, and the promotion of fundamental human rights**.

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Attachments:

1. Scotlands Colonial Markers - an Executive Summary with Illustrations
2. Scotland's Colonial Markers – An Illustrative Sample
3. Scotland - A Dependency by Definition
4. Exhaustion of the Democratic and Legal Domestic Routes
5. Scotland's Liberation Movement
6. Selected Key Member Statements Supporting the Petition
7. Letter of Authorization

LIBERATION SCOTLAND

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF COLONIAL MARKERS

Taken by Fraud, Held Down by Force and Kept Down by Fear

“The most potent weapon in the hands of the oppressor is the mind of the oppressed.”

— Steve Biko

For several centuries from the Middle Ages to the modern era, England's elites sought to conquer neighbouring Scotland and English foreign policy toward Scotland was always aimed at ultimate conquest, ownership and control, through numerous wars and subterfuge.

The 1707 Anglo-Scottish 'Union', implemented before democracy was introduced, was wholly rejected by the mass of the Scottish people at the time, and only signed by Scotland's elite representatives under duress and bribery after further threat of military force by England.

But this Union was no more than annexation, Scots being merely another colonized people handed a worthless treaty that was immediately and ever since, violated. As a consequence, Scotland and its people have been, and remain today, subject to an extensive range of colonial procedures severely damaging to the development of its people and the nation itself.

This includes mass population displacement, ethnic oppression and discrimination against the indigenous native people and culture which was in large part revenge for the 18th century wars of independence to end the union and English rule.

Colonialism always involves hateful racism and also leads to internalized racism impacting the minds of the colonized group. And we know that through this process, ethnic oppression becomes normalized in the colonial setting due to pathological impacts and a colonial mindset that determines the passivity and acceptance of the colonized group.

Demographic and economic under-development of Scotland has been a continuous theme relative to the 'core' nation England within the UK internal colonialism model. Colonialism resulted in a constant 'planned' loss of population in Scotland over three centuries, whilst Westminster policies emphasized both economic expansion and population growth just across the border in England. At the time of Union, England's population was five times that of Scotland; today it is ten times.

Cultural substitution of Scotland into a 'North Britain' region was attempted but has stalled. However, colonial cultural assimilation created a cultural hegemony favouring the dominant Anglophone culture and values emphasising private ownership, private profit and the individual, in contrast to Scots' traditional cultural norms of protecting society and the common good.

The administering Power uses 'divide and rule' policies to split the Scottish people, with Gael-Scots and Catholics set against Pict/Lowland-Scots and Protestants, and vice versa. This is continued today with the administering Power passing the Gaelic Language Act in 2005, but with no equivalent Scots Language Act nor resources for the benefit of the bulk of the people who still speak Scots, their mother tongue.

State and institutional restrictions prevent many Scots from accessing their own elite universities now operating as international businesses which prioritise Anglophone and higher fee students from outside Scotland. Scots fill only a minority of places at postgraduate level and especially in doctoral study. This in turn means there are very few Scottish academics and professors working in Scotland's universities, only around 1 in 10, and reducing. Today the Scots are a people deprived of opportunity in their own land, resulting in significant under-development of the native population and culture.

Racism is therefore evident in this as in any colonial framework and this includes constant attempts by the colonizer to debase the colonized group. Although often obscured, racism becomes institutionalized in any colonial society. As was common with Ireland and the Irish until recently, the Scot is the victim of endless English jokes and ridicule even at the highest levels of government, media and society, including within Scotland itself.

Historical instances of oppression and genocidal acts are downplayed or denied in any authoritative colonial narrative usually written by colonialists. The promotion of Scots language and culture is ridiculed rather than prioritized. A colonised society therefore remains burdened and oppressed through social and linguistic prejudice and segregation favouring the dominant imposed Anglo (i.e. colonial) culture and its own values and symbols, and where Scottish history, culture and heritage are diminished, forgotten, and replaced through Anglo domination.

All the while, external economic plunder of Scotland continues, which is the main purpose of colonialism. This is now accelerating once more with the colonizing power moving to grasp the impending vast Scottish renewable energy bonanza; just as it did in the 1970s when Scotland's oil and gas began to flow, pushing hundreds of billions of Scotland's pounds into London's Treasury over the last half century and more, with not a penny in royalties paid to the real owner, the Scottish people (in stark contrast to Norway's Sovereign Wealth Fund, established for the benefit of its citizens, and today earning over £200 billion in interest annually).

After Scotland was annexed and colonised, the Scottish army was absorbed into England's colonial army, just like the Indian, Kenyan, Nigerian and Irish soldiers and others too, and used to suppress other peoples, as well as their own. These soldiers were considered 'no great loss if they fell' as they were deployed in the deadly work expanding England's Empire. The deployment of colonial armies including Scottish soldiers to fight England's numerous foreign wars (over 180 conflicts) also had the dual purpose of removing the prospect of civil unrest within impoverished colonies from where recruits were sourced. Unlike Scotland, Ireland has avoided some 80 of

England's colonial conflicts since its independence a century ago. The Scots have likewise had enough of England's imperial warring.

Whenever colonialism is imperilled, 'it reveals its fangs' (Fanon), confirming that 'colonialism is force'. Reflections from the administering Power's own Senior Civil Servants (UK Cabinet Constitution Director) confirm that the UK Government's relationship with Scotland is colonial; that is, it is based on force, not consent; that the UK seeks only to deny Scots their inalienable right to Self-Determination, and; that the UK 'voluntary union' is and always has been a pretence, i.e. a cruel hoax.

Daniel Defoe, one of England's early 18th Century spies propagandising in favour of the Union, stated in an essay addressed to English parliamentarians and merchants that "the advantages of this Union shall be greater to England than to Scotland". During the 1920s, government papers confirmed that the UK Treasury kept almost three-quarters of revenues raised in Scotland, the latter having to make do with just 28% of its own money. The same remains true today where Scots are forced to make do with an annual block grant of £43 billion from Westminster whilst consideration of Scotland's artificially low GDP-per-capita (compared with its near neighbour independent countries, e.g. Denmark, Norway, Ireland) indicates that a colonial price is still being remitted in the opposite direction in the order of £150 billion (or more) each year.

Scotland's international export trade today remains vastly under-developed compared to our near neighbours, due to a lack of investment in and control over the nation's major seaports, which the administering Power has sold to foreign-owned offshore corporations; the latter impose high charges on ships and cargo which discourages trade. Scotland's major exporting heavy industries have been shut down and its commercial businesses allowed to be acquired, rationalised or closed by external interests, leaving its economy externally-dependent, weak and vulnerable.

Meantime Scotland's 'domestic' UK trade is fully exploited by the administering Power, particularly the energy sector (oil and gas, renewables) which it dominates, with zero royalties remitted back to Scotland for extraction of its resources. Similarly, the bulk of Scotland's imports are transported via one single source – England – with goods and services arriving at high/monopoly prices, including Scotland's home-produced energy for consumption by Scottish households and businesses at the highest retail prices in the world.

Approximately two-thirds of Scotland's entire trade is dominated by England in this way which means Scotland derives little benefit and great disadvantage from a one-sided colonial trading arrangement. Like many former English colonies (e.g. Ireland, Australian, Canada), after independence Scotland will need to reorient its trade away from an exploitative 'mother country' towards other nations; this necessitates rapid decolonization and an end to Scotland's industries, economy and people being forced to serve primarily its dominant oppressors' economic needs under duress.

Scotland's pre-Union history was as a friendly trading nation in Europe, which is in stark contrast to an aggressive anti-European England, the latter almost continually at war with European states, as it was with Scotland, for most of its history.

Scotland's Latin and Presbyterian, Legal and Educational culture and traditions which emphasise protection and improvement of society and the common good, also align more closely with that of European states, and far less with the Anglo-Saxon culture of England which prioritises private ownership, private profit, and the utility of the individual.

Scotland's culture, traditions and heritage are therefore distinctly far more European /Latin than Anglo-Saxon, as reflected in a substantial majority vote by Scots in 2016 to remain in the European Union, a democratic decision disrespected and blocked by the administering Power; hence Scots find their position within the UK Union charade to be no more than subject to an aggressive form of Cultural Imperialism and oppression, leaving the people bystanders in their own land.

Still a Non-Self-Governing Territory in its full meaning, the Scots people and nation remain subject to the constant imposition of a range of colonial procedures and propaganda, often obscured by the pretence and hoax of Union. The repeated blocking of Scottish self-determination by the administering Power is a blatant denial of the human rights of the Scottish people and a violation of the 1960 UN 'Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples' and subsequent Resolutions.

Scotland also exhibits many of the poor health characteristics of a colonised people separated from their own resources and dislocated from their culture and with half the population living in or close to poverty levels. This includes lower life expectancy, high addiction levels, a range of illnesses, suicides, mental disorder, homicides and a high prison population (the highest in Western Europe).

Scotland is administered by an elite running its institutions which is for the most part culturally assimilated, Anglophone and holding to English values. This arrangement is fostered through a segregated, colonial (i.e. private) school education system and restricted access (in favour of elites) to elite universities for the more privileged group. Combined with colonial elites appointed from the 'mother country', together they make up the institutional elite and cultural hegemony that controls and directs Scotland's national institutions, and which reflects a different culture and values from the indigenous Scots-speaking people.

The steady and increasing desire for independence in Scotland is also to do with 'a peoples' growing awareness of their oppression, as well as their national culture / consciousness amidst ongoing questioning of an imposed dominant culture and identity; and therein lies the 'colonial hoax' and cultural illusion that is 'Britishness', which a great many former colonies have since discarded. This cultural illusion applies in the same way to Scots as it does to so many other colonized peoples and nations around the world who were sold the rather novel idea that they could all be 'British' (or rather English), and hence acquire a far 'superior' and more valued

cultural and national identity than that of their own, by implication, 'inferior' ethnic group.

Yet still Scotland's administering Power, in an effort to keep its colonial racket going, and following a dubious and one-sided referendum process in 2014, insists that: despite Ireland's partial liberation, no constituent part is allowed to leave the UK; that the UK government insists that it can block any and every lawful path to Scottish independence if it wishes to; that insofar as Scotland has a right to national self-determination, it is for Westminster, not Scotland, to decide when – and if – that right is to be exercised; and that Westminster has made a choice to disallow the exercise of that right to national self-determination for an indefinite period, in spite of repeated explicit majority votes of Scots in favour of it.

And so, it is here that Scotland and the rest of the world are entitled to draw – must draw – from these messages the conclusion that the UK is not and never has been a voluntary union of different nations. That the resistance of Westminster means the Union is neither voluntary nor one of consent. That because self-determination of Scots is being denied, the United Kingdom is holding the Scots by force of UK law. And hence, by implication, the Scots are, in truth, a colonized people who retain their inalienable right to self-determination, to be an independent nation (again), to decolonize, and to be liberated from oppression and exploitation as a matter of urgency.

Colonial Markers in Scotland (post-1707): *extract from full list*

Colonial Marker 1: Military Threat, Invasion, Subjugation.

1708: Military Occupation of Scotland – commenced immediately after the 1707 Anglo-Scottish Union. English government troops forcibly suppressed anti-Union protests across Scotland and subsequent pro-Jacobite uprisings in 1715 and 1745/46, including at the Battle of Culloden (near Inverness) in April 1746.

The 1708 Treason Act was introduced to establish the dominion of the English Crown over the Scottish Crown (rather than a 'united crown'). Imposition of English law in Scotland was a direct violation of the terms of the Treaty of Union. It enabled the violent suppression and deliberate destruction of Scotland's ancient Highland clan society by government military forces during the mid-18th Century.

Military occupation was enabled by construction of an extensive network of military roads, bridges, army barracks, fortifications and strategic garrison towns across the whole of Scotland, to facilitate access and movement by government armies. By 1746 there was an extensive network of new military garrisons established across Scotland (**Figure 1**).

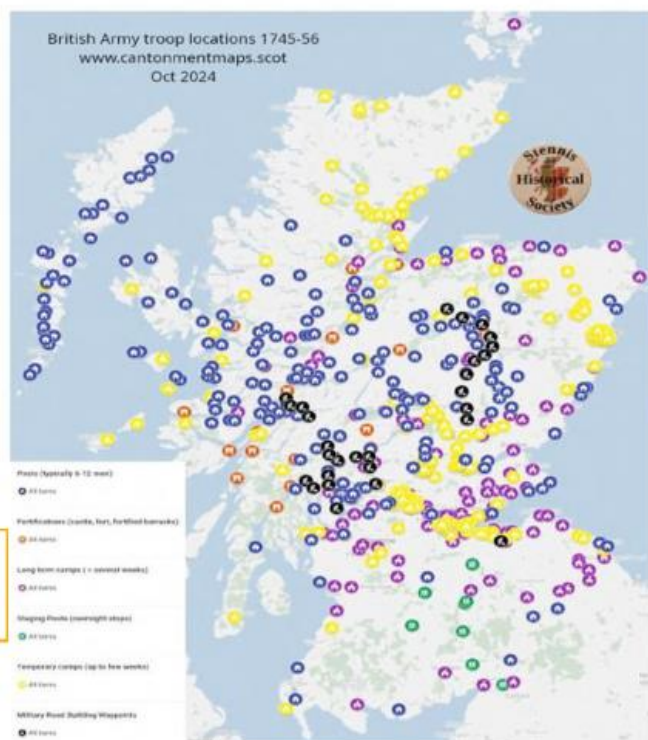


Fig. 1. Cantonment types and locations

Reference: Hansard/House of Commons Library, letters, orders. Stennis Historical Society.
https://archive.org/details/CantonmentsOfTheBritishArmyInScotland_1745-56_V3_0/page/n17/mode/2up

Post-1746: Military Occupation, Subjugation and War Crimes – decades of brutal military occupation of the Scottish Highlands following the Battle of Culloden, combined with new government laws to outlaw and eradicate the native language (Gaelic), dress, music, religion and customs, effectively destroyed Scotland's ancient system of clans.⁽¹⁾ The brutality of the English Occupation from 1746 has largely been written out of Scottish history along with the records of the overwhelming popular opposition to England's colonisation of Scotland under the pretext of a union.

The extent and duration of the 18th Century military occupation of Scotland and the severity of the conditions imposed on Scots and the orders issued to the troops, reflect not a partnership but a brutal occupation and subjugation. The extent of this military occupation is illustrated by the map of government troop garrisons across the Highlands and Lowlands of Scotland post-1746 (**Figure 1**). Details of this military occupation are not described in any detail by conventional history books and relevant contemporary materials have largely remained unstudied until now.

(1) <https://cranntara.scot/clear.htm>

Colonial Marker 2: Ethnic Cleansing, Displacement, Settler Occupation.

Post-1746: Destruction of the Scottish Clan system and initiation of the Scottish Land Clearances – For centuries prior to 1746, Scottish Clan chiefs held significant judicial and administrative control over their territories and maintained the autonomy of the ancient clan system. Immediately after the Battle of Culloden, the Anglo-British state commenced a programme to forcibly remove indigenous Scots from their land to benefit the colonial elite.

This was initially enabled by the **1746 Heritable Jurisdictions (Scotland) Act**, the primary purpose of which was to dismantle the traditional judicial powers held by Scottish Clan chiefs and other hereditary Scottish landholders and farmers and consolidate legal authority in the English Crown and its appointed officials. This centralised legal and landholding system replaced Scottish law and practice with that of England and enabled the removal of existing hereditary land holders and farmers from their farms and holdings.

This Act followed English, not Scots laws which vigorously protected land holder rights. The formal introduction of tenancy as a legal and economic concept in Scotland began with the post-1745 reforms, particularly through the Heritable Jurisdictions Act and the Agricultural Improvements. This transition marked

the shift from traditional clan-based landholding to the modern tenancy system familiar today.

Using this new Act, the Administering Power sought to dismantle the clan system and bring the Highlands under direct legal and economic control. (1) Under the clan societal system, clan Chiefs held land on behalf of the clan, and tenants and sub-tenants had traditional, often unwritten rights to the land they worked. The relationship was primarily one of kinship and obligation rather than formal contracts. Tenure was customary, and rents were often paid in kind (e.g. livestock or produce) rather than cash.

Violating the terms of the Treaty of Union, the Heritable Jurisdictions Act (2) abolished the authority of clan chiefs and replaced it with the English tradition of tenancy under which the tenant was entirely at the mercy of the landowner.

Thereafter, the 'comprador' class of Scots elites, trusted and rewarded by the colonising Anglo-British State, was permitted to operate as chiefs and landlords and convert traditional clan obligations into cash rents. This removal of traditional rights allowed the first phase of the 'Clearances' to begin – resulting in more than two centuries of atrocity, inhumanity and ethnic cleansing (3), much of which has been misrepresented or removed entirely from the record - and from popular Scottish national consciousness.

(1) <https://www.heritagedaily.com/2022/07/the-collapse-of-the-scottish-clan-system/144184>

(2) [Heritable Jurisdictions \(Scotland\) Act 1746https://www.legislation.gov.uk/apgb/Geo2/20/43/introduction](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/apgb/Geo2/20/43/introduction)

(3) Tom Devine, *The Scottish Nation 1700-2000*, Penguin Books, London 1999. P.468

<https://books.openedition.org/pus/10139>

1846-1856: Famine, combined with Land Clearances - triggered a new wave of mass emigration of impoverished Scots (mainly to North America, Australia and New Zealand) and ongoing rural depopulation in Scotland.

As traditional access by the native rural Scots population to their historic land and sea resources became increasingly restricted during the 18th and early 19th centuries, food scarcities became more common, culminating in the '**Highland Potato Famine**' of **1846-56** in which tens of thousands of rural Scots starved to death. (1)

The Scottish potato blight of 1846 to 1856 caused starvation among the rural highland population. Instead of taking measures to prevent starvation, the British Government used the opportunity that was afforded by the vulnerability of the Scottish population to continue to clear peasant Scots off their land. As a result, many thousands became homeless and wretched.

The famine offered a 'win-win' situation for the Administering Power who offered destitute landless Scots subsidised passage to the English colonial settlements in Canada, Australia and New Zealand. The cleared land could now be readily populated with more profitable sheep and other livestock. (2)

Following the famine, the new Landlords, with government support sought to reduce the population and alleviate economic pressures, often facilitating and financing the relocation.

The potato blight and famine of the 1840s also greatly afflicted Ireland (which was also in an enforced incorporating union with England at the time) and where similar social and land use conditions prevailed.

(1) [Malcolm Gray - The Highland Potato Famine of the 1840s](#)

(2) [Wikipedia -Highland Clearances](#)

1851: Scottish Land Clearances – Forced Emigration of Scots. Poor economic conditions in the mid-19th Century coincided with the return of the thousands of Scots who had fought for the British Army in the Napoleonic wars. The elite ruling classes considered that forced emigration could solve the problem of unemployment and in 1851, the government passed the Emigration Advances Act to assist landlords finance emigration by their tenants.

As well as the removal of the indigenous Scots peasant population, prime land was the prize for depopulation. Landlords served inhabitants with notices of eviction to which there was little right of appeal and evictions went ahead. No one was safe from forcible eviction during the second half of the 19th Century. (2)

Forced emigration followed years of famine and hardship. Landlords, who had replaced the old clan landholding system, resulting in the potato monoculture, blight and famine, were offered financial incentives to 'assist' emigration of the poor from their estates. The Administrative Power mouthpiece, 'The Scotsman' newspaper went as far as to condone '*the removal of a diseased and damaged part of our population.*' (1)

One landlord is quoted as saying that "*it would be absolute insanity not to take advantage of the present opportunity of getting rid of our surplus population*".

In the words of Scotland's leading historian, Tom Devine, *Scotland was the "emigration capital of Europe" for most of the nineteenth century.*

(1) Quoted in T. M. Devine, *The Great Highland Famine*, Edinburgh: John Donald Publishers, 1988, p. 250.

(2) [Example text of Writ of Removal](#)

1920s – 1970s: Empire Settlement Act 1922 - British Government legislation to encourage emigration to the

Colonies and Dominions (particularly Canada, Australia and New Zealand) to promote the economic well-being of the Empire as a whole.

The Act was extended in 1937, and again in 1952, 1957, 1962 and 1967.

The British State resettlement scheme subsidised transport cost and targeted Scots to move to British overseas colonies during much of the 20th Century. Scottish out-migration on per capita basis was at least 8-times higher than England, so movement was specifically targeted at Scots. (1)

While England's population continued to grow throughout the 20th century to in excess of 50 million, Scotland's population remained at around 5 million.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Empire_Settlement_Act_1922

1701-2024: Steady Scots Demographic Collapse.

Scotland's population growth has dramatically failed to keep pace with England over 300 years of 'Union'. In 1701, Scotland's population was 21% that of England; in 2025 that proportion has fallen to less than 10%.

Scots emigration between 1825 and 1938 was around 2.3 million i.e. 55% of the average population of the period. No European country except Ireland (also colonised by England) suffered this level of population loss. (5) In total Scotland under the Union has been depopulated to the extent of around 4 million people; 72% of its present population; 100,000 in the 18th Century; 1.8 million in the 19th Century and 2 million in the 20th Century up to 1970. Without emigration, Scotland might have had a population of 8-10 million today. In contrast, England's population has grown consistently and substantially.

An illustration of Scotland's demographic trend by comparison to England, Ireland and 5 similarly sized European countries is shown in Figure 2 (1)(2). From 21% of England's 5.2m in 1701, Scotland's relative population has fallen to 9.6% of England's 57m today. It has remained practically flat since 1951, while England's grew in the same period by nearly 40%. Ireland's population indicates 63% growth in this same 75 year time-frame, after also suffering as an English colony for centuries. The light grey lines show the population growth of 5 other European countries. Comparing the growth over the full 323 year period, Scotland grew by a multiple of 5 compared to England's 11. The average for the 5 mainland European states meanwhile is 6.5.

Despite Scotland's advanced level of industrial development in the 19th and 20th centuries, its population flatlined during the 20th Century - in stark contrast with England's spectacular growth and also neighbouring European nations who have all exhibited steady growth during this period, (**Figure 2, p.16**)

Scots emigrants were typically skilled workers and their constant loss over three centuries has suppressed Scotland's national development.

(1) Population data collected online with verification checks from (typically) <https://www.statista.com/statistics/975956/population-of-england/>

(2) [Chart of Comparative Demograph Trends](#)

(3) Christopher Harvie, *No Gods ad Precious Few Heroes* 3rd ed, Ed. Univ. Press, 65-66

(4) [Geoffrey Barrow. Inaugural Lecture. University of Edinburgh. 11 Dec 1980](#)

(5) Marjorie Harper, *Adventures in Exile: The Great Scottish Exodus*, Profile Books, 2004.

Colonial Marker 3: Cultural and Linguistic Imperialism, Cultural Genocide and Cultural Assimilation.

1707 – 2025: Linguistic Imperialism and Linguicide.

The Scots are a distinct ethnic group and Scotland has two indigenous languages, i.e. Scots, and Gaelic, which were both widely spoken in Scotland at the time of the Anglo-Scottish Union. The period since the Union has seen a substantial long-term decline in the speakers of Scotland's indigenous languages, due to a combination of discrimination, punishment, lack of teaching and neglect by the Anglo-British state authorities.

Linguistic Imperialism marginalizes and destroys indigenous languages; results in the death of a language ('linguicide') and with that, the removal or significant diminishing of a minority people's sense of national identity. (9) The degradation of Scotland's indigenous languages has been an outcome of the Anglo-Scottish Union.

The 2011 Scottish census recorded that there remained only around 1.6 million people in Scotland who speak Scots, out of a total population of 5.6 million people, i.e. less than 30 percent. Some 70 percent of the Scottish population now primarily Anglophone.

Although state provision for Scotland's small minority Gaelic speaking community (around 50,000 people) is provided (Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005, TV channel, funding), the larger Scots-speaking community continues to be ignored. The Scots language (3) is not taught to the Scottish people. (4) The British state has effectively deprived Scots of properly learning their own mother language, preventing them from fully absorbing the main ingredient and basis of their national identity.

Loss of language undermines a people's sense of identity and sense of belonging, which is an established aim and feature of colonialism. (10) The result of this is that many Scots today have a confused or dual (also false) national identity – British and Scottish – and hence a dual persona. (5) Its ultimate demise is inevitable when it is not taught or given authority, as is the case with the Scots language.

In seeking to justify only the English language being taught to Scots in school, British educationalists, even until recently, maintained that Scots was not a 'valid' language (6); this is ethnic discrimination and an abuse of a people's human rights – i.e. the right to one's own language, or 'mother tongue'. (7) The Council of Europe in its minority language reports has repeatedly criticised the UK and Scottish Governments for failing to teach and give authority to the Scots language. (8) Despite this, the indigenous language of Scots remains ignored by British State authorities, including its devolved Scottish administration responsible for education of the people.

Because Scotland's native language and culture forms the basis of our national consciousness, (11) without these aspects a people's motivation for nationhood and sovereignty is sorely diminished. Language policy in Scotland within an Anglophone dominated social and cultural hierarchy aims to deprive Scots of their language, to kill it off, and diminish the desire for Scottish nationhood and self-determination.

The cultural objective of the Anglo-British State towards the Celtic nations (Scotland, Wales, Ireland) has been to make them ever more Anglophone and Anglicised, as part of a long-established imposed colonial language educational policy. (12)

In this regard the native bourgeoisie, including the teaching profession, have generally been the most receptive group toward such a colonial policy, which is necessary for them to maintain their socio-economic status and privileges. Postcolonial theory tells us that native elites and bourgeoisie are eager to cast off their supposedly inferior indigenous native language and culture and to embrace (i.e. mimic) that of the colonizer's, reflecting the fact that colonialism is always a co-operative venture. (13)

Motivation for cultural assimilation is also heavily influenced through the promotion of negative stereotypes of native (i.e. Scots) speakers supplanted in people's minds via colonial media, broadcasting and educational policy. Culture and language are key factors in formation of national identity (15).

(1) Mike Medeiros. "Redefining the Influence of Language on National Attachment: Exploring Linguistic Threat Perceptions in Quebec." *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics* 23, No. 4, (2017): 375-390

(2) John M. Lipski. *Varieties of Spanish in the United States*. Washington DC: Georgetown University Press, 2008

(3) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scots_language

(4) Billy Kay. *Scots – The Mither Tongue*. Edinburgh: Mainstream Publishing, 2006

(5) Tom Devine. "Carving out a Scottish Identity." 2013.

<https://blogs.sps.ed.ac.uk/referendum/carving-out-a-scottish-identity>

(6) Basil B. Bernstein. *Class, Codes and Control: Volume 1 – Theoretical Studies Towards A Sociology Of Language*. London: Routledge and Kegan, 1971

(7) Billy Kay, *Scots – The Mither Tongue*, 20

(8) Council of Europe. "European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages: Fifth Report of the Committee of Experts in respect of the United Kingdom." 2020 Secretary General's reports on the application of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (coe.int)

(9) Phillipson, *Linguistic imperialism and linguicism*.

(10) Iain A. MacKinnon. "Education and the colonisation of the Gaidhlig mind." *Bella Caledonia*. December 3, 2019. <https://bellacaledonia.org.uk/2019/12/03/education-and-the-colonisation-of-the-gaidhlig-mind/>.

(11) Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth*, 198

(12) Michael Hechter. *Internal Colonialism: The Celtic Fringe in British National Development*. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, 2017

(13) Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth*, 48

(14) Memmi, *The Colonizer and the Colonized*, 151

(15) Patricia A. Shaw. "Language and Identity, Language and the Land." *BC Studies – The British Columbian Quarterly*, No. 131 (Autumn 2001): 39-55

(16) Ross Bond. "National identities and the 2014 independence referendum in Scotland." *Sociological Research Online* 20, No. 4, (2015): 92-104. <https://doi.org/10.5153/sro.379>

(17) Hechter, *Internal Colonialism: The Celtic Fringe in British National Development*, 356

(18) David Ross. *Scotland: History of a Nation*. New Lanark: Lomond Books, 2008; Baird, Doun-Hauden: *The Socio-Political Determinants of Scottish Independence*, 261

1889-2025 Anglicisation of Scotland's Higher Education.

The traditional Scottish approach to Education emphasized broad philosophical foundations and 'first principles' thinking across disciplines, reflecting Enlightenment ideals and close connections to Continental European universities, particularly German ones, which in turn emulated aspects of Scottish education. Yet, in Empire, and even post-Empire Britain, Scottish education has been portrayed as reactionary and constricting. "Grimly authoritarian and narrow" (1) was the verdict of one of Scotland's most distorting historians, the Kentish import to Scotland's higher education establishment, T.C. Smout.

The Scottish philosopher George Davie explored in more serious and sensitive detail the emphasis placed on philosophy and debate from 'first principles' in the native Scots academic tradition, before the implantation of teaching more compliant with English culture, which came in full force with the 1889 Commission that led to the Universities (Scotland) Act 1889. Of that Act, Davie wrote damningly: "*the Scottish heritage could much more easily be retained in a fossilised, static form, incapable of giving much trouble, than in a developing condition in which it might — from the British point of view — prove embarrassingly alive. Accordingly, the Commission's prime contribution to education was to suggest the introduction of a dual system which ordained the coexistence, side by side in the same institutions, of a Scottish principle which represented the national inheritance but which was to have little or no future, and of an English principle to which, in spite of its alien character, the future was to belong.*" (2)

The future, Davie says, was to belong to England, observing of Scotland's intelligentsia the abasement into dependency on English cultural modes:

“the only points of view about education or culture which are taken seriously by responsible Scots are those which are reckoned respectable and fashionable over the border.” (3)

Craig Beveridge and Ronald Turnbull are clear about the impulse behind the narrowing of Scottish education to suit English imperial demands:

“those aspiring to swell the ranks of organisers and specialists required for the new Imperial Britain were relieved of the burden of doing compulsory philosophy and, instead, were given a narrower type of training which left them intellectually indistinguishable, or almost so, from the southern product – at any rate provided that, after taking their Scottish degree, they spent a year or two at Oxford or Cambridge acquiring the necessary polish”. (4)

Scottish philosopher John Anderson (1893-1962), Professor of Philosophy at the University of Sydney from 1927 to 1958 and the other leading historian of Scottish education, shared Davie’s sense of loss of a great Scottish educational tradition under the wheels of the juggernaut of Empire: of the highly distinctive system of intellectual values inherited by Scotland from the (pre-Union) Reformation and the (post-Union) Enlightenment, Anderson asked:

“whether this unique legacy of a philosophically centred system of education was to be vitalised to meet the challenges of the times, or allowed to die out finally and forever.” (5)

Liberation Scotland is asking the question “will it be vitalise or allowed to die out finally and forever” of every aspect of this ancient nation’s cultural, linguistic, social and political life. Given the very low proportion of Scottish Academics at Scotland’s Universities (**Figure 3, p.16**), it has today become more urgent than ever.

1) Smout, T.C. (1986) *A Century of the Scottish People 1830-1950*. London: Collins, p. 216

(2) Davie, George (1961) *The Democratic Intellect: Scotland and Her Universities in the Nineteenth Century*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press p. 79

(3) Ibid p. 8

(4) Beveridge, C. and Turnbull, R. (1989) *The Eclipse of Scottish Culture*. Edinburgh: Polygon, p.78.

(5) George Davie, ‘John Anderson in Scotland’, *Quadrant*, (Sydney) July 1977

Colonial Marker 4: Colonial Administration.

2000 – 2025: England’s continued subjugation, domination and exploitation of Scotland in the 21st century. The continued colonization of Scotland by England took a more subtle and nuanced form in the 21st century. In 1999 when the Scottish Parliament was set up, England’s continued political and administrative control of Scotland was ensured by the reserving of all key functions to England’s Westminster Parliament via the **“Reserved Matters”**.

The effect of the Reserved Matters is that Scotland is not self-governing or politically autonomous and that England is able to continue to subjugate, dominate and exploit Scotland. This includes the exploitation of Scotland’s land and assets, the alteration of Scotland’s territorial boundaries, the sale of national assets and infrastructure to private companies at below market value prices, the adoption of discriminatory pricing and the imposition of unfair taxes and the adoption of laws and regulations that benefit England at the expense of Scotland. All of these actions and more, taken together, have removed the ability of the Scottish nation to prosper economically.

The extent of these reserved powers over Scotland (around 70% of Westminster’s legislative programme) is emphasised below.

“Reserved Matters”, set out in the Scotland Act 1998 amount to around 70% of the UK government’s annual legislative programme. They include all of the key political, economic and fiscal levers of state. These are:

1. Constitutional matters: The Crown, Union of Scotland and England, UK Parliament
2. Foreign affairs: International relations, EU relations, Defence, National security
3. Economic and fiscal matters: Monetary policy, Currency, Financial services, Most taxation, National insurance, Public service borrowing
4. Home affairs: Immigration, Border control, Drug policy, Data protection, National security, Counter-terrorism
5. Energy: Nuclear energy, Electricity, Coal, Oil and gas, Energy regulation
6. Transport: Aviation, Railways, Road traffic law, Marine transport
7. Employment: Employment rights, Industrial relations, Health and safety
8. Social Security: Most welfare benefits, Pensions
9. Broadcasting: BBC, Media regulation
10. Equal opportunities legislation.

Colonial Marker 5: Colonial Exploitation.

1940s, 1950s, 1960s: Misuse of Scottish sovereign territory for biological warfare and experimental nuclear testing. During the mid-20th Century the Anglo-British state located experimental biological and nuclear testing programmes in remote parts of north and west Scotland.

Anthrax: during World War II the UK Ministry of Defence tested Anthrax bombs on the island of Gruinard, located 1km off the NW Scottish mainland. Gruinard Island (1) was compulsorily purchased by the UK Ministry of Defence in 1941 and outdoor anthrax experiments conducted with little concern for the safety of local people. Contamination from this toxic

bacterium was recorded 1km away on the mainland. Clean up proved difficult and the island was finally declared safe only 50 years later.

Yersinia Pestis (Plague): In 1952, the UK Ministry of Defence conducted peacetime trials of bubonic and pneumonic plague on a ship moored in waters around the Isle of Lewis (the main inhabited island of the Hebrides), for biological warfare trials and with near disastrous consequences. (2),(3).

Dounreay Experimental Fast Breeder Nuclear Reactor - was built in 1955 by the UK Atomic Energy Authority, on Scotland's northern coastline near the town of Thurso. It was the first experimental reactor of its type and bred fissile plutonium for the British government's nuclear weapons programme. Radioactive waste was dumped locally for 18 years and although the facility is being decommissioned, it is likely that there will be restricted use of this site for several hundred years.

The experimental Dounreay Fast Breeder Reactor was located on Scotland's northern coastline, since the population was lower than that of alternative suitable areas considered in England. No consultation was conducted in Scotland over the hazardous, controversial and prejudicial use of Scotland's sovereign territory for the production of nuclear energy - and weapons grade materials. Between 1959 and 1977 approx. 800m3 of mixed radioactive waste was dumped in an onsite shaft until an explosion resulted in seawater intrusion and leakage of radioactive materials into the surrounding coastal waters and sea bed, resulting in heavy and long term contamination. (4) A clean-up operation on this shaft is said to be in progress but is an extremely complex and lengthy engineering challenge. Dounreay itself is being demolished in a decommission project running to £2.6bn.

These examples illustrate the contempt of Scotland's colonising power towards Scotland's sovereign territory and its popular sense of a periphery remote from the metropolitan core considered suitable for the imposition of dangerous experimentation with little concern for the native population.

(1) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gruinard_Island

(2) [Press & Journal: Recalling when scientists tested bubonic plague in the Western Isles 70 years ago](#)

(3) <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC5041545/>

(4) [BBC: Dounreay: 'World's deepest nuclear clean-up' to begin](#)

(5) ['Most radioactive' particle found on beach near Dounreay](#)

1973: Closure of Scotland's Stock Exchanges and its longer-term consequences for Scotland's economy and industry. This closure moved the Scottish Stock Exchange (1) - the centre of investment business in Scotland - out of Scotland, and into England (mainly London), thus hampering attempts by Scottish businesses and industry to expand and invest in newer

technologies and leading many to seek investment from offshore entities that both assumed ownership and extracted profit from Scotland's economy.

The act of removing a fundamental instrument of trade, Scotland's Stock Exchange was executed at a time of growing Scottish economic expansion, as the development of Scotland's vast North Sea oil and gas reserves was just commencing. Financial control was deliberately moved south to benefit England, with professional services following suit - an act of manifest harm to the Scottish economy. Scottish ownership and control of any significant aspect of the oil and gas industry was thus thwarted.

This colonising appropriation of the assets of Scotland has continued through current, externally funded activity in renewables generation and energy storage development particularly under the tax-incentives of the Freeports and Special Economic Zones in Scotland; schemes of deepening external economic control imposed upon Scotland by the UK Government.

This comment from Energy Voice describes the impact: *"this lack of financial support combined with politically driven ideological indifference meant that we never really became a supplier of sector critical hardware and when we did the companies concerned generally found itself turning to overseas sources of finance or simply selling themselves to an overseas company or private equity outfit to be able to fund their next stage of development It's surprising how many companies we think of as being "local" are in fact overseas owned by virtue of a corporate or private equity buy out."* (2) The article continues: *"A study by Momentous Change Ltd last year into the viability and potential for a new Scottish stock exchange noted that the last Scottish exchange closed in 1973 and was merged into the London Stock Exchange. Had it survived it would have enabled Scottish companies to raise capital, buy productive assets and grow in Scotland, helped ensure liquidity and of course to help in the overall scaling up process. Norway, Denmark, and other small countries have stock exchanges for these very reasons and it's not a coincidence they're already outperforming Scotland in developing energy transition technology."*

(1) [Wikipedia - the Scottish Stock Exchange](#)

(2) [Financing the Transition: Why not a Scottish stock exchange?](#)

(3) [The McCrone Report on Scotland's Oil Reserves, from The National newspaper](#)

1999: Transfer of 15,500 km2 of Scotland's internal waters and territorial seas, to England. This changed the existing established maritime boundary between Scotland and England in the North Sea in England's favour. And permits exploitation of historical Scottish

maritime resources (including fisheries and mineral rights) by UK government for the benefit of England.

It was enabled by passing of the Adjacent Waters Boundaries Order 1999 as a statutory instrument of the UK government. (1) This redefined the boundaries of internal waters, territorial sea, and fishing limits adjacent to the east coast of Scotland without the consent of the Scottish people (**Figure 4**). (2)

(1) <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1999/1126/contents/made>

(2) <https://www.craigmurray.org.uk/archives/2012/01/scotlandengland-maritime-boundaries/>

Figure 4: Impact of Adjacent Waters Boundaries Act 1999



1970s – 2025: Colonial Economic Plunder – Oil & Gas and Renewable Energy; the realities of an energy-rich Scotland plundered under colonial rule.

This concerns the theft (“exported” with an insignificant fraction of the proceeds coming to Scotland) of Scotland’s vast oil and gas wealth, which is still ongoing, and with much of Scotland’s gas production also used to support England’s gas-powered electricity generation.

It also concerns Scotland’s vast renewable energy production which is being plundered (“exported” at no cost to the importing country) for use in England.

In the 18th Century, England’s greatest resource was wool, which generated one-third of its foreign exports. No-one could imagine Scotland the ‘voluntary partner’ helping itself to England’s great wool resource, as any more credible than Scotland taking over a 20th Century City of London. In contrast, Scotland, the ‘voluntary partner’, has had its oil, gas and renewables removed in right of an English Crown, and limited revenue, obscurely arrived at, delivered back to it. Scotland’s Claim of Right does not permit our territory and resources to be plundered in this fashion, any more than the trade assurances of the Treaty of Union deemed theft an equitable trade practice. It falls on the ‘United Kingdom’ to demonstrate a valid partnership agreement which might justify any of this. Or accept it is justified

by nothing more than the imposition of a foreign, colonizing sovereignty.

Scotland’s renewable energy production is calculated to have a retail value of at least £60 billion per annum by 2030, based on UK prices of around £0.30 per kWh. And, given expected additional production, we might reasonably project this ‘resource’ will have a retail value exceeding £100 billion per annum shortly, i.e. every year for at least the next 30 years, and probably much longer.

Scots will not see or benefit from any of this as we would have done with a state-owned energy company and better management of our resources. In Scotland, high electricity prices are the norm and that will not change under London rule, which in turn also limits the future social and economic prospects of Scots. Scotland’s vast renewable energy capacity is, just like our oil and gas, geared mostly to serving the needs of England’s far greater population. As much as 90% of this production is planned to directly supply England via cables already laid and in the process of being laid. As is the case with oil and gas, Scots will not see much, if any, financial benefit from this ‘business’.

But the effects from exploitation of Scotland’s resources does not end there. Whilst resources are extracted cheaply from a colony, supplies to the colonized country are priced high. Which means a colonized people get hit twice – the theft of their resources AND being made to suffer higher prices for goods and services supplied back to them by the Coloniser and the corporations and market “regulators” who control the (rigged) ‘market’.

In order to illustrate and prove this reality, we compare colonial Scotland’s domestic electricity prices with other oil and gas rich countries which are independent (**Figure 5**). Most of these, like Scotland, also now have a strong focus on developing renewable energy capacity. The data in the table below tells us that, as part of the UK, Scotland’s electricity price of US\$0.44 per kWh (2023) is far higher than all of the world’s major oil producing nations (e.g. USA \$0.17 per kWh and Norway just \$0.11 per kWh.)

Norway’s low electricity prices have enabled it to build over 100 electric ferries; and 90% of all new car registrations there are electric. In several other oil rich nations electricity prices are only about one tenth of that in Scotland, with some very close to zero! So Scotland is unique amongst the world’s oil & gas producing nations, suffering from extremely high electricity prices imposed via London rule.

Figure 5: Household electricity prices worldwide in September 2023, for major oil + gas producing countries (in U.S. dollars per kilowatt-hour):

Country	U.S. dollars per kilowatt-hour
Scotland/UK	0.44
USA	0.17
Mexico	0.12
Norway	0.11
UAE	0.08
Russia	0.06
Venezuela	0.05
Saudi Arabia	0.05
Qatar	0.03
Nigeria	0.02
Iran	0.02

Colonial Marker 6: Denial of Self-Determination.

2014: A false referendum on Scottish independence. A referendum was held in Scotland on 18 September 2014, using the referendum question "Should Scotland be an independent country?". 55% of voters answered "No" and 45% "Yes".

The referendum used an open franchise; this included people with temporary residences or loose ties to Scotland being allowed to vote on the constitutional future of Scotland.

The result of the 2014 Westminster-designed local-authority franchise-based non-binding "referendum" (1) did not provide a true picture of the desire for independence among indigenous Scots or residents with a proven long-term commitment to Scotland. This franchise is acceptable for domestic municipal affairs but not for national constitutional matters, as these should be reserved for indigenous Scots and those with a proven long-term commitment to Scotland and its people.

The referendum was managed by the UK's devolved administration in Scotland (Holyrood) and covered by the 'national' UK media in Scotland (including the BBC

and newspapers based outside of Scotland) who were visibly biased in favour of a 'No' vote.

Given the media bias (2) and the breaching of the campaigning "purdah" period and the new initiatives/'bribes' offered by UK politicians as inducements to vote "No" late in the campaign period (3), the 2014 referendum was clearly a 'performative' exercise by UK authorities to mask a substantive and comprehensive denial of the democratic right of the Scots to self-determination.

By simulating a democratic expression of that right, the 2014 independence referendum result was used to try to convince the international community that Scotland is indeed a voluntary partner in a union of nations and wishes to remain there by consent, which is not the case for the majority of Scots.

(1) <https://www.emb.scot/scottish-independence-referendum-2014-3/scottish-independence-referendum-18-september-2014/10>

(2) <https://www.eupublishing.com/doi/abs/10.3366/scot.2016.0150>

(3) <https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/politics/inside-vow-how-historic-daily-6464878>

2016: Scots Denied National Choice in EU

Referendum. In holding the referendum, the UK government did not acknowledge or respect the legitimate sovereignty of Scotland and as a result, Scotland under force by the UK government left the EU in January 2020 after 47 years of membership (along with the rest of the UK) despite clearly voting to remain and against its national democratic will.

EU exit (Brexit) provides further direct and clear evidence of denial of Scotland's sovereignty and democratic agency within the so-called "voluntary partnership" of the United Kingdom. With less than 10% of the UK population, the views and choices made by Scots are simply overruled, systematically and without consultation, by the administering Anglo-British state, where these diverge from those of England. This is in breach of England's obligations under the Claim of Right and the comprehensively abused, discredited and never-implemented Treaty of Union.

Scotland, as an independent state had enjoyed several hundred years of peaceful trading and cultural interchange with the countries of mainland Europe. This is reflected in the rich presence of European language roots in the Scots tongue, the Latin influence in Scots Law, and religious influences. During most of this period England was at war with much of Europe as well as with Scotland.

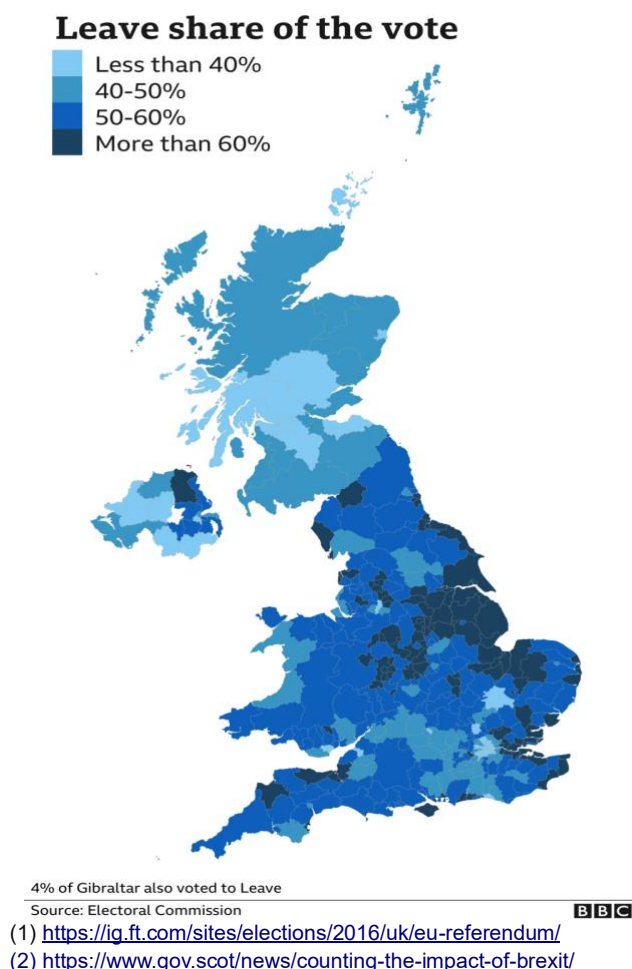
In other words Scotland's culture, traditions and heritage are distinctly far more European/Latin than Anglo-Saxon, and hence we find domination by the latter to be no more than an aggressive form of Cultural Imperialism and hence oppression, with our people and

nation subject to the constant imposition of a range of colonial procedures obscured by the pretence/hoax of union.

Scotland was removed from membership of the European Single Market and the Customs Union by the UK government against its democratic will and is suffering from very significant and adverse economic, cultural and demographic impacts from this decision.(2)

2016 UK referendum on membership of the European Union, 62% of the electorate in Scotland voted to remain in the EU, with a majority of voters in all Scottish regions voting in favour of continued membership (**Figure 6**).(1)

Figure 6 'Brexit' Referendum Results



Colonial Marker 7: Shared features of Colonized Societies.

Introduction

Frantz Fanon's book *The Wretched of the Earth* (1961) established how colonial violence creates intergenerational psychological trauma which manifests as persistent anxiety and depression in colonized populations. This was expanded by Ashis Nandy's *The*

Intimate Enemy (1983) which shows how colonialism creates a psychological framework of self-hatred and cultural alienation that continues to affect health behaviours long after formal colonialism ends.

This psychological impact combines with material deprivation, as described by Albert Memmi (1957), where economic marginalization and social degradation become internalized, leading to what is now recognized as historical trauma response - visible in high rates of substance abuse and mental health issues across generations. Memmi specifically identifies how the systematic denigration of native languages and cultural practices creates what he terms a "psycho-existential complex", where a colonized people internalize their supposed inferiority, leading to self-alienation and profound psychological damage. Nandy deepens this analysis by exploring how colonialism operates through the "intimate enemy" of cultural and linguistic dominance, creating a psychological state where the colonized begin to view their own cultural practices and language as backward or primitive.

Memmi's cultural dualism has become a salient and much debated feature in Scottish literature and culture where it is often expressed through what's known as the "Caledonian antisyzygy" - a term coined by G. Gregory Smith in 1919 to describe the dual nature of Scottish identity and its literature. Post-colonial literature is only beginning to impact on this ongoing debate and, indeed, to reveal the true source of this much discussed phenomenon.

The accompanying interplay of physical health with historical trauma response, inferiorisation and lack of acceptance is today widely understood. Michael Marmot's *Status Syndrome* (Bloomsbury 2004) <https://tinyurl.com/257c86g6> demonstrates that health outcomes follow a clear social gradient, where lower social status consistently correlates with poorer health, independent of absolute poverty.

This relationship operates through multiple interconnected pathways: reduced autonomy and control over life circumstances reinforces chronic stress; limited social participation weakens support networks; restricted opportunities for full societal engagement reduce access to health-promoting resources.

These factors create a self-reinforcing cycle, a feedback loop where lower status augments biological stress responses leading to poorer health outcomes which in turn further diminish social participation and control, perpetuating health inequalities across generations.

2000s: Scotland's Health Crisis – an Ongoing Colonial Legacy. With an average life expectancy at birth of just 77.1 years (and in the most deprived areas only 47 years) Scotland lags comparable European states by 6.4%.

All other indicators underperform England and show marked negative variance from the European nation average. Scotland suffers between 4 and 5 times the European average for drug deaths. Alcohol deaths are nearly 3 times the European average.

This should be a matter of alarm not only to the UK government's arm in Scotland (Holyrood) but to the UK government itself. Instead, it is used as a stick to beat those administering Scotland, chastising them for not achieving more with consistently less financial resources and with no direct access to Scotland's own resources. No consideration is ever given to the root cause of this malaise, the colonial landscape, or any thought of how to alleviate it.

As Michael Mammot shows, it is futile to try to cure these ills by a general lifting of prosperity, even if economic conditions permitted and the Administering State state were willing to do so. A comprehensive societal reset is demanded that will relieve native Scottish society, much of it exposed to the health and welfare conditions described here, from an externally-imposed cultural divide to replace it with the more equitable society for which they consistently vote.

Sir Harry Burns, the former chief Medical Officer of Scotland, highlighted the reputation of Scotland as being “the sick man of Europe” (Burns 2009) (2)

A comparison of key health indicators between Scotland and 5 other European countries including England - the others chosen for similarity of population, makes for a bleak picture. (Figure 7, p. 17) Scotland has the worst outcomes in all 10 of the categories examined; life expectancy, obesity, drug deaths, alcohol deaths, homicides, prison population, suicide, poor mental health, cancer mortality and smoking. Around 60% of Scotland's excess mortality stems from psycho-social causes: alcohol, drugs, violence and suicide. The remaining excess is mainly attributable to cancer, cardiovascular causes and stroke. (3)

Poor Dental Health Dental health is widely considered a valuable indicator of overall population health, as it provides a snapshot of socioeconomic conditions and generational patterns and correlates with other health metrics. The persistence of Scotland's deep oral health inequalities is highlighted here. (4) The Scottish Needs Assessment Programme on Adult Oral Health reported: “*The level of dental health in Scotland is poorer than in England and Wales with approximately one in five Scottish individuals over the age of 16 years having lost all their natural teeth, and almost all of the remainder having some form of gum disease. This is exaggerated by the fact that only a small proportion of population is registered with a dentist.*” (5)

(1) [Health indicators: Scotland compared with England and four small European states](#)

(2) [The Sick Man of Europe](#)

(3) www.longevity.co.uk

(4) <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41406-023-1008-9>

(5) https://www.scotphn.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/SNAP-Adult_Oral_Health.pdf

- executive summary

Figure 2: Population Growth Comparison 1701-2024

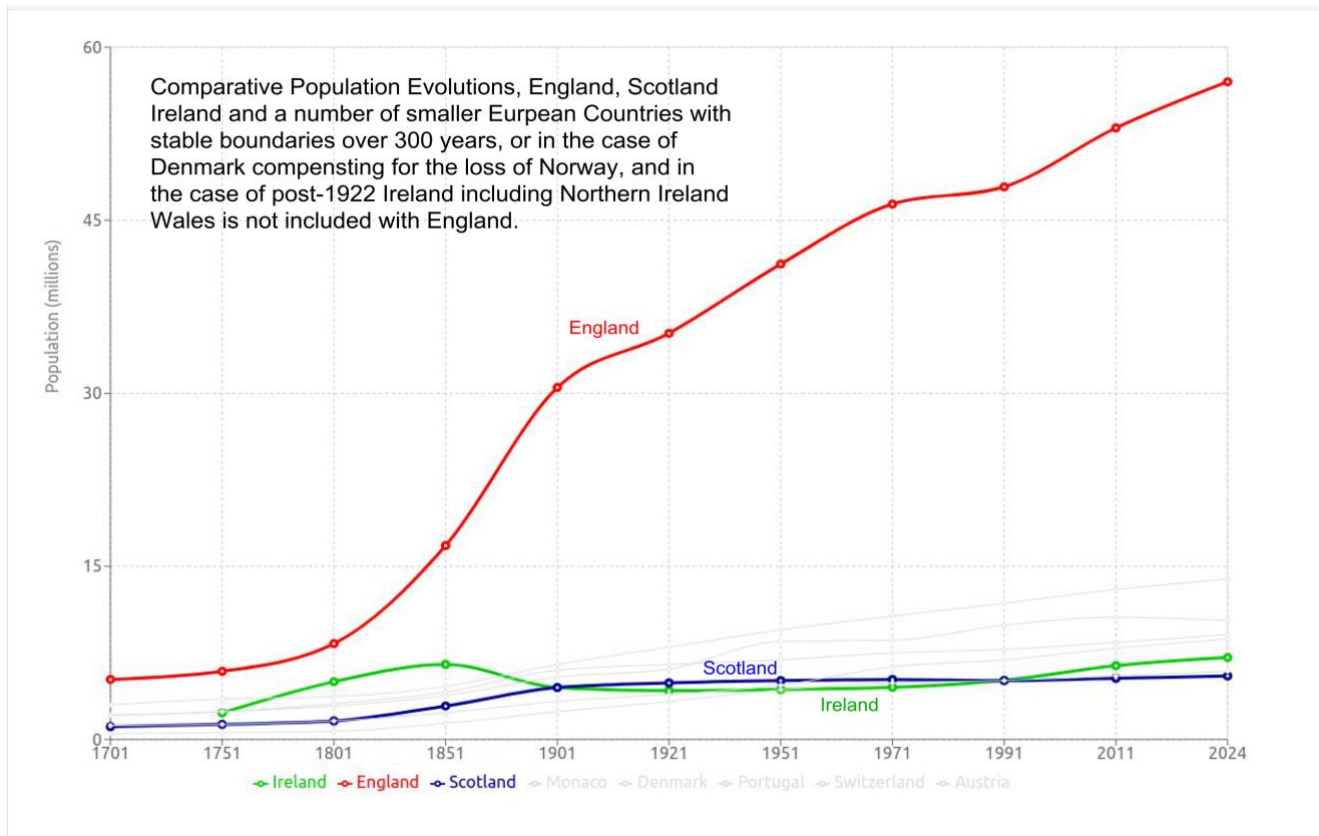


Figure 3: Proportion of Scottish Academics at Scottish Universities (2020)

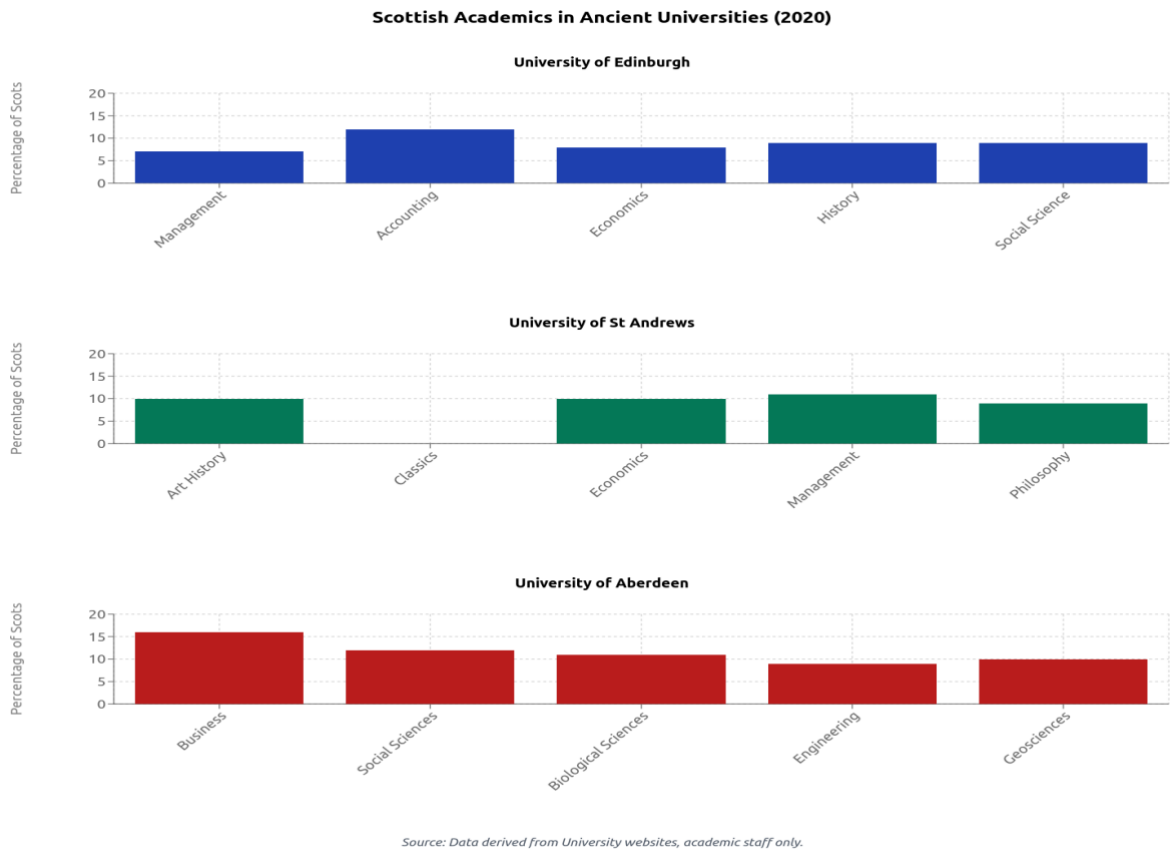
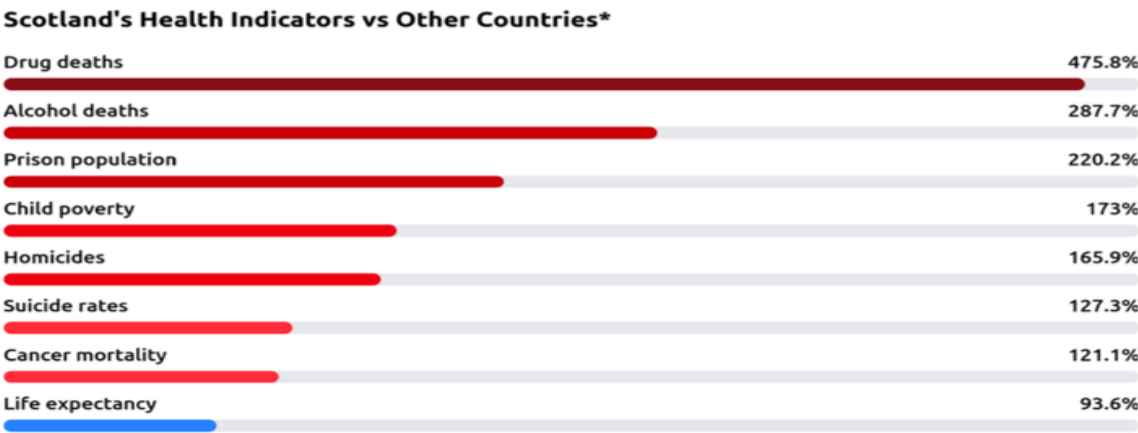


Figure 7: Population Growth Comparison 1701-2024



*Comparison ratio where other countries = 100%

Indicator	Scotland	England	Ireland	Norway	Denmark	Finland
Life expectancy (years)	77.1	81.3	82.6	83.2	81.6	82.0
Drug deaths (per million)	295	76	70	47	55	76
Alcohol deaths (per million)	205	140	115	43	62	65
Homicides (per 100,000)	1.7	1.1	0.9	0.6	1.0	1.6
Prison population (per 100,000)	136	132	77	56	63	51
Suicide rates (per 100,000)	14.8	10.7	12.1	11.8	9.2	13.4
Cancer mortality (per 100,000)	311	258	275	242	261	249
Child poverty (families >3 children) %	24	32	19.6	9.8	12.7	13.4

Sources: WHO European Gateway, OECD health statistics, ScotPHO, Eurostat, EMCDDA (2022-23), ONS, Irish CSO, Scottish Government

Colonial Markers in Scotland (post-1707): *extract from full list*

Colonial Marker 1: Military Threat, Invasion, Subjugation.

1708: Military Occupation of Scotland – commenced immediately after the 1707 Anglo-Scottish Union. English government troops forcibly suppressed anti-Union protests across Scotland and subsequent pro-Jacobite uprisings in 1715 and 1745/46, including at the Battle of Culloden (near Inverness) in April 1746.

The 1708 Treason Act was introduced to establish the dominion of the English Crown over the Scottish Crown (rather than a 'united crown'). Imposition of English law in Scotland was a direct violation of the terms of the Treaty of Union. It enabled the violent suppression and deliberate destruction of Scotland's ancient Highland clan society by government military forces during the mid-18th Century.

Military occupation was enabled by construction of an extensive network of military roads, bridges, army barracks, fortifications and strategic garrison towns across the whole of Scotland, to facilitate access and movement by government armies. By 1746 there was an extensive network of new military garrisons established across Scotland (Figure 1).

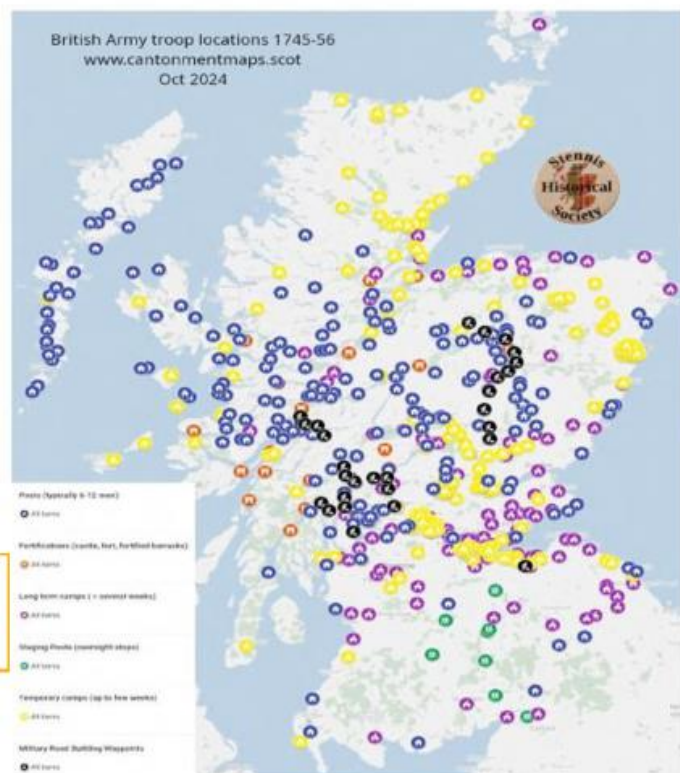


Fig. 1. Cantonment types and locations

Reference: Hansard/House of Commons Library, letters, orders. Stennis Historical Society.
https://archive.org/details/CantonmentsOfTheBritishArmyInScotland_1745-56_V3_0/page/n17/mode/2up

Post-1746: Military Occupation, Subjugation and War Crimes – decades of brutal military occupation of the Scottish Highlands following the Battle of Culloden, combined with new government laws to outlaw and eradicate the native language (Gaelic), dress, music, religion and customs, effectively destroyed Scotland's ancient system of clans.⁽¹⁾ The brutality of the English Occupation from 1746 has largely been written out of Scottish history along with the records of the overwhelming popular opposition to England's colonisation of Scotland under the pretext of a union.

The extent and duration of the 18th Century military occupation of Scotland and the severity of the conditions imposed on Scots and the orders issued to the troops, reflect not a partnership but a brutal occupation and subjugation. The extent of this military occupation is illustrated by the map of government troop garrisons across the Highlands and Lowlands of Scotland post-1746 (Figure 1). Details of this military occupation are not described in any detail by conventional history books and relevant contemporary materials have largely remained unstudied until now.

(1) <https://cranntara.scot/clear.htm>

Colonial Marker 2: Ethnic Cleansing, Displacement, Settler Occupation.

Post-1746: Destruction of the Scottish Clan system and initiation of the Scottish Land Clearances – For centuries prior to 1746, Scottish Clan chiefs held significant judicial and administrative control over their territories and maintained the autonomy of the ancient clan system. Immediately after the Battle of Culloden, the Anglo-British state commenced a programme to forcibly remove indigenous Scots from their land to benefit the colonial elite.

This was initially enabled by the **1746 Heritable Jurisdictions (Scotland) Act**, the primary purpose of which was to dismantle the traditional judicial powers held by Scottish Clan chiefs and other hereditary Scottish landholders and farmers, and consolidate legal authority in the English Crown and its appointed officials. This centralised legal and landholding system replaced Scottish law and practice with that of England and enabled the removal of existing hereditary land holders and farmers from their farms and holdings.

This Act followed English, not Scots laws which vigorously protected land holder rights. The formal introduction of tenancy as a legal and economic concept in Scotland began with the post-1745 reforms, particularly through the Heritable Jurisdictions Act and the Agricultural Improvements. This transition marked

the shift from traditional clan-based landholding to the modern tenancy system familiar today.

Using its new Act, the Administering Power sought to dismantle the clan system and bring the Highlands under direct legal and economic control. (1) Under the clan societal system, clan Chiefs held land on behalf of the clan, and tenants and sub-tenants had traditional, often unwritten rights to the land they worked. The relationship was primarily one of kinship and obligation rather than formal contracts. Tenure was customary, and rents were often paid in kind (e.g. livestock or produce) rather than cash.

Violating the terms of the Treaty of Union, the Heritable Jurisdictions Act (2) abolished the authority of clan chiefs and replaced it with the English tradition of tenancy under which the tenant was entirely at the mercy of the landowner.

Thereafter, the 'comprador' class of Scots elites, trusted and rewarded by the colonising Anglo-British State, was permitted to operate as chiefs and landlords and convert traditional clan obligations into cash rents. This removal of traditional rights allowed the first phase of the 'Clearances' to begin – resulting in more than two centuries of atrocity, inhumanity and ethnic cleansing, (3) much of which has been misrepresented or removed entirely from the record - and from popular Scottish national consciousness.

(1) <https://www.heritagedaily.com/2022/07/the-collapse-of-the-scottish-clan-system/144184>

(2) [Heritable Jurisdictions \(Scotland\) Act 1746https://www.legislation.gov.uk/apgb/Geo2/20/43/introduction](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/apgb/Geo2/20/43/introduction)

(3) Tom Devine, *The Scottish Nation 1700-2000*, Penguin Books, London 1999. P.468
<https://books.openedition.org/pus/10139>

1846-1856: Famine, combined with Land Clearances - triggered a new wave of mass emigration of impoverished Scots (mainly to North America, Australia and New Zealand) and ongoing rural depopulation in Scotland.

As traditional access by the native rural Scots population to their historic land and sea resources became increasingly restricted during the 18th and early 19th centuries, food scarcities became more common, culminating in the '**Highland Potato Famine**' of **1846-56** in which tens of thousands of rural Scots starved to death. (1)

The Scottish potato blight of 1846 to 1856 caused starvation among the rural highland population. Instead of taking measures to prevent starvation, the British Government used the opportunity that was afforded by the vulnerability of the Scottish population to continue to clear peasant Scots off their land. As a result, many thousands became homeless and wretched.

The famine offered a 'win-win' situation for the Administering Power who offered destitute landless Scots subsidised passage to the English colonial settlements in Canada, Australia and New Zealand. The cleared land could now be readily populated with more profitable sheep and other livestock. (2)

Following the famine, the new Landlords, with government support sought to reduce the population and alleviate economic pressures, often facilitating and financing the relocation.

The potato blight and famine of the 1840s also greatly afflicted Ireland (which was also in an enforced incorporating union with England at the time) and where similar social and land use conditions prevailed.

(1) [Malcolm Gray - The Highland Potato Famine of the 1840s](#)

(2) [Wikipedia -Highland Clearances](#)

1851: Scottish Land Clearances – Forced Emigration of Scots. Poor economic conditions in the mid-19th Century coincided with the return of the thousands of Scots who had fought for the British Army in the Napoleonic wars. The elite ruling classes considered that forced emigration could solve the problem of unemployment and in 1851, the government passed the Emigration Advances Act to assist landlords finance emigration by their tenants.

As well as the removal of the indigenous Scots peasant population, prime land was the prize for depopulation. Landlords served inhabitants with notices of eviction to which there was little right of appeal and evictions went ahead. No one was safe from forcible eviction during the second half of the 19th Century. (2)

Forced emigration followed years of famine and hardship. Landlords, who had replaced the old clan landholding system, resulting in the potato monoculture, blight and famine, were offered financial incentives to 'assist' emigration of the poor from their estates. The Administrative Power mouthpiece, The Scotsman newspaper went as far as to condone '*the removal of a diseased and damaged part of our population.*' (1)

One landlord is quoted as saying that "*it would be absolute insanity not to take advantage of the present opportunity of getting rid of our surplus population*".

In the words of Scotland's leading historian, Tom Devine, *Scotland was the "emigration capital of Europe" for most of the nineteenth century.*

(1) Quoted in T. M. Devine, *The Great Highland Famine*, Edinburgh: John Donald Publishers, 1988, p. 250.

(2) [Example text of Writ of Removal](#)

1920s – 1970s: Empire Settlement Act 1922 - British Government legislation to encourage emigration to the Colonies and Dominions (particularly Canada, Australia

and New Zealand) to promote the economic well-being of the Empire as a whole.

The Act was extended in 1937, and again in 1952, 1957, 1962 and 1967.

The British State resettlement scheme subsidised transport cost and targeted Scots to move to British overseas colonies during much of the 20th Century. Scottish out-migration on per capita basis was at least 8-times higher than England, so movement was specifically targeted at Scots. (1)

While England's population continued to grow throughout the 20th century to in excess of 50 million, Scotland's population remained at 5 million.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Empire_Settlement_Act_1922

1701-2024: Steady Scots Demographic Collapse.

Scotland's population growth has dramatically failed to keep pace with England over 300 years of 'Union'. In 1701, Scotland's population was 21% that of England; in 2025 that proportion has fallen to <10%.

Scots emigration between 1825 and 1938 was around 2.3 million i.e. 55% of the average population of the period. No European country except Ireland (also colonised by England) suffered this level of population loss. (5) In total Scotland under the Union has been depopulated to the extent of around 4 million people; 72% of its present population; 100,000 in the 18th Century; 1.8 million in the 19th Century and 2 million in the 20th Century up to 1970. Without emigration, Scotland might have had a population of 8-10 million today. In contrast England's population has grown consistently and substantially.

An illustration of Scotland's demographic trend by comparison to England, Ireland and 5 similarly sized European countries is shown below in Figure 2 (1)(2). From 21% of England's 5.2m in 1701, Scotland's relative population has fallen to 9.6% of England's 57m today. It has remained practically flat since 1951, while England's grew in the same period by nearly 40%. Ireland's population indicates 63% growth in this same 75 year time-frame, after also suffering as an English colony for centuries. The light grey lines show the population growth of 5 other European countries. Comparing the growth over the full 323 year period, Scotland grew by a multiple of 5 compared to England's 11. The average for the 5 mainland European states meanwhile is 6.5.

Despite Scotland's advanced level of industrial development in the 19th and 20th centuries, its population flatlined during the 20th Century - in stark contrast with England's spectacular growth and also neighbouring European nations (who have all exhibited steady growth during this period).

Scots emigrants were typically skilled workers and their constant loss over three centuries has suppressed Scotland's national development.

(1) Population data collected online with verification checks from (typically) <https://www.statista.com/statistics/975956/population-of-england/>

(2) [Chart of Comparative Demograph Trends](#)

(3) Christopher Harvie, *No Gods ad Precious Few Heroes* 3rd ed, Ed. Univ. Press, 65-66

(4) [Geoffrey Barrow. Inaugural Lecture. University of Edinburgh. 11 Dec 1980](#)

(5) Marjorie Harper, *Adventures in Exile: The Great Scottish Exodus*, Profile Books, 2004.

Colonial Marker 3: Cultural and Linguistic Imperialism, Cultural Genocide and Cultural Assimilation.

1707 – 2025: Linguistic Imperialism and Linguicide.

The Scots are a distinct ethnic group and Scotland has two indigenous languages, i.e. Scots, and Gaelic, which were both widely spoken in Scotland at the time of the Anglo-Scottish Union. The period since the Union has seen a substantial long-term decline in the speakers of Scotland's indigenous languages, due to a combination of discrimination, punishment, lack of teaching and neglect by the Anglo-British state authorities.

Linguistic Imperialism marginalizes and destroys indigenous languages; results in the death of a language ('linguicide') and with that, the removal or significant diminishing of a minority people's sense of national identity. (9) The degradation of Scotland's indigenous languages has been an outcome of the Anglo-Scottish Union.

The 2011 Scottish census recorded that there remained only around 1.6 million people in Scotland who speak Scots, out of a total population of 5.6 million people, i.e. less than 30 percent. Some 70 percent of the Scottish population now primarily Anglophone.

Although state provision for Scotland's small minority Gaelic speaking community (around 50,000 people) is provided (Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 ,TV channel, funding), the larger Scots-speaking community continues to be ignored. Loss of language undermines a people's sense of identity and sense of belonging, which is an established aim and feature of colonialism. (10)

The Scots language (3) is not taught to the Scottish people. (4) The British state has effectively deprived Scots of properly learning their own mother language, preventing them from fully absorbing the main ingredient and basis of their national identity. The result of this is that many Scots today have a confused or dual (also false) national identity – British and Scottish – and hence a dual persona. (5) Its ultimate demise is inevitable when it is not taught or given authority, as is the case with the Scots language.

In seeking to justify only the English language being taught to Scots in school, British educationalists, even until recently, maintained that Scots was not a 'valid' language (6); this is ethnic discrimination and an abuse of a people's human rights – i.e. the right to one's own language, or 'mother tongue'. (7) The Council of Europe in its minority language reports has repeatedly criticised the UK and Scottish Governments for failing to teach and give authority to the Scots language. (8) Despite this, the indigenous language of Scots remains ignored by British State authorities, including its devolved Scottish administration responsible for education of the people.

Because Scotland's native language and culture forms the basis of our national consciousness, (11) without these aspects a people's motivation for nationhood and sovereignty is sorely diminished. Language policy in Scotland within an Anglophone dominated social and cultural hierarchy aims to deprive Scots of their language, to kill it off, and diminish the desire for Scottish nationhood and self-determination.

The cultural objective of the Anglo-British State towards the Celtic nations (Scotland, Wales, Ireland) has been to make them ever more Anglophone and Anglicised, as part of a long-established imposed colonial language educational policy. (12)

In this regard the native bourgeoisie, including the teaching profession, have generally been the most receptive group toward such a colonial policy, which is necessary for them to maintain their socio-economic status and privileges. Postcolonial theory tells us that native elites and bourgeoisie are eager to cast off their supposedly inferior indigenous native language and culture and to embrace (i.e. mimic) that of the colonizer's, reflecting the fact that colonialism is always a co-operative venture. (13)

Motivation for cultural assimilation is also heavily influenced through the promotion of negative stereotypes of native (i.e. Scots) speakers supplanted in people's minds via colonial media, broadcasting and educational policy. Culture and language are key factors in formation of national identity (15).

(1) Mike Medeiros. "Redefining the Influence of Language on National Attachment: Exploring Linguistic Threat Perceptions in Quebec." *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics* 23, No. 4, (2017): 375-390

(2) John M. Lipski. *Varieties of Spanish in the United States*. Washington DC: Georgetown University Press, 2008

(3) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scots_language

(4) Billy Kay. *Scots – The Mither Tongue*. Edinburgh: Mainstream Publishing, 2006

(5) Tom Devine. "Carving out a Scottish Identity." 2013.

<https://blogs.sps.ed.ac.uk/referendum/carving-out-a-scottish-identity>

(6) Basil B. Bernstein. *Class, Codes and Control: Volume 1 – Theoretical Studies Towards A Sociology Of Language*. London: Routledge and Kegan, 1971

(7) Billy Kay, *Scots – The Mither Tongue*, 20

(8) Council of Europe. "European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages: Fifth Report of the Committee of Experts in respect of the United Kingdom." 2020 Secretary General's reports on the application of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (coe.int)

(9) Phillipson, *Linguistic imperialism and linguicism*.

(10) Iain A. MacKinnon. "Education and the colonisation of the Gaidhlig mind." *Bella Caledonia*. December 3, 2019. <https://bellacaledonia.org.uk/2019/12/03/education-and-the-colonisation-of-the-gaidhlig-mind/>.

(11) Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth*, 198

(12) Michael Hechter. *Internal Colonialism: The Celtic Fringe in British National Development*. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, 2017

(13) Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth*, 48

(14) Memmi, *The Colonizer and the Colonized*, 151

(15) Patricia A. Shaw. "Language and Identity, Language and the Land." *BC Studies – The British Columbian Quarterly*, No. 131 (Autumn 2001): 39-55

(16) Ross Bond. "National identities and the 2014 independence referendum in Scotland." *Sociological Research Online* 20, No. 4, (2015): 92-104. <https://doi.org/10.5153/sro.379>

(17) Hechter, *Internal Colonialism: The Celtic Fringe in British National Development*, 356

(18) David Ross. *Scotland: History of a Nation*. New Lanark: Lomond Books, 2008; Baird, Doun-Hauden: *The Socio-Political Determinants of Scottish Independence*, 261

1889-2025 Anglicisation of Scotland's Higher Education.

The traditional Scottish approach to Education emphasized broad philosophical foundations and 'first principles' thinking across disciplines, reflecting Enlightenment ideals and close connections to Continental European universities, particularly German ones, which in turn emulated aspects of Scottish education. Yet, in Empire, and even post-Empire Britain, Scottish education has been portrayed as reactionary and constricting. "Grimly authoritarian and narrow" (1) was the verdict of one of Scotland's most distorting historians, the Kentish import to Scotland's higher education establishment, T.C. Smout.

The Scottish philosopher George Davie explored in more serious and sensitive detail the emphasis placed on philosophy and debate from 'first principles' in the native Scots academic tradition, before the implantation of teaching more compliant with English culture, which came in full force with the 1889 Commission that led to the the Universities (Scotland) Act 1889.

Of that Act, Davie wrote damningly: "*the Scottish heritage could much more easily be retained in a fossilised, static form, incapable of giving much trouble, than in a developing condition in which it might — from the British point of view — prove embarrassingly alive. Accordingly, the Commission's prime contribution to education was to suggest the introduction of a dual system which ordained the coexistence, side by side in the same institutions, of a Scottish principle which represented the national inheritance but which was to have little or no future, and of an English principle to which, in spite of its alien character, the future was to belong.*" (2)

The future, Davie says, was to belong to England, observing of Scotland's intelligentsia the abasement into dependency on English cultural modes:

“the only points of view about education or culture which are taken seriously by responsible Scots are those which are reckoned respectable and fashionable over the border.” (3)

Craig Beveridge and Ronald Turnbull are clear about the impulse behind the narrowing of Scottish education to suit English imperial demands:

“those aspiring to swell the ranks of organisers and specialists required for the new Imperial Britain were relieved of the burden of doing compulsory philosophy and, instead, were given a narrower type of training which left them intellectually indistinguishable, or almost so, from the southern product – at any rate provided that, after taking their Scottish degree, they spent a year or two at Oxford or Cambridge acquiring the necessary polish”. (4)

Scottish philosopher John Anderson (1893-1962), Professor of Philosophy at the University of Sydney from 1927 to 1958 and the other leading historian of Scottish education, shared Davie’s sense of loss of a great Scottish educational tradition under the wheels of the juggernaut of Empire: of the highly distinctive system of intellectual values inherited by Scotland from the (pre-Union) Reformation and the (post-Union) Enlightenment, Anderson asked:

“whether this unique legacy of a philosophically centred system of education was to be vitalised to meet the challenges of the times, or allowed to die out finally and forever.” (5)

Liberation Scotland is asking the question “will it be vitalise or allowed to die out finally and forever” of every aspect of this ancient nation’s cultural, linguistic, social and political life. Given the very low proportion of Scottish Academics at Scotland’s Universities (Figure 3), it has today become more urgent than ever.

(1) Smout, T.C. (1986) *A Century of the Scottish People 1830-1950*. London: Collins, p. 216

(2) Davie, George (1961) *The Democratic Intellect: Scotland and Her Universities in the Nineteenth Century*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press p. 79

(3) *Ibid* p. 8

(4) Beveridge, C. and Turnbull, R. (1989) *The Eclipse of Scottish Culture*. Edinburgh: Polygon, p.78.

(5) George Davie, *John Anderson in Scotland*, Quadrant, (Sydney) July 1977

Colonial Marker 4: Colonial Administration.

2000 – 2025: England’s continued subjugation, domination and exploitation of Scotland in the 21st century. The continued colonization of Scotland by England took a more subtle and nuanced form in the 21st century. In 1999 when the Scottish Parliament was set up, England’s continued political and administrative control of Scotland was ensured by the reserving of all key functions to England’s Westminster Parliament via the **“Reserved Matters”**.

The effect of the Reserved Matters is that Scotland is not self-governing or politically autonomous and that England is able to continue to subjugate, dominate and exploit Scotland. This includes the exploitation of Scotland’s land and assets, the alteration of Scotland’s territorial boundaries, the sale of national assets and infrastructure to private companies at below market value prices, the adoption of discriminatory pricing and the imposition of unfair taxes and the adoption of laws and regulations that benefit England at the expense of Scotland. All of these actions and more, taken together, have removed the ability of the Scottish nation to prosper economically.

The extent of these reserved powers over Scotland (around 70% of Westminster’s legislative programme) is emphasised below.

“Reserved Matters”, set out in the Scotland Act 1998 amount to around 70% of the UK government’s annual legislative programme. They include all of the key political, economic and fiscal levers of state. These are:

1. Constitutional matters: The Crown, Union of Scotland and England, UK Parliament
2. Foreign affairs: International relations, EU relations, Defence, National security
3. Economic and fiscal matters: Monetary policy, Currency, Financial services, Most taxation, National insurance, Public service borrowing
4. Home affairs: Immigration, Border control, Drug policy, Data protection, National security, Counter-terrorism
5. Energy: Nuclear energy, Electricity, Coal, Oil and gas, Energy regulation
6. Transport: Aviation, Railways, Road traffic law, Marine transport
7. Employment: Employment rights, Industrial relations, Health and safety
8. Social Security: Most welfare benefits, Pensions
9. Broadcasting: BBC, Media regulation
10. Equal opportunities legislation.

Colonial Marker 5: Colonial Exploitation.

1940s, 1950s, 1960s: Misuse of Scottish sovereign territory for biological warfare and experimental nuclear testing. During the mid-20th Century the Anglo-British state located experimental biological and nuclear testing programmes in remote parts of north and west Scotland.

Anthrax: during World War II the UK Ministry of Defence tested Anthrax bombs on the island of Gruinard, located 1km off the NW Scottish mainland. Gruinard Island (1) was compulsorily purchased by the UK Ministry of Defence in 1941 and outdoor anthrax experiments conducted with little concern for the safety of local people. Contamination from this toxic

bacterium was recorded 1km away on the mainland. Clean up proved difficult and the island was finally declared safe only 50 years later.

Yersinia Pestis (Plague): In 1952, the UK Ministry of Defence conducted peacetime trials of bubonic and pneumonic plague on a ship moored in waters around the Isle of Lewis (the main inhabited island of the Hebrides), for biological warfare trials and with near disastrous consequences. (2),(3).

Dounreay Experimental Fast Breeder Nuclear Reactor - was built in 1955 by the UK Atomic Energy Authority, on Scotland's northern coastline near the town of Thurso. It was the first experimental reactor of its type and bred fissile plutonium for the British government's nuclear weapons programme. Radioactive waste was dumped locally for 18 years and although the facility is being decommissioned, it is likely that there will be restricted use of this site for several hundred years.

The experimental Dounreay Fast Breeder Reactor, was located on Scotland's northern coastline, since the population was lower than that of alternative suitable areas considered in England. No consultation was conducted in Scotland for the acceptability of the hazardous, controversial and prejudicial use of Scotland's sovereign territory for nuclear weapons purposes. Between 1959 and 1977 approx. 800m3 of mixed radioactive waste was dumped in an onsite shaft until an explosion resulted in seawater intrusion and leakage of radioactive materials into groundwater and the nearby coast, resulting in heavy contamination of the local environment. (4) A clean-up operation on this shaft is said to be in progress but is an extremely complex and long-term engineering challenge. Dounreay itself is being demolished in a decommission project running to £2.6bn.

These examples illustrate the contempt of Scotland's colonising power towards Scotland's sovereign territory and its popular sense of a periphery remote from the metropolitan core considered suitable for the imposition of dangerous experimentation with little concern for the native population.

(1) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gruinard_Island

(2) [Press & Journal: Recalling when scientists tested bubonic plague in the Western Isles 70 years ago](#)

(3) <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC5041545/>

(4) [BBC: Dounreay: 'World's deepest nuclear clean-up' to begin](#)

(5) ['Most radioactive' particle found on beach near Dounreay](#)

1973: Closure of Scotland's Stock Exchanges and its longer-term consequences for Scotland's economy and industry. This closure moved the Scottish Stock Exchange (1) - the centre of investment business in Scotland - out of Scotland, and into England (mainly London), thus hampering attempts by Scottish

businesses and industry to expand and invest in newer technologies and leading many to seek investment from offshore entities that both assumed ownership and extracted profit from Scotland's economy.

This damaging act of removing a fundamental instrument of trade, Scotland's Stock Exchange was deliberately imposed at a time of growing Scottish economic expansion, as the development of Scotland's vast North Sea oil and gas reserves was just commencing.

Financial control moved south to benefit England, with professional services following suit - an act of manifest harm to the Scottish economy. Scottish ownership and control of any significant aspect of the oil and gas industry was thus thwarted.

This trend is continuing through externally funded activity in renewables generation and energy storage developments accelerate at present, particularly under the tax-incentives of the Freeports and Special Economic Zones in Scotland; schemes of deepening external economic control imposed upon Scotland by the UK Government.

This comment from Energy Voice describes the impact:

"this lack of financial support combined with politically driven ideological indifference meant that we never really became a supplier of sector critical hardware and when we did the companies concerned generally found itself turning to overseas sources of finance or simply selling themselves to an overseas company or private equity outfit to be able to fund their next stage of development It's surprising how many companies we think of as being "local" are in fact overseas owned by virtue of a corporate or private equity buy out." (2)

The article continues: "A study by Momentous Change Ltd last year into the viability and potential for a new Scottish stock exchange noted that the last Scottish exchange closed in 1973 and was merged into the London Stock Exchange. Had it survived it would have enabled Scottish companies to raise capital, buy productive assets and grow in Scotland, helped ensure liquidity and of course to help in the overall scaling up process. Norway, Denmark, and other small countries have stock exchanges for these very reasons and it's not a coincidence they're already outperforming Scotland in developing energy transition technology."

(1) [Wikipedia - the Scottish Stock Exchange](#)

(2) [Financing the Transition: Why not a Scottish stock exchange?](#)

(3) [The McCrone Report on Scotland's Oil Reserves, from The National newspaper](#)

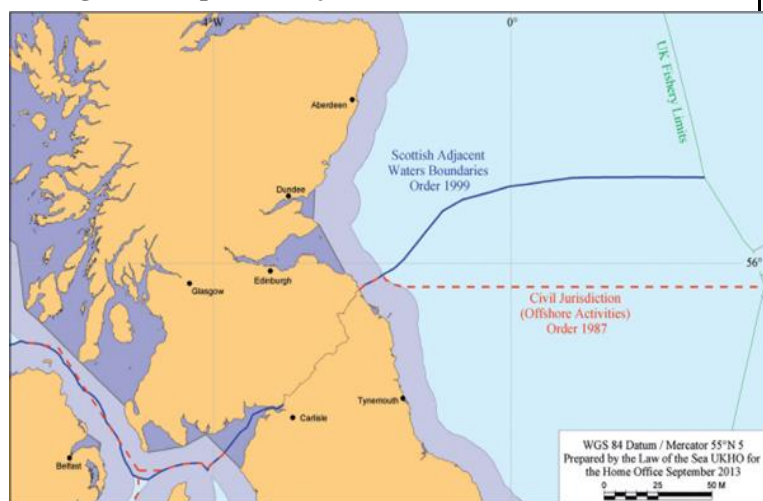
1999: Transfer of 15,500 km² of Scotland's internal waters and territorial seas, to England. This changed the existing established maritime boundary between Scotland and England in the North Sea in England's favour. And permits exploitation of historical Scottish maritime resources (including fisheries and mineral rights) by UK government for the benefit of England.

It was enabled by passing of the Adjacent Waters Boundaries Order 1999 as a statutory instrument of the UK government. (1) This redefined the boundaries of internal waters, territorial sea, and fishing limits adjacent to the east coast of Scotland without the consent of the Scottish people. (2)

(1) <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1999/1126/contents/made>

(2) <https://www.craigmurray.org.uk/archives/2012/01/scotlandengland-maritime-boundaries/>

Figure 4: Impact of Adjacent Waters Boundaries Act 1999



1970s – 2025: Colonial Economic Plunder – Oil & Gas and Renewable Energy; the realities of an energy-rich Scotland plundered under colonial rule. This concerns the theft (“exported” with an insignificant fraction of the proceeds coming to Scotland) of Scotland's vast oil and gas wealth, which is still ongoing, and with much of Scotland's gas production also used to support England's gas-powered electricity generation.

It also concerns Scotland's vast renewable energy production which is being plundered (“exported” at no cost to the importing country) for use in England.

In the 18th Century, England's greatest resource was wool, which generated one-third of its foreign exports. No-one could imagine Scotland the ‘voluntary partner’ helping itself to England's great wool resource, as any more credible than Scotland taking over a 20th Century City of London. In contrast, Scotland, the ‘voluntary partner’, has had its oil, gas and renewables removed in right of an English Crown, and limited revenue, obscurely arrived at, delivered back to it. Scotland's Claim of Right does not permit our territory and

resources to be plundered in this fashion, any more than the trade assurances of the Treaty of Union deemed theft an equitable trade practice. It falls on the ‘United Kingdom’ to demonstrate a valid partnership agreement which might justify any of this. Or accept it is justified by nothing more than the imposition of a foreign, colonizing sovereignty.

Scotland's renewable energy production is calculated to have a retail value of at least £60 billion per annum by 2030, based on UK prices of around £0.30 per kWh. And, given expected additional production, we might reasonably project this ‘resource’ will have a retail value exceeding £100 billion per annum shortly, i.e. every year for at least the next 30 years, and probably much longer.

Scots will not see or benefit from any of this of course, as we would have with a state-owned energy company and better management of our resources. In Scotland, high electricity prices are the norm and that will not change under London rule, which in turn also limits the future social and economic prospects of Scots.

Scotland's vast renewable energy capacity is, just like our oil and gas, geared mostly to serving the needs of England's far greater population; as much as 90% of this production is planned to directly supply England via cables already laid and in the process of being laid. Scots will not see much, if any, financial benefit from this ‘business’, as is the case with oil and gas.

But the effects from exploitation of Scotland's resources does not end there. Whilst resources are extracted cheaply from a colony, supplies to the colonized country are priced high. Which means a colonized people get hit twice – the theft of their resources AND being made to suffer higher prices for goods and services supplied back to them by the Coloniser and the corporations and market “regulators” who control the (rigged) ‘market’.

In order to illustrate and prove this reality, we compare colonial Scotland's domestic electricity prices with other oil and gas rich countries which are independent. Most of these, like Scotland, also now have a strong focus on developing renewable energy capacity. The data in the table below tells us that, as part of the UK, Scotland's electricity price of US\$0.44 per kWh (2023) is far higher than all of the world's major oil producing nations (e.g. USA \$0.17 per kWh and Norway just \$0.11 per kWh.)

Norway's low electricity prices have enabled it to build over 100 electric ferries; and 90% of all new car registrations there are electric. In several other oil rich nations electricity prices are only about one tenth of that in Scotland, with some very close to zero! So Scotland is unique amongst the world's oil & gas producing nations, suffering from extremely high electricity prices imposed via London rule.

Table 1: Household electricity prices worldwide in September 2023, for major oil+gas producing countries (in U.S. dollars per kilowatt-hour):

Country	U.S. dollars per kilowatt-hour
Scotland/UK	0.44
USA	0.17
Mexico	0.12
Norway	0.11
UAE	0.08
Russia	0.06
Venezuela	0.05
Saudi Arabia	0.05
Qatar	0.03
Nigeria	0.02
Iran	0.02

Colonial Marker 6: Denial of Self-Determination.

2014: A false referendum on Scottish independence. A referendum was held in Scotland on 18 September 2014, using the referendum question "Should Scotland be an independent country?". 55% of voters answered "No" and 45% "Yes".

The referendum used an open franchise; this included people with temporary residences or loose ties to Scotland being allowed to vote on the constitutional future of Scotland.

The result of the 2014 Westminster-designed local-authority franchise-based non-binding "referendum" (1) did not provide a true picture of the desire for independence among indigenous Scots or residents with a proven long-term commitment to Scotland. This franchise is acceptable for domestic municipal affairs but not for national constitutional matters, as these should be reserved for indigenous Scots and those with a proven long-term commitment to Scotland and its people.

The referendum was managed by the UK's devolved administration in Scotland (Holyrood) and covered by the 'national' UK media in Scotland (including the BBC

and newspapers based outside of Scotland) who were visibly biased in favour of a 'No' vote.

Given the media bias (2) and the breaching of the campaigning "purdah" period and the new initiatives/'bribes' offered by UK politicians as inducements to vote "No" late in the campaign period (3), the 2014 referendum was clearly a 'performative' exercise by UK authorities to mask a substantive and comprehensive denial of the democratic right of the Scots to self-determination.

By simulating a democratic expression of that right, the 2014 independence referendum result was used to try to convince the international community that Scotland is indeed a voluntary partner in a union of nations and wishes to remain there by consent, which is not the case for the majority of Scots.

(1) <https://www.emb.scot/scottish-independence-referendum-2014-3/scottish-independence-referendum-18-september-2014/10>

(2) <https://www.eupublishing.com/doi/abs/10.3366/scot.2016.0150>

(3) <https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/politics/inside-vow-how-historic-daily-6464878>

2016: Scots Denied National Choice in EU

Referendum. In holding the referendum, the UK government did not acknowledge or respect the legitimate sovereignty of Scotland and as a result, Scotland under force by the UK government left the EU in January 2020 after 47 years of membership (along with the rest of the UK) despite clearly voting to remain and against its national democratic will.

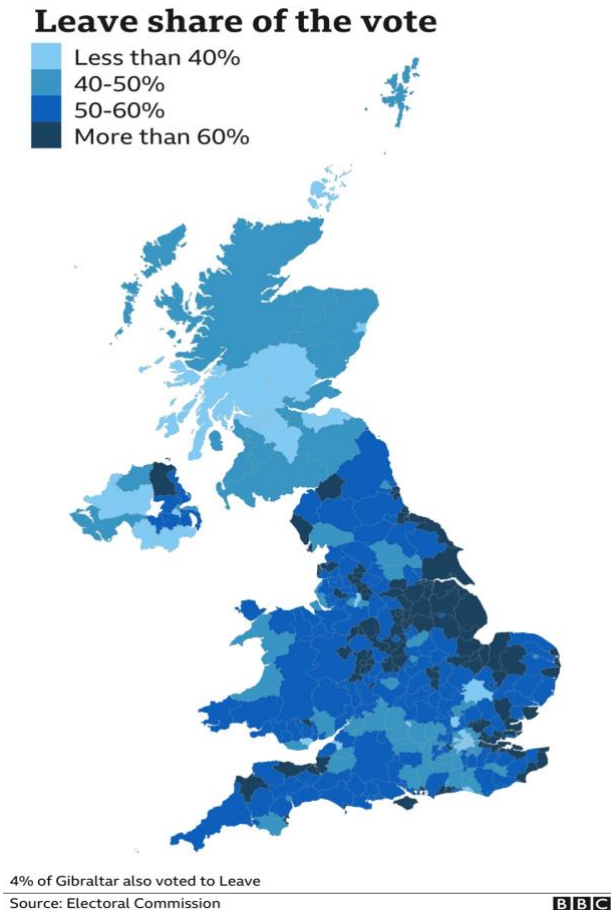
EU exit (Brexit) provides further direct and clear evidence of denial of Scotland's sovereignty and democratic agency within the so-called "voluntary partnership" of the United Kingdom. With less than 10% of the UK population, the views and choices made by Scots are simply overruled, systematically and without consultation, by the administering Anglo-British state, where these diverge from those of England. This is in breach of England's obligations under the Claim of Right and the comprehensively abused, discredited and never-implemented Treaty of Union.

Scotland, as an independent state had enjoyed several hundred years of peaceful trading and cultural interchange with the countries of mainland Europe. This is reflected in the rich presence of European language roots in the Scots tongue, the Latin influence in Scots Law, and religious influences. During most of this period England was at war with much of Europe as well as with Scotland.

In other words Scotland's culture, traditions and heritage are distinctly far more European/Latin than Anglo-Saxon, and hence we find domination by the latter to be no more than an aggressive form of Cultural Imperialism and hence oppression, with our people and

nation subject to the constant imposition of a range of colonial procedures obscured by the pretence/hoax of union.

Scotland was removed from membership of the European Single Market and the Customs Union by the UK government against its democratic will and is suffering from very significant and adverse economic, cultural and demographic impacts from this decision.(2)



In the 2016 UK referendum on membership of the European Union, 62% of the electorate in Scotland voted to remain in the EU, with a majority of voters in all Scottish regions voting in favour of continued membership.(1)

(1) <https://ig.ft.com/sites/elections/2016/uk/eu-referendum/>

(2) <https://www.gov.scot/news/counting-the-impact-of-brex-it/>

Colonial Marker 7: Shared features of Colonized Societies.

Introduction

Frantz Fanon's book *The Wretched of the Earth* (1961) established how colonial violence creates intergenerational psychological trauma which manifests as persistent anxiety and depression in colonized populations. This was expanded by Ashis Nandy's *The Intimate Enemy* (1983) which shows how colonialism creates a psychological framework of self-hatred and cultural alienation that continues to affect health behaviours long after formal colonialism ends.

This psychological impact combines with material deprivation, as described by Albert Memmi (1957), where economic marginalization and social degradation become internalized, leading to what is now recognized as historical trauma response - visible in high rates of substance abuse and mental health issues across generations. Memmi specifically identifies how the systematic denigration of native languages and cultural practices creates what he terms a "psycho-existential complex", that is to say, where a colonized people internalize their supposed inferiority, leading to self-alienation and profound psychological damage. Nandy deepens this analysis by exploring how colonialism operates through the "intimate enemy" of cultural and linguistic dominance, creating a psychological state where the colonized begin to view their own cultural practices and language as backward or primitive.

Memmi's analysis is particularly pointed on this issue, describing how the "cultural catastrophe" of colonialism works through two simultaneous processes: the destruction of native cultural systems and the imposition of the colonizer's language and cultural framework. He argues that this forced linguistic and cultural transformation creates a specific form of psychological torment - the colonized person becomes a stranger to their own cultural heritage while never being fully accepted into the colonizer's culture, creating what he terms a "cultural dualism" that manifests in chronic anxiety and identity crisis. Memmi's cultural dualism has become a salient and much debated feature in Scottish literature and culture where it is often expressed through what's known as the "Caledonian antiszygy" - a term coined by G. Gregory Smith in 1919 to describe the dual nature of Scottish identity and its literature. Post-colonial literature is only beginning to impact on this ongoing debate and, indeed, to reveal the true source of this much discussed phenomenon.

The accompanying interplay of physical health with historical trauma response, inferiorisation and lack of acceptance is today widely understood. Michael Marmot's Status Syndrome (Bloomsbury 2004) <https://tinyurl.com/257c86g6> demonstrates that health outcomes follow a clear social gradient, where lower social status consistently correlates with poorer health, independent of absolute poverty. This relationship operates through multiple interconnected pathways: reduced autonomy and control over life circumstances reinforces chronic stress; limited social participation weakens support networks; restricted opportunities for full societal engagement reduce access to health-promoting resources. These factors create a self-reinforcing cycle, a feedback loop where lower status augments biological stress responses leading to poorer health outcomes which in turn further diminish social participation and control, perpetuating health inequalities across generations.

2000s: Scotland's Health Crisis – an Ongoing Colonial Legacy. With an average life expectancy at birth of just 77.1 years (and in the most deprived areas only 47 years) Scotland lags comparable European states by 6.4%. All other indicators underperform England and show marked negative variance from the European nation average. Scotland suffers between 4 and 5 times the European average for drug deaths. Alcohol deaths are nearly 3 times the European average.

This should be a matter of alarm not only to the UK government's arm in Scotland (Holyrood) but to the UK government itself. Instead it is used as a stick to beat those administering Scotland, chastising them for not achieving more with consistently less financial resources and with no direct access to Scotland's own resources. No consideration is ever given to the root cause of this malaise, the colonial landscape, or any thought of how to alleviate it.

As Michael Marmot shows, it is futile to try to cure these ills by a general lifting of prosperity, even if economic conditions permitted and the Administering State state were willing to do so. A comprehensive societal reset is demanded that will relieve native Scottish society, much of it exposed to the health and welfare conditions described here, from an externally-imposed cultural divide to replace it with the more equitable society for which they consistently vote.

Sir Harry Burns, the former chief Medical Officer of Scotland, highlighted the reputation of Scotland as being "the sick man of Europe" (Burns 2009) (2)

A comparison of key health indicators between Scotland and 5 other European countries including England - the others chosen for similarity of population, makes for a bleak picture - see table (1). Scotland has the worst

outcomes in all 10 of the categories examined; life expectancy, obesity, drug deaths, alcohol deaths, homicides, prison population, suicide, poor mental health, cancer mortality and smoking. Around 60% of Scotland's excess mortality stems from psycho-social causes: alcohol, drugs, violence and suicide. The remaining excess is mainly attributable to cancer, cardiovascular causes and stroke. (3)

Poor Dental Health Dental health is widely considered a valuable indicator of overall population health, as it provides a snapshot of socioeconomic conditions and generational patterns, and correlates with other health metrics. The persistence of Scotland's deep oral health inequalities is highlighted here. (4) The Scottish Needs Assessment Programme on Adult Oral Health reported: "*The level of dental health in Scotland is poorer than in England and Wales with approximately one in five Scottish individuals over the age of 16 years having lost all their natural teeth, and almost all of the remainder having some form of gum disease. This is exaggerated by the fact that only a small proportion of population is registered with a dentist.*" (5)

(1) [Health indicators: Scotland compared with England and four small European states](#)

(2) [The Sick Man of Europe](#)

(3) www.longevity.co.uk

(4) <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41406-023-1008-9>

(5) https://www.scotphn.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/SNAP-Adult_Oral_Health.pdf

- executive summary

Figure 2: Population Growth Comparison 1701-2024

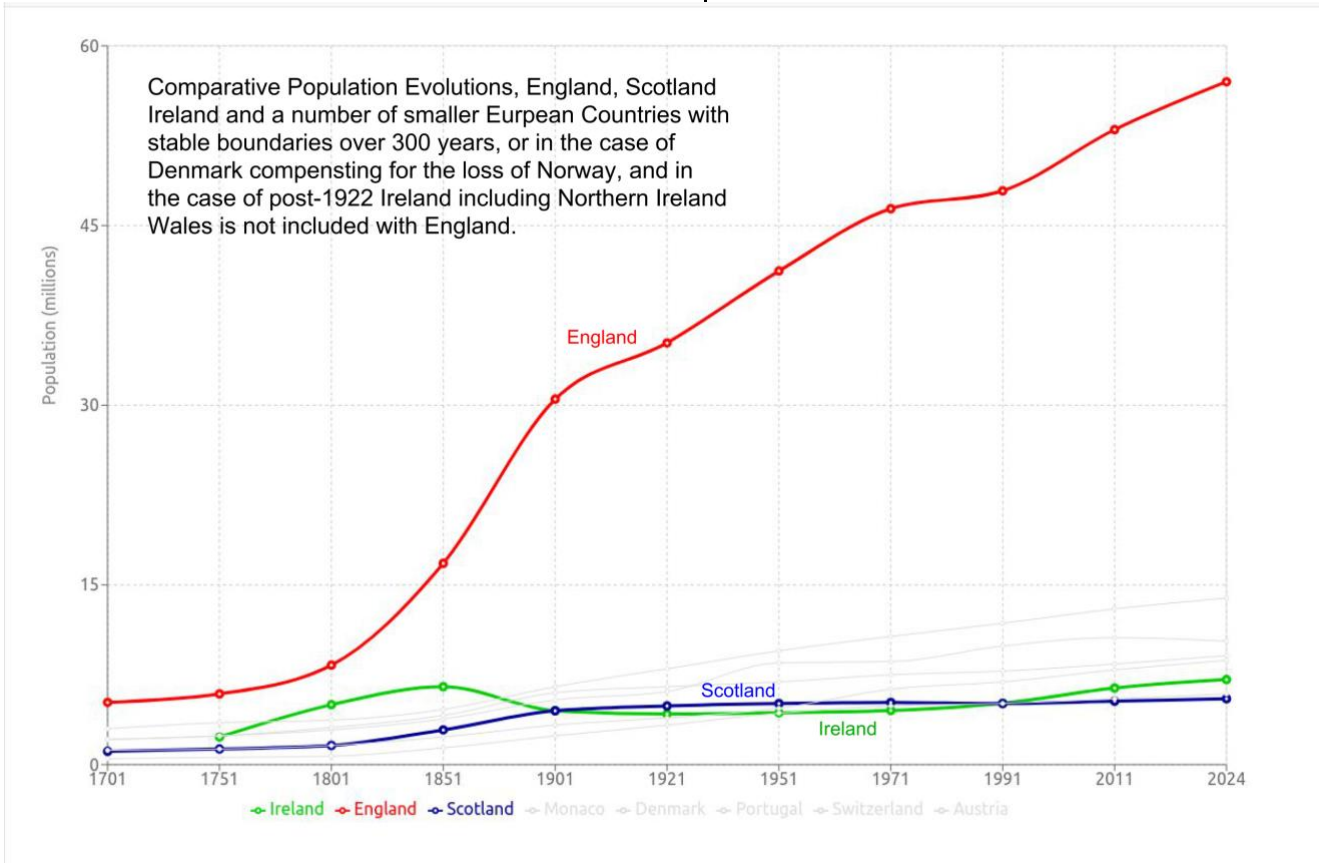
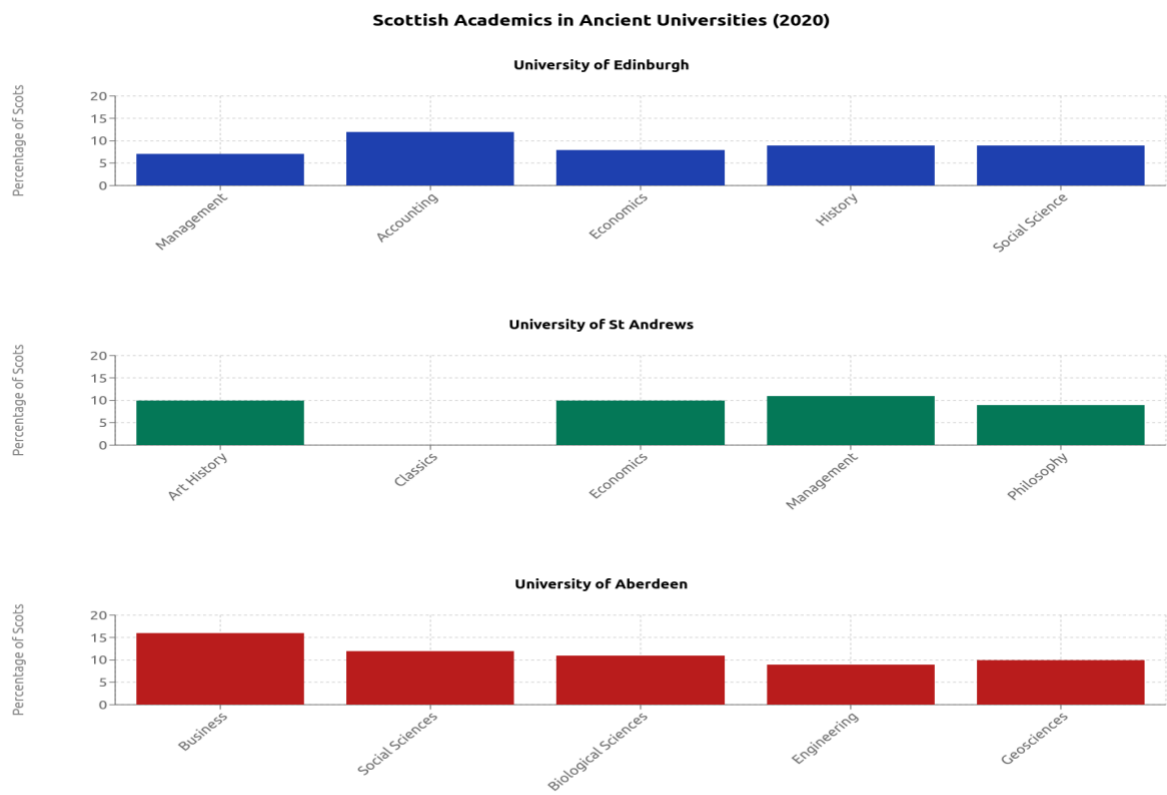


Figure 3: Proportion of Scottish Academics at Scottish Universities



Source: Data derived from University websites, academic staff only.

Scotland's Health Compared to a Range of European Countries

Country	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Scotland	77.1	29	295	205	1.7	136	14.8	22	311	17
England	81.3	28	76	140	1.1	132	10.7	19	258	13.8
Ireland	82.6	25	70	115	0.9	77	12.1	15	275	18
Norway	83.2	23	47	43	0.6	56	11.8	16	242	9
Denmark	81.6	17	55	62	1	63	9.2	14	261	16
Finland	82	22	76	65	1.6	51	13.4	17	249	15
Ratio Scotland:England	94.8%	103.6%	388.2%	146.4%	154.5%	103.0%	138.3%	115.8%	120.5%	123.2%
Ratio: Scotland:Others*	93.6%	133.3%	475.8%	287.7%	165.9%	220.2%	127.3%	141.9%	121.1%	117.2%

Key to Health Indicators:

1. Life expectancy (years)

2. Obesity (% of population)

3. Drug deaths (per million)

4. Alcohol deaths (per million)

5. Homicides (per 100,000)
6. Prison population (per 100,000)

7. Suicide rates (per 100,000)

8. Poor mental wellbeing

9. Cancer mortality (per 100,000)

10. Smoking (% adults)

*Note: "Others" excludes England

Sources: WHO European Gateway, OECD health statistics, ScotPHO, Eurostat, EMCDDA (2022-23)



After Exhaustion of the Democratic and Legal Domestic Routes, What Route to Self-determination for the Scottish People?

Section 1

Since the first days of the derogation of the Treaty and conditions of Union in 1708, when English treason law was unlawfully imposed on Scotland, and 1713, when four 'proxy votes' defeated the parliamentary motion to annul the union, all democratic and legal domestic routes to self-determination for Scotland have failed.

They were and are always bound to fail where one nation has been annexed for the advantage of another. Decolonization via UN C24 is now Scotland's only realistic route to self-determination.

Rights of a Colonized People

The upcoming Liberation Scotland petition for the listing of Scotland among the colonized territories requiring decolonization now represents the only available option for the people of Scotland to achieve self-determination.

Misrepresentation for the Purpose of Suppressing and Withholding the Rights of a Colonized Nation

Since the first wave of decolonization which followed the establishment of the United Nations Charter, successive UK governments have consistently committed to the defence of a fraudulent position in relation to Scotland, publishing that defence and continuing to assert it today through ministerial and prime ministerial statements that,

“Scotland is a nation and voluntarily entered in union with England as a partner and not as a dependency.”¹

This statement, accepted internationally as well as by many in the Scottish legal, political and academic establishments, is false. It is a representation originally crafted to deter international inquiry into Scotland’s status as an English Crown dependency, a nation annexed and under English administration to this day, despite being signatory to a ‘partnership’ agreement, an international treaty.

That treaty, the partnership agreement which provides ‘proof’ of a voluntary union, is inoperative having been derogated in 1707.²

Contradiction and Control – Scotland the ‘Voluntary Colony’

The most current argument, as published by HM Government in 2012³, represents Scotland thus:

- I. Scotland was extinguished as a state in 1707 and therefore no ‘Scottish party’ to the Treaty exists with the legal competence to withdraw from the Treaty under the principle in international law of jus cogens⁴:

‘If a new peremptory norm of general international law (jus cogens) emerges, any existing treaty which conflicts with that norm becomes void and terminates. The parties to such a treaty are released from any obligation further to perform the treaty.’⁵

- II. Scotland has neither agency nor rights either as a territory or a nation.
- III. Scotland’s people have none of the rights defined in international law as applying to distinct peoples.
- IV. Scotland as a voluntary partner has no partnership agreement that sounds in law and never, or only briefly, has had.

¹ UK Royal Commission on Scottish Affairs 1952–1954, Ch1, 13(ii), p.12

² See ‘Scotland - A Dependency by Definition’, attached

³ Crawford, James and Boyle, Alan. “Annex A Opinion: Referendum on the Independence of Scotland – International Law Aspects.” *Scotland Analysis: Devolution and the Implications of Scottish Independence*, UK Government, February 2013, Cm 8554. Cl.37, p. 75

⁴ International Law Commission Report 2019, Chapter V, Peremptory norms of general international law (jus cogens) <https://legal.un.org/ilc/reports/2019/english/chp5.pdf>

⁵ Ibid., Conclusion 10.2 p144

This document, (intended to establish England's right to assume the identity of the 'continuator state' in the unlikely event of Scottish independence), demonstrates beyond doubt that UK governments and their devolved Scottish administrations:

1. deny the people of our nation their inalienable right to self-determination.
2. prevent the proper international examination of our colonial status.
3. give an erroneous representation of Scotland's true status which has become accepted internationally through custom and over time and which prevents consideration of Scotland as a Non-Self-Governing Territory. This relegates Scotland to the status of a former state voluntarily absorbed as the very junior partner into the larger composite state known as the United Kingdom, but which, in reality, is and always has been simply England.
4. At the same time that this fiction identifies Scotland as a partner in the state known as the UK, making the nation an apparent 'accomplice' in the crimes of the British/English Empire, the reality for Scotland is an English administration in which the Scottish people had no say whatever for almost three centuries and have no real and constructive say at present.

The good will of the English state, known as the United Kingdom, determines the rights of a people which it represents as beneficiaries in a partnership while it has derogated the partnership agreement, (treaty) and simultaneously denies both any of the terms and conditions of that partnership agreement and the rights of a colonized nation to the exercise of self-determination. This is a democratic prison.

The following illustrate some of Scotland's recent struggles for its political rights and for economic, social and cultural development and which have been undermined, opposed and blocked by the governments of the United Kingdom.

The Scotland UN Committee (1979 – 2007)

A submission by the Scotland UN Committee (SUNC) was made to the UN Secretariat in New York in 1979, together with most of the third of a million signatures collected in a petition that authorised SUNC to make diplomatic representations on Scotland's behalf on the issue of self-determination. A delegation from SUNC visited the United Nations Commission on Human Rights at UN Geneva in the autumn of 1980, when a major document was presented setting out the Scottish case for self-determination. Thereafter, the still open file in Geneva attained substantial proportions with documentation of every violation committed against Scotland in subsequent years.

In June 1980 the UK Government (PM: M. Thatcher 1979-1990) tried to obtain international approval in the Council of Europe of its assertion that there was no demand for devolution within the UK.

A petition to the UK Head of State, HM the Queen, on this matter remains unanswered to this day.

Scotland's Devolved Administration (1998 – to date)

Failure to challenge the Scotland Act 1998

The Scotland Act 1998 was a significant piece of UK legislation that devolved some powers to Scotland which made changes to the government of Scotland and outlined the law-making process. It defined what the devolved matters on which laws can be made and the limits of the legislative competence of the Scottish administration.

During the UK legislative process, Members of Parliament representing the people of Scotland were involved in putting forward amendments to ensure that devolved powers were appropriately defined. Outnumbered by a ratio of 10:1 by English, Welsh and N Irish, they could not prevent the exclusion of all constitutional matters, as well as matters like defence and foreign policy, from the authority of the devolved administration. The UK government applied the principle of Westminster parliamentary sovereignty, enshrining it within the Scotland Act with which it claimed to replace the Treaty and Acts of Union. (Yet it pretends to have been created by the Treaty and Acts of Union.)

The principle of English Parliamentary sovereignty ensures absolute control of Scotland by Westminster but overrides the stipulated condition of both the (inoperative) Treaty and the Union, arguably voiding both and dissolving the 'UK'. This condition is the continuation in Scotland of the Claim of Right Act, 1689 which upholds the sovereignty of the people of Scotland over their governments.

The Scotland Act and the imposition of English parliamentary sovereignty on the Scottish people illustrates the cul de sac into which the Scottish people have been driven: an appearance of democracy, a given identity as a 'partner', yet without a single agreed right or a single avenue of recourse for claiming the most basic of democratic rights and remedies.

Scottish Independence Referendum 2014 – Validity

The 2014 Scottish Independence Referendum was a referendum on the constitution, and not a vote on domestic issues.

The franchise used, however, was the same as it was for the Devolution Referendum of 1997 which was mainly based on residency in Scotland. The inclusion of a wide range of people with temporary residence or very loose ties to Scotland in a vote on the future of Scotland and its constitutional arrangement with the rest of the UK did not provide a true picture of the desire for Scottish independence among the indigenous Scots and those with a proven commitment to Scotland. Such a wide franchise is acceptable for domestic affairs but not for constitutional matters as they must be reserved for Scots and those with a proven commitment to Scotland and its people as is customary in many other countries for votes on constitutional matters.

Without touching on media bias on the part of the state broadcaster and of the 100% pro-union press, owned by non-Scots, the breaching of the campaigning “purdah” period and the many voting irregularities documented during the referendum, this was clearly a ‘performative’ exercise to mask a substantive and comprehensive denial of the democratic right of the Scots to self-determination.

In simulating a democratic expression of self-determination however, the 2014 independence referendum convinced the international community of the deception, that Scotland is indeed a voluntary partner in a union, a nation ‘integrated’ into a larger state.

BREXIT Referendum (2016)

In the 2016 UK referendum on membership of the European Union, 62% of the electorate in Scotland voted to remain with a 67% voter turnout. A majority of voters in all Scottish regions voted in favour of continued membership of the EU.

In holding the referendum, the UK government did not acknowledge the sovereignty of Scotland and the other UK nations. It did not ensure the final result would be based on the result in each of the UK nations rather than on the overall UK national total of votes. If the UK had indeed been a union of equal nations then a unanimous vote of all 4 nations should have been the mandate required to endorse either a “leave” or “remain” vote. England and Wales voted to leave the EU. Scotland and Northern Ireland voted remain. In an equal union the result would have been 2:2. Instead because England’s population is around 90% of the UK total, the entire country was dragged out of the EU.

In the years since, opinion polls have shown an even higher level of support for EU membership in Scotland. An August 2022 poll found the largest gap between remain and leave support so far recorded, 40 percentage points.

Scotland was removed from membership of the European Single Market and the Customs Union by the UK government against its democratic will. There is no legal avenue within the UK to challenge this denial of democracy.

UK Supreme Court Case (October 2022)

The Lord Advocate of Scotland is the principal legal advisor of Scotland's devolved administration, and acting on its behalf brought a case before the UK Supreme Court rather than to Scotland's highest court, the Court of Session, seeking a decision on Scotland's constitutional future and its inalienable right to self-determination: Whether it would be possible to hold an independence referendum on the authority of Scotland's devolved parliament.

The UK Supreme Court ruled that the proposal to hold such a referendum would "be a political event with important political consequences" and that "the Scottish Parliament does not have the power to legislate for a referendum on Scottish independence". There is no legal avenue within the UK to challenge this ruling.

Scotland (Self-Determination) Bill

In 2022, The Scotland (Self-Determination) Bill was introduced in the House of Commons by MP Neale Hanvey in an attempt obtain parity with Northern Ireland for Scotland of the right to self-determination. This would have been achieved by Westminster granting the Scottish Parliament the authority to legislate for an independence referendum when there was demonstrable public support and not sooner than seven years after any previous referendum, so aligning Scotland's position with Northern Ireland's provisions for border polls.

The Bill was first presented in the House of Commons on February 1, 2023, under the Ten-Minute Rule. At its second reading on January 16, 2024, MPs voted against the motion by 228 against and 48 in favour, an opposing majority of 180. The Bill was therefore 'killed', demonstrating that neither the right to self-determination under international law nor the disparity of Scotland's rights with those of Northern Ireland are in any way a consideration for an Administering Power determined to retain Scotland, its assets and resources for the benefit of the metropole.

The Stirling Directive (July 2023)

The distinction between the locus of political and legal sovereignty in each of the two nations of the Union, the Parliament in England and the Community of the Realm,

that is the People, in Scotland, is secured by the ratification of the Scottish Claim of Right Act of 1689 as a binding and permanent condition of the 1707 Treaty of Union.

The Stirling Directive, organised by Salvo, the campaign arm of Liberation Scotland, petitioned the devolved Scottish Government which was elected by the people of Scotland on no less than 7 occasions on the mandate of holding an independence referendum to:-

- Remember that while the Scottish Parliament and Government (Administration) are answerable to Westminster under the Scotland Act, Westminster itself is answerable to the people of Scotland who remain sovereign over their governments.
- Inform the UK government, therefore, that its asserted sovereignty in Scotland is unlawful under the conditions of the Union, and all supporting interpretations, rulings and statutes are null and void.
- Honour the clear expression of the will of the Scottish people who remain the sovereign authority of Scotland, under the terms of the Union, by announcing a referendum on Scottish Independence or taking immediate steps for a plebiscitary election on independence with a National Convention on the basis their governments under the pre-condition of the Treaty and Union.

The Scottish Government failed to respond to the directive or to honour the law of Scotland and the democratic settlement agreed as condition of the union.

Conclusion

All attempts by the people of Scotland to obtain redress, at a UK domestic level, for the denial of the rights of self-determination, have failed. The conclusion that Scotland, and the rest of the world, is entitled to draw is that the UK is not a voluntary union of different nations as has been represented to the world, but that Scotland is held in the UK union not by consent but by force of UK/English law and no matter the wishes of the Scottish people.

Scotland will continue to be held without consent unless its condition is recognised by the international community for what it is: the condition of a dependency, a Non-Self-Governing Territory subject to the domination of a foreign sovereignty and entitled to the restoration of the sovereign and human rights of the people of Scotland under international law. This is now the only remaining avenue which can lead to justice and self-determination for the Scottish people.

Liberation Scotland

- A Liberation Movement for a Hidden Dependency

A. Rights of a People and a Sovereign Territorial Nation

A.1. Scots Are a Distinct People for the Purposes of International Law and Rights

Excerpt: OPINION ON MATTERS RELATING TO INTERNATIONAL LEGAL ISSUES CONCERNING THE RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE PEOPLE OF SCOTLAND

Professor Robert McCorquodale, June 2023

Who are a “people” for the purposes of the right to self-determination has not been fully determined, not least because “nations and peoples, like genetic populations, are recent, contingent and have been formed and reformed constantly throughout history”.¹

14. The most widely quoted definition of “peoples” for the purposes of the right to self-determination is that set out by an international group of experts:²

A people for the [purposes of the] rights of people in international law, including the right to self-determination, has the following characteristics:

There is little dispute that the people of Scotland are a distinct people within the UK. The reasoning for this is summarised by the Scottish National Party in its Intervention [SNP Intervention] before the Supreme Court in the *Scottish Devolution Reference* case.³ The people of Scotland also fit the criteria for a “people” set out in para 16

¹ Eugene Kamenka, ‘Human Rights, Peoples’ Rights’ in James Crawford (ed), *The Rights of Peoples* (OUP, 1988) 127 at 133.

² *Final Report and Recommendations of an International Meeting of Experts on the Further Study of the Concept* Final Report and Recommendations of an International Meeting of Experts on the Further Study of the Concept of the Rights of People for UNESCO, SNS–89/CONF.602/7 (22 February 1990).

³ [The SNP’s Supreme Court submission on the independence referendum — Scottish National Party](#), para 5.1- 5.6.

above, with, for example, a distinct territory, history, culture, laws and institutions. There is also, as the courts in the UK have acknowledged, a distinct constitutional legal tradition in Scotland.⁴

The structure of devolution in the UK, which is a form of internal self-determination, confirms that the people of Scotland are distinct within the UK and have a right to self-determination.⁵ This is confirmed by the UK government in its periodic reports to the UN Human Rights Committee, where it reports on its implementation of the ICCPR, in which it refers to devolution in Scotland (and Wales and Northern Ireland) under its Article 1 (right to self-determination) obligations.⁶

As the people of Scotland are a people for the purposes of the right to self-determination, they can exercise it. The choice of the means to exercise is for the people to decide and not the state.*

A.2. Scotland Remains a Distinct Territory With Its Own Territorial Boundaries and Territorial Sovereignty under the Scottish Crown

The continuation of the Crown of Scotland as a constitutional fact means Scotland has remained territorially sovereign, as defined by the reach of Scots law and the distinct, legal character of the Scottish Crown.

Under the articles of Union, Scotland surrendered its independent statehood but continued to be a sovereign nation. The status of Scotland as a stateless nation is fairly unusual internationally and has attracted particular sociological and political study... Constitutionally, the ultimate ownership of the territory of Scotland as a sovereign nation is vested in the Crown. The territory is synonymous with the Realm of Scotland, while the Crown itself represents the Community of the Realm. **This ultimate ownership**

⁴ For example, *MacCormick v. Lord Advocate*, 1953 SC 39, per Lord President Cooper and *Cherry v Advocate General* 2020 SC 37, per Lord President Carloway.

⁵ James Mitchell, "The 1992 Election in Scotland in Context", (1992) 45 *Parliamentary Affairs* 612 at p. 613: "the claim of Scottish [and Welsh] distinctiveness...is aided by the State having conceded that Scotland [and Wales] is a political entity through its establishment of central institutions and some measure of policy distinctiveness".

⁶ For example, the UK's 7th Periodic Report to the Human Rights Committee in December 2012: https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/TBSearch.aspx?Lang=en paragraphs 221-243.

encompasses the whole territory and all its natural assets.⁷
(Emphasis added.)

To this day, the ownership of Scotland remains vested, not in the person of the monarch or the state, (which acts on the monarch's behalf), but in the Crown of Scotland, the Community of the Realm, the people.

Scotland's rights of sovereignty over its territory are vested in the Crown with its distinct constitutional and legal identity in Scotland under Scots law, compared to the Crown in the rest of the United Kingdom under English law... This distinct identity was not affected by the Union of Crowns in 1603 and has continued since the Treaty of Union in 1707, when Scotland ceased to be an independent state but continued to be a sovereign territorial nation.⁸

Crown property rights in Scots law, which are an important part of Scotland's system of land ownership, are also distinct from Crown property rights in the rest of the UK and belong to Scotland as a sovereign territorial nation.⁹

Summary: As the Scots remain a distinct people for the purposes of right of peoples in international law, so the territory of Scotland retains its distinct boundary, preserving Scotland's historic claims through its still extant Crown institution, as a sovereign territorial nation institution with exclusive ownership of its territorial and maritime assets.

A.3. Scotland - A Dependency Hidden in Plain Sight

The status of a Non-Self-Governing Territory is determined by key characteristics: first the historic, legal and constitutional relationship between a people and/or a nation and an Administering Power and secondly the 'markers' or features which define a state of subjugation under a foreign sovereignty or Power.

⁷ R Callander 'How Scotland is Owned' p. 43 (Canongate, 1998)

⁸ *The Land of Scotland and the Common Good, Report of the Land Reform Review Group, May 2014, Section 1 - Land of Scotland, (Land Reform Review Group Secretariat)*

⁹ *The Land of Scotland and the Common Good, Report of the Land Reform Review Group, May 2014, Section 1 - Land of Scotland, (Land Reform Review Group Secretariat)*

**** See attachments**

1. A historic, legal and constitutional dependency**

The Treaty of Union is the sole basis of the claim by the UK government and its legal and political establishment that Scotland entered a union with England as a partner *and not as a dependency*. But this treaty, the partnership agreement, is inoperative, its primary effects remaining unrealised and replaced by the annexation of Scotland by England without any authorising agreement.

Liberation Scotland will show, that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is purely the continuation of the state of England, (also describing itself as Britain and Great Britain), administering Scotland under an English Crown and through an English Parliament to the destruction of the Scottish people, their national identity, constitution, culture, language, history, traditions, values, prosperity, opportunity and wellbeing to the present. The self-representation of the state known as the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is that of a state created by a distinct, legal and constitutional event (rather than by the usual 'de facto genesis'), the Treaty and Acts of Union, 1706-1707. This representation is a fiction and a fraud. To this day, the Scots are a people annexed under pretext of a treaty, represented as a voluntary partner in a union whereas Scotland was made a dependency of the English Crown by means of a treaty that remains inoperative, never having been given effect.

2. Defining features

This is colonization and it has produced all the defining features of a dependency, including the ethnic cleansing, population displacement and replacement, colonial administration, cultural and linguistic imperialism, poverty, despair and psychic wounds which distinguish all colonized peoples.**

Excerpted from 'Doun Hauden' by Professor Alf Baird¹⁰:

Scotland is ... under the full or partial control of a UK administering 'power' (i.e. Westminster and hence England's MP's who form its majority) and thus meets the initial defining feature of a colony (p. 166).

** See attachments

¹⁰ *Doun-Hauden: The Socio-Political Determinants of Scottish Independence*, Alfred J. Baird, 2020

Scotland has experienced long term, focused and rising occupation by settlers mainly from the UK 'administering Power' (England), coupled with significant displacement of its own people and thus exhibits the second defining feature of a colony, (p. 167).

Scotland is subject to ongoing economic exploitation by the 'UK' administering power and, therefore, meets the third and final defining feature of a colony, (p.175).

The continued asset stripping of Scotland, the removal of its economic institutions and the manipulation of its economic data are violations of Scotland's rights under international law undermining Scotland's ability to exercise self-determination and economic sovereignty.

All these practices, and more, align Scotland's situation with the principles of decolonization outlined by the United Nations.

B. Scottish Liberation - a Right and a Need

1. The Founding of a Liberation Movement

Liberation Scotland, an expression of the national claim and will for liberation was established, on September 1st, 2022, with the public reading of the Edinburgh Proclamation:

The Edinburgh Proclamation, 2022

The nation of Scotland has enshrined in its constitution, from the Declaration of the Clergy of 1310 and the Declaration of Arbroath of 1320 to the Claim of Right Act of 1689, the supremacy of the Scottish people over all other authorities of state. From which it is clear that the English principle of parliamentary sovereignty, is foreign, irreconcilable and unlawful in Scotland.

Embodied in the Claim of Right, our constitution provides that we, the people, lend our power to the government to serve the common good and to uphold our rights and interests. And we may withdraw this loan. Through the Convention of the Estates, a National Assembly comprised of the communities of Scotland, we may remove any government that fails to serve us or overrules the express will of the people.

The Westminster Government has grossly and repeatedly violated the provisions of the Claim of Right, a contractual obligation ratified by the nations of Scotland and England in the Treaty of Union of 1706. It has ruled Scotland, not as an equal partner in a political union, but as a colony. It has thwarted the democratic will of the people and disposed of our assets to enrich a privileged few. It has moved to end our ancient sovereignty by replacing it with Westminster parliamentary sovereignty. Yet the source of legitimate power in Scotland remains, and will always remain, the people of Scotland.

Therefore, to halt the eradication of our sovereignty, the abuse of our protected rights and the plunder of our territories and resources, and reaffirming our lawful authority, we echo the Irish Proclamation of 1916:

We declare the right of the people of Scotland to the ownership of Scotland and to the unfettered control of Scottish destinies, to be

sovereign and inalienable. The long usurpation of that right by a foreign government has not extinguished that right, nor can it ever be extinguished except by the destruction of the Scottish people.

We, the signatories, will form the peaceful Liberation Movement of Scotland. We call on all Scots to join us in urgently recalling the Convention of the Estates, through a modern, Scottish National Congress, to defend and assert our rights and to end the abuses of a foreign government that now threatens our lives and very existence as a nation - Liberation Scotland



Reading of the Proclamation outside Queen Elizabeth House, September 1st, 2022, Edinburgh (with Neale Hanvey MP)

This proclamation is now available for every Scot to sign at liberation.scot, thereby joining Liberation Scotland. Liberation Scotland is not a political party, but it is a political movement seeking true liberation, decolonization. This does not only mean independence from the English as 'British' state, but the full restoration of Scotland's deliberately erased identity, culture, history and languages, its plundered, (though still sovereign), territorial assets and resources and its autochthonous constitution with its unique political traditions. This includes:

- A true liberation from the colonizing state known as the UK, which in reality is the continuation of the state of England and not the new kingdom or state agreed by treaty (voluntary agreement);

- Restoration of Scotland's constitutional compact, limiting the powers of government and guaranteeing the human and civil rights of the people on pain of removal of that government;
- Real and practical political popular sovereignty;
- The former, true separation of powers;
- Participatory assemblies;
- The restoration of the governing principle of the Common Good and the sharing of wealth from Scotland's territorial assets and resources with the lawful owners of those assets and resources owners - the Scottish people, (not the English/British Crown).

Liberation Scotland seeks the radical and just political reform inherent in the **restoration of these Scottish, constitutional provisions and political traditions through** modern, democratic mechanisms. It is open to all Scots **as an expression of that national will for liberation which has been consistently demonstrated in:**

- **Scottish Home Rule Petitions (late 19th - early 20th century)** – Multiple petitions were submitted to Westminster seeking a devolved Scottish Parliament.
- **The Scottish Covenant (1949–1950)** – A petition for Home Rule, organized by John MacCormick, gathered around two million signatures but was ignored by the UK government.
- **The 1979 Scottish Devolution Referendum** – Proposed a devolved Scottish Assembly with limited powers. It achieved a majority (51.6% Yes), but failed to meet an artificially imposed 40% electoral threshold required for implementation. (In real terms this was at least a 50% threshold given the 'redundancy', the names of the deceased or moved, duplicate names or names of those ineligible to vote and added in error).
- **The Claim of Right (1989)** – A declaration signed by Scottish civic leaders affirming Scotland's right to self-determination and calling for a Scottish Parliament.

- **1997 Scottish Devolution Referendum** – A resounding Yes vote (74.3%) led to the establishment of the Scottish Parliament in 1999.
- **2014 Scottish Independence Referendum** – The first direct vote on independence, resulting in a 55.3% No and 44.7% Yes outcome.
However:
 - The referendum was based on the question of a negotiated withdrawal from a ‘partnership’ rather than on ending an administrative dependency – one of which Scots have been kept unaware;
 - The referendum was non-binding (advisory only);
 - The franchise for this vote included second home owners, temporary workers, non-Scottish military personnel stationed in Scotland, non-Scottish students and brand ‘new settlers’ – non stakeholders;
 - Media coverage was studied and found to have promoted ‘no’ (no to independence) to a hugely disproportionate extent¹¹;
 - The terms of the referendum, the Edinburgh Agreement, were violated by the introduction of new campaigning promises by the ‘No’ lobby a day before the vote, in breach of the purdah period;
- **A 2023 (Proposed) Independence Referendum** – Announced but blocked by the UK Supreme Court, ruling that Scotland could not unilaterally hold a binding referendum without Westminster’s consent;
 - Current polls show support for Scottish independence still rising, with a Sunday Times (pro-Union) newspaper poll (Norstat Poll, December 2024), reporting 54% in favour while others have shown as much as 60% in support.

¹¹ Conducted by **Dr. John Robertson** of the University of the West of Scotland, this study found media advocacy for ‘no’ at 70% while that for ‘yes’ was some 30%. A 2016 study by the University of Cardiff, “The Referendum that Changed a Nation: Scottish Voting Behaviour 2014-2019”, found that the UK-wide media (including the BBC) was overwhelmingly negative toward independence.

Had the 2014 referendum franchise extended only to genuine stakeholders it is likely the yes vote would have prevailed, and had basic standards of fairness also applied, Scotland would be independent today.

To date, despite repeated efforts to undermine its website and despite a virtual media 'blackout' (de-platforming), some 16,500+ Scots have signed the Proclamation and have joined Liberation Scotland. This puts the membership of Scotland's liberation movement on a par with the major political parties of the country:-

- Scottish National Party: [64,525 as of June 2024](#)¹² (pro-independence party)
- Labour Party, Scottish members: [16,467 as of February 2021](#)¹³ A 10% drop in membership across the 'UK' by August 2024, suggests the real membership is now around [14,800](#)
- Alba Party: [7,500 as of December 2023](#), (reported June 2024)¹⁴
- Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party: [7,000 as of September 2024](#)¹⁵
- Scottish Green Party: Currently estimated at between 6,500 and 8,000 as this party rarely publishes its membership figures.
- Liberal Party, Scottish members: As at 31 December 2020 the membership of the Scottish Liberal Democrats [stood at 4,185](#).¹⁶ (Although overall membership has fallen the Liberal Party has not updated its membership data.)

¹² Accounts submitted to the Electoral Commission

¹³ Hutcheon, Paul (3 February 2021). "[Scottish Labour 'crisis' after leaked figures show fall in membership](#)". *Daily Record*. Retrieved 6 February 2021

¹⁴ Electoral Commission data

¹⁵ Leadership election data, pub. [Alasdair Ferguson](#), '[Scottish Tories have fewer members than Alba Party, figures reveal](#)'. *The National*, 27th September 2024

¹⁶ Electoral Commission data

** See attachment

2. Structure of the Liberation Movement

The Liberation Scotland Committee is the democratically elected and constituted^{***} co-ordinating committee of Liberation Scotland representing over 16,000 members. It is responsible for taking forward the international campaign for decolonization and promoting the domestic campaign for liberation. As the champion of the international right of the Scottish people to self-determination and an expression of the national will to that self-determination it is inclusive and supportive of all initiatives and organisations committed to Scottish liberation consistent with the principles of the Edinburgh Declaration.

Salvo (salvo.scot) is the fund-raising and campaigning arm of Liberation Scotland. With its own constitution, over 7,000 members in eleven active hubs across Scotland, a democratically elected executive 'Core' representing those members, an elected Administration team, four ad hoc 'delivery teams', two national campaigns, (one ongoing), and further direct actions in planning, Salvo stands for the lawful rights and assets of the people of Scotland. Since 2022, Salvo has held many events and has mounted several public campaigns:

- In order to assert the lawful, constitutional sovereignty of the Scottish people and to require their elected representative to recognise and assert that sovereignty over government and based on standing constitutional law, guaranteed under the terms of the (inoperative) Treaty of Union through the Claim of Right Act, 1689, Salvo co-ordinated a collaborative campaign, including public meetings and gatherings, and petition, the Stirling Directive. The devolved Scottish administration of the Westminster government was presented with the Stirling Directive in 2023. It has failed to respond.
- Since 2023, the Salvo Freeports Campaign has built support across Scotland to expose and oppose the unlawful transfer of Scottish territorial sovereignty and the Common Good assets of the Scottish people to private corporations or corporate conglomerates through 'Freeports' and Special Economic Zones.
- Salvo has issued notices to all concerned that these 'deregulated', corporate feudal fiefdoms, the Freeports and Special Economic Zones, are not lawful. They transfer sovereignty from the Scottish Crown-as-people without permission of the owner, the Scottish Crown. The notices

^{***} See attachment

provide both grounds for legal challenge by Salvo and protection from future 'good faith' arguments by partners in these Freeports and Zones.

- Salvo has submitted legal Opinion to oppose the undermining of the Scottish legal tradition and the still extant statutory provisions protecting that tradition.
- Salvo is working to educate the Scottish people with respect to the Scottish constitution and its provisions for civil and human rights, the true status of Scotland as an English dependency and the potential for the eradication of poverty, lack of opportunity, 'austerity' and inequality and the restoration of justice, civil rights, direct democracy and equitable wealth distribution under the still lawful and extant, autochthonous constitution of an independent Scotland.

[Salvoscot Ltd](#), (company Registered in Scotland No. SC734843, limited by guarantee), has the legal personality to enter contracts. As part of their fiduciary duties to act in the best interests of donors, the directors ensure the proper use of and authorise the release of funds subject to Core approval.

3. Why Scotland Must Seek Liberation

3.1 Scotland has been in the union for 318 years

In that time, Scotland's population has fallen from 20% of the population of England and Wales to just 8.1%.

In that time, between 3 and 4 million Scots have 'left' their country through mass forced evictions and British government policies, representing the largest loss of people in Western Europe for a country of Scotland's size.

In that time, our written Scottish Constitution elevating the sovereignty of the People over any monarch or government has been buried and supplanted with the unwritten English Constitution elevating the monarch and parliament over the People.

In that time, our Scots language has been removed, our culture suppressed and our history hidden or rewritten.

In that time, hundreds of thousands Scots have fought and died in UK wars, the highest proportion of any UK nation.

In that time, Scotland's trade with the world has plummeted and our shipbuilding industry, once the greatest in the world, destroyed along with our steel industry, manufacturing industry and more.

In that time, our vast resources of oil and gas were stolen to bail out the UK and provide tax cuts for the wealthy, leaving nothing for our people, and the same theft is being repeated with our renewables.

In that time, we were dragged from the EU when every Scottish region voted to remain.

In that time, Scotland has become a dumping ground for nuclear weapons and waste.

In that time, our land has been sold off to foreign corporations for profit, impoverishing our people.

In that time, Scotland has the lowest life expectancy of all UK countries for both males and females.

In that time, Scotland was promised the world's most powerful devolved parliament only to have Westminster curtail and thwart it.

The union is a fiction foisted onto Scotland to justify the effective colonization of our nation.

Scottish political parties have failed to liberate us from Westminster tyranny.

The People will take over from here.

Leaflet, Liberation Scotland

3.2 The Nation of Scotland is Dying

Our people are impoverished and without opportunity and their poverty is increasing as every Scottish industry is relocated to England or elsewhere, as revenues from Scottish assets, oil, gas, renewables is channelled to the mother country while Scots pay more for the energy Scotland produces than any other part of the UK. With the imminent closure of the Grangemouth oil refinery, Scotland, which produces 82% of the 'UK's' oil and gas, will have no refining capability while England, with 5 refineries, will refine and sell Scotland's natural assets back to a people now dependent on the 'mother country' for their own resources.

Our land and sea is for sale to the wealthy for hunting and fishing, to foreign companies for destructive marine farming, to retirees from England who are replacing the indigenous population and inflating house prices so that our own families cannot afford them.

Our languages, culture and traditions have been consciously and deliberately erased and continue to be erased, replaced by those of our English neighbour.

We have no dedicated broadcast media and the once thriving independent media industry in Scotland has been all but eradicated.

Our 'history', as taught in schools and universities is either untold or misrepresented; our pre-union, hugely successful, non-settler, mercantile trading operations, our participatory political mechanisms, our thriving highland populations (destroyed after Culloden in 1745), our international treaties and diplomacy, our unique 'common good' based laws and provisions and our old songs, poems stories and music remain unknown to the vast majority of Scots.

Our unique constitutional traditions, including popular sovereignty and the central principle of the Common Good, are all but forgotten despite being guaranteed under the terms of the Treaty of Union. They are casualties of the 'partnership agreement' that was never given effect.

Our people are leaving Scotland to find work and opportunity while across the Highlands and Islands you hear the English language and English accents instead of Gaelic or Scots.

And all that once made this 1200 year-old nation — just, equitable, fierce, proud, poetic, musical, artistic, inventive, prosperous, internationalist and free — stands to disappear from the earth.

3.3. The Annexing State Blocks All Democratic Remedy

It is only through the international community that Scotland now has any hope of exercising its right to self determination ****

3.4 The Restoration of Scotland could inspire the world.

Scotland has an autochthonous, written and partially codified constitution in which equality, justice, the sovereignty of the people and the inviolability of civil

**** See attachment

and human rights are entrenched. Brought up to date and applied through modern mechanisms, the Scottish constitution could not only restore a common aspect of Scottish identity but could act as an example for a world in dire need of these principles and a method by which to apply them.

In Conclusion

Liberation Scotland has uncovered and revealed the truth of Scotland's annexed status, its true constitutional relationship with England as a subjugated and subordinate nation, a dependent and administered vassal of an English Crown, both explaining and defining, for the first time, the source of the wrongs and oppressions suffered by Scotland's people over three centuries.

Liberation Scotland's Call to Action for the International Community

Liberation Scotland now asserts the right and urgent need:

- to end the colonization of our nation;
- to reclaim our national identity;
- to re-establish our own autochthonous constitution by which the Common Good is the purpose of government and the people are sovereign over their governments and own the territorial assets of our still extant Scottish Crown;
- to take back control of the territorial assets and resources which belong exclusively to the Crown of Scotland, representative of its people;
- to exercise the right of self-determination in the full knowledge of our colonized status, not as a withdrawing 'partner' in a union which has never taken place;
- and thereafter to take our rightful place in the world as a sovereign and independent state.

We look to the international community, of which this nation of Scotland was once a member in good standing, without imperial ambitions and with a record of honest and honourable dealings, to recognize the truth of our colonized status and acknowledge the right of the Scottish people to the free and unencumbered exercise of self-determination it has so long been denied.

LIBERATION SCOTLAND: Member Personal Statements 2024.

Below is a collection of examples of the personal statements received from individual members of Liberation Scotland during the process of ratification of the LS Constitution.

Independence is a matter of survival for Scotland; we must get out of this toxic Union with England. I want a liberated Scotland for myself and all our future generations.

Scotland is the last colony of the British Empire. This must end !

It is a matter of life and death for the ancient nation of Scotland. Our wealth is being asset stripped by the so-called United Kingdom. We are under represented at Westminster, and Holyrood is powerless to resist their policies. There is no democracy in Scotland, and unless we achieve independence we will have no hope.

Wonderful to see the first steps towards the Liberation of our country. I am so happy to finally see a way forward to independence.

It's important to me because they resonate with how I feel inside. It's as if someone has looked inside and written all the things that I feel is required for all the people of Scotland in order for us all to thrive.

Very powerful and emotional reading. Thank you Liberation Scotland. There is hope.

I support the assertion that people of Scotland are Sovereign, and the non-violent means laid out in the Liberation Scotland Constitution to reclaim the rights for the benefit of the people of Scotland.

This Constitution represents the historic, true and lawful constitutional status of the nation of Scotland.

I seek the re-establishment of our independent and sovereign country by internationally legal and peaceful means, as internationally recognised for the long term benefit of the Scottish people.

I have read and fully understood the detail within the proposed Constitution. It is crucial that the sovereignty of the people of Scotland is recognised internationally and the people of Scotland are free to use their right to decide on the future path of the Nation. I endorse the documents and the bodies and membership of Salvo and Liberation Scotland to speak on behalf of me.

Independence is a matter of survival for Scotland, for the next generations. To keep our own lands, assets, resources and make our own decisions.

I have 10 grandchildren. I want to see them thrive, not just survive, in their own country.

I support the Constitution of Liberation Scotland as the organisation wishes to reverse the illegal annexation of Scotland by England in 1707, seeks reparation for Scotland due to the on-going asset-stripping of this country's resources by its colonising neighbour, and to reinstate Scotland's full self-government and independent statehood.

This is a real landmark in the struggle for the rights of the people of Scotland.

For over 317 years the Anglo-British state has raped and pillaged my Nation and specifically denied the inalienable right of the people of Scotland to decide the Government of its own choosing. They

have lied to the People of Scotland and the greater World at large on the status of my nation, to enable the exploitation and suppression of our people and resources.

The democratic rights & culture of the Scottish people are being curtailed by an oppressive foreign regime; ignoring historic articles of Union. I fully support this action of statehood emancipation to protect our peaceful struggle of national liberation.

I belong to an ancient nation, yet I also live in a time when our ancient laws and customs which render us unique are under threat of being subsumed by our larger neighbour, England. Our educational, arts and other expressions of our culture, appoint non-Scots to their top jobs, who may be well intentioned but are often strangers to Scotland's distinct culture and mores. Our own languages (both Scots and Gaelic) are regarded as of lesser value than English and are indeed looked down upon and belittled. Our history is taught in a perfunctory manner. We need to reclaim our sovereignty and Liberation aims to do just that.

The Anglo-British state and establishment neither act for nor represent myself, my country and her people. The values and principles operated by and under that state/establishment are entirely foreign to those of Scotland. As an indigenous Scot, I will support any and all efforts to restore the sovereign rights of the Scottish people and to have the status of my country as an independent nation state, reinstated.

I want to end the exploitation of Scotland. Righting the wrongs and rebuilding our country.

I am Scottish and I want the country of Scotland to be recognised as an independent nation. The people of Scotland are sovereign and I want to reclaim that recognition in international law.

The Westminster lies, asset stripping and the total disregard for the Scottish nation, make this farce of a so called union untenable.

Scotland is treated like a colony. The Westminster government lied to the UN about Scotland being in a voluntary union. I want Scotland to be Independent and be in charge of its own destiny for the sake of our children and all their children.

We, the Scottish people have been oppressed and abused by the English state for centuries, by deception, misinformation and lies. Freedom is a natural desire and a right which currently is being denied to us.

Scotland was undoubtedly colonised in the 18th century with any earlier measures (notably building of military roads) enhanced by the occupation of military garrisons by troops under control of the government in London there to enforce London legislation that sought to undermine or suppress various aspects of Scottish culture. The false teaching that resistance to the union was confined to the Highlands, ignoring for example rioting against the union in lowland towns along with other false history has been used in an attempt to marginalise Scottish national sentiment up to this day. UN Declaration on the Rights of Minorities must be applied to our relationship with the self appointed senior partner in the Union and thereafter UN Resolution 1514 will be seen to apply. Get us out of the toxic union. Different country, different values, different future. Self determination without Westminster interference is our right.

Scotland is a progressive, vibrant, asset-wealthy country which is being controlled and fed upon by England. It deserves the chance to make its decisions and control its own future. Scotland needs to be free of this one-sided, abusive relationship.

I just want my country back for its peoples to decide on the things that matter us and what type of country we want to be for our children and grandchildren and those that follow.

Scotland's people are sovereign and has been usurped by a foreign power, breaking its treaty with Scotland. Undemocratic and providing no consensual method by which the treaty can be annulled.

Scotland is stuck in an abusive relationship with England. Our voice is ignored time and time again. Our needs are ignored time and time again. Our people are dying because of the extreme lack of funds we have access to. We get £32 billion and we make £178 billion. The English government is doing this on purpose.

I want Government of the people of Scotland to be by the people of Scotland. I want the resources of Scotland to be used firstly to benefit its people and then other nations as we feel appropriate. For " Man tae man the world o'er shall Brithers be for aw that" ref. Robert Burns.

The twin-pronged approach to regaining national independence depends on both the restoration through exercising our Scottish Constitution, and internationally, our right to self-determination. These two issues are irrefutable.

I am 63 years old and the people of Scotland have never voted for the Tories in my lifetime and yet we have had to suffer from their policies for roughly half of that time. If we had our freedom, we could have a fair voting system where the government carried out the wishes of the Scottish people. Also approximately 80% of rural Scotland is privately owned but not by the people of Scotland, this doesn't feel like a democracy to me.

I am 84 years old and I have supported Scottish Independence since 1952. We are not a colony, but an equal and sovereign nation.

End the colonialism of Scotland and return our country back to the people from English Rule. The statements and aims of this Constitution are very important to me. Since taking notice of the workings of Westminster, who are trying to eradicate my Scottish culture bit by bit, I feel exploited and oppressed.

It's never too late for reparations especially for our future generations, my children and my grandchildren. It has taken +300 years of lies to reach this stage. We cannot and should not sit idly by thinking it's someone else's work to do. This truly is our opportunity to coalesce (if we can) and achieve our true sovereignty once and for all!!

The system of UK Governance, which holds itself sovereign above the people of Scotland, is not fit for purpose and in conflict with our Scottish Claim of Rights, which assert the supremacy of the Scots over any authority which has been granted the privilege to administer our country. The English state has, for tens of generations, assumed sovereignty over the Scots which willfully invalidates the gift they have been given and returns control back to the people of Scotland. That power must be recognised and granted back to the people of Scotland as a basic democratic right. The system of UK governance is a Constitutional Monarchy disguised as democracy, which again is incompatible with the Scottish culture of equality. Furthermore, the with-holding of UK approval for the People of Scotland to even raise a question on reasserting itself as an independent state outside of the United Kingdom, thereby withdrawing from a treaty they did not democratically enter, is a clear indication of England asserting its Supremacy OVER the people of Scotland indicating it is not a union of equals and the people of Scotland have no democratic voice. All current indications are of a failure to recognise the sovereign people and state of Scotland with a union of equals, and complete disregard of true democracy.

As a sovereign Scot I demand my right, which has been stolen from me, to determine mine and my fellow Scots' destiny without interference from a foreign state.

I want to live in an independent democratic country and I want all citizens of Scotland to know our history and legal standing regarding our right to make our own decisions on how our country is governed. I want all people of Scotland to feel the power of true democracy and of having a voice . I want peace, prosperity for all, collective and egalitarian ways of working and decision making, inclusion, transparency, opportunities, a better future for all. I believe that these things can be achieved by raising awareness amongst the Scottish people of our right to govern ourselves and this is a step towards the possibility of living in the kind of country I would like to see. This is why promoting the statements and aims of this Constitution are important to me.

I am sick of my people starving and freezing when Scotland has an abundance of natural resources. My country is being robbed on a daily basis. Our language has been taken away from us. The Scottish Highlands was ethnically cleansed after the jacobite rising of 1745 - the British government even banned the wearing of Highland dress, taking our identity away.

As a Scot, I abhor the treatment which Scotland and its people receive from the Westminster government, It is akin to modern day slavery. There are so many things, so many choices the people of Scotland cannot make without the consent of the Westminster government. That consent is never forthcoming when it applies to our right of self determination or control of our most valuable assets. This has impoverished Scotland and its people and our rich resources have benefitted only a privileged few who are tied to London. It is important that the Scottish people regain their independence and control their rich assets for the benefit of Scotland. Our kids futures are at stake.

My husband and I cannot bear the thought of even more stealing from all our resources. My goodness, we need out of this union for all our sakes.

I long to be a citizen of my country of birth. Scotland should be an independent country within the United Nations.

Scotland has been colonised against its will to be plundered for its resources. A free independent Scotland with its own sovereign currency would be of enormous benefit and improved quality of life for its citizens.

First the land was taken, then oil and now other forms of energy such as wind generated electricity. What really irks me now is that in Scotland we generate much green energy but we pay more per unit than London and that a new power infrastructure is being installed to serve England.

Scotland is a nation of more than a thousand years' history. it has, for the past 300 or more years, been joined in a voluntary governmental union with England. It now finds itself unable to withdraw from that union without permission from the UK government in London. The union has reduced Scotland from an independent nation to a colony of England. The citizens of Scotland must have the right to decide on the future of their own country. This constitution is a step in that just direction.

I agree with this statement because I want my 5 year old son to grow and flourish in an independent Scotland, and so does his english mother. The world view of both nations is completely incompatible. It is time the last colony of the Empire was freed from it's chains.

Scotland always has been and always has been a Nation. Despite the substantial efforts of our colonisers in the Westminster Parliament in England we still retain our own distinct nationality. This

Constitution is another important step towards our freedom from this colonisation which is stripping the resources of our country with no benefit to the people of Scotland. The scale of asset stripping is now such that we urgently need our freedom before our country is stripped bare and no longer recognisable.

Multiple generations of Scots have had the truth withheld about the true nature of the supposed voluntary union that Scotland is part of. The union began without popular support of the citizenry, having been agreed by Scottish parliamentarians many of whom had been bribed to gain their acceptance. The initial union resulted in riots due to the inequity felt by the significant majority of Scots on signing of the Union treaty. Daniel Defoe, an English spy at the beginning of the Union, stated, 'the Scots will be allowed to send to Westminster, a handful of men who will make no weight whatever. They will be allowed to sit there for form's sake to be laughed at'. Now, after over 300 years of having our resources taken for the financial benefit of the few, and largely for non-Scottish residents, we Scots look at our similarity with Norway and their resources, and whose government has built up a sizeable sovereign wealth fund for the common good of their current and future citizens, to find that we in Scotland have no such bequest from our colonial administrators in the Westminster parliament. Given the degree of magnitude in difference between the Scottish population and the rest of the electorate for the Westminster parliament, we Scots in effect have no democratic means to determine or change how our own resources are managed and controlled. It is my firm belief that Liberation Scotland must take this unjust situation to the United Nations so that this is first recognized by the international community and then resolved for the common good for the people of Scotland to control our own affairs without external influence or control.

I want Justice for Scotland and our people. I want international recognition and acknowledgement of our right to have a voice and a vote on the international stage. A voice who will speak for those forbidden to speak. But first, we Scots must speak up for ourselves.

It is important to me because Scotland is being deprived of the democracy that UN approves for every other nation. The UK did not accurately reflect the status of Scotland within the UK - we are annexed and not allowed to even ask ourselves what democratic direction we wish to choose. We have had one democratic event on this matter in 317 years - and the franchise was open to settlers from the colonising country who outvoted Scots. Scotland has no independent media and our history is not taught in schools so that our indigenous people are unaware of the scale of the fraud perpetrated against us.

Our country has been ruined by the decisions of a foreign government in Westminster. The wishes of the Scottish people can not be fulfilled in a parliament where we are outnumbered 15 to 1.

It makes my blood boil knowing what a rich country we have not only in terms of resources but in its people - they are tolerant and accepting of immigrants and they are pro Europe and inclusion in general. The Scots are a fine people with a huge history of engineering and science excellence. However they are also a people blighted by the hatred and racism of a Brexit-supporting nation south of the border. The Scots pay huge electricity bills despite generating more than its needs, with enormous profits to energy companies and their shareholders. The situation is simply a damned disgrace. When the people were asked in 2014 if they'd want independence, they were blatantly lied to by England because they couldn't afford to lose the revenue raised by Scotland.

Scotland is a nation of more than a thousand years' history. It has, for the past 300 or more years, been joined in a fraudulent governmental union with England. It now finds itself unable to withdraw from that union without permission from the UK government in London. The union has reduced Scotland from an independent nation to a colony of England. The citizens of Scotland must have the right to decide on the future of their own country. This constitution is a step in that just direction.

I feel this is immensely important to convey the true crimes committed against Scotland's land and its people. Genocide has happened over centuries and this word is vital to capture the reality of what has happened, what England had imposed on Scotland.

The Union Government is now, more than ever demonstrating their control over Scotland's assets with the imposition of Freeports and Special Economic Zones, and the removal of our energy, with no discernable benefit to the Scottish people. Until Scotland has independence, we are essentially powerless as a people and a nation. We have voted repeatedly and overwhelmingly for independence, but all conventional party-political routes towards self-determination have been eliminated.

"As long as a hundred of us remain alive, never will we on any conditions be subjected to the lordship of the English. It is in truth not for glory, nor riches, nor honours that we are fighting, but for freedom alone, which no honest man gives up but with life itself"

Because 62% of Scots voted to stay in the EU and our masters in England dragged us out regardless of our opinion/referendum result.

For Scotland to prosper and its people to flourish we must be freed from the economic exploitation and political oppression of UK governments that are an expression of the English state and its colonial and racist attitudes towards Scotland.

A native born Scot, it is my heartfelt wish to see my country free.

I believe that this is the only route left to allow me as a free Scot to gain myself, my childrens' and my grandchildrens' democratic right to decide our futures.

Our liberation is paramount, and never more so at this time. As a nation, we have so much to offer our citizens, many of whom are still blinded by their lack of knowledge in Scotland's ability to be brilliantly successful on her own terms. I pray I live to see that joyous day. Thank you all, for all you do. I want a better future for my children and grandchildren.

Our sovereignty must be recognised; decolonisation must take place. I hope to see an Independent Scotland within my lifetime.

The people of Scotland are sovereign, not the English parliament.

I believe the country has changed for the worse since I was a little girl and I have fears for the future generations to come and what their future will look like.

The country of Scotland is being extinguished in front of my eyes by the Anglo-British state, my culture and languages are suppressed and I and so many others now languish in poverty under the harshest policies of the Anglo-British government, so harsh that many of us are impoverished and face death by hypothermia and malnutrition, in spite of the huge wealth of Scotland's national assets. It is heartbreaking to see and to experience! Scots need to reclaim our self-determination and to decolonise as a matter of urgency.

As a lifelong supporter of Scottish independence, the statements and aims of Liberation Scotland's proposal constitution are near and dear to my heart. With formal registration with the UN, our grassroots movement will be another step closer to achieving our aims of a fair and prosperous independent Scotland on the world stage.

Scotland is ready to stand as a nation within the community of nations at the UN. With a strong minority Indigenous Gaelic population who can support the world movement of first peoples, and a widespread unifying culture with the national saint Andrew, and national poet Rabbin Burns both celebrated annually, Scotland has strong ethnological credentials.

The political route to regaining Scotland's independence from within the UK is being deliberately frustrated. We need support from the international community to break this impasse.

It is extremely important that the indigenous peoples of Scotland assert their Sovereignty over the nation and country of Scotland. Our inclusion in the so called United Kingdom was done through the greed and duplicitous actions of traitors and betrayers.

I am a 70 year old Scots woman, who has voted for the independence of my country. The British government told lies to the people during the 2014 referendum, people were scared into believing the lies and propaganda. Our history, language and culture is not taught to our people. Children were taught the history of a foreign country (England). Before I die I long to see my children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren working and living in a free and prosperous Scotland.

Decolonisation is vital if we are to truly be independent and restore Scots sovereignty.

Too much and too many lives have been taken from Scotland and her people. Our country is being sliced and pulled apart for the benefit of others and for the benefit of the Westminster machine, its friends, and its investors, leaving Scotland worn, battered, depleted and under invested in. Scotland gives the Westminster Treasury many hundreds of billions of pounds every year, upon year, for a miserly £30 billion back, that is just enough to keep the Sovereign people in Scotland suppressed, repressed, oppressed and depressed with no control or redress to stop the population decline destruct of our people our culture and our human rights to have a common good structure within the Scottish culture. That theft of our wealth proves that we are a dependency. This means our towns and cities and villages and our Sovereign Scottish people are assured that they will be kept impoverished for the benefit and greed of the dominant partner of this unequal Union.

I recognise I am living in a colony and find it unacceptable. It is hoped that this could be taught as part of the Scottish schools curriculum and also posted nationally.

The statement and aims of the constitution are important to me because it sets out, in normal and legal terms, the truth and how the nation of Scotland has been subjected to colonial rule by England.

Scotland always has been and always has been a Nation. Despite the substantial efforts of our colonisers in the Westminster Parliament in England we still retain our own distinct Nationality. This Constitution is another important step towards our freedom from this colonisation which is stripping the resources of our country with no benefit to the people of Scotland. The scale of asset stripping is now such that we urgently need our freedom before our country is stripped bare and no longer recognisable.

I am 68 years old today and all my life I have been misgoverned by a foreign power that has treated my country and its citizens as second class citizens.

Every nation has the right to self-determination. Scotland is no different.

The de facto colonisation and inevitable exploitation that goes with it are a large part of the appalling physical and mental health of our nation. As a physician I wish to note that decolonisation will extend both life and health span in Scotland.

I have been longing for Scotland to be an Independent Country for over half a century. I pray that day comes soon.

I am a sovereign Scot, a citizen of an ancient nation, and by no means a British subject. A grievous injustice was perpetrated against Scotland by the actions of a few wealthy, greedy and entitled men, contrary to the express will and desires of the sovereign people of Scotland. I empower and endorse Liberation Scotland to seek to rectify that injustice on my behalf, and on the behalf of all Scots, both indigenous and naturalised as this alleged 'union' is in reality, no 'union' whatsoever, but an increasingly dictatorial entity that has usurped Scotland, her people and her resources for 317 years. I believe this to be our last and only hope for restoration and restitution.

I want Justice for Scotland and our people. I want international recognition and acknowledgement of our right to have a voice and a vote on the international stage. A voice who will speak for those forbidden to speak. But first, we must speak up for ourselves.

I wish to live in a country where my voice and vote are counted. Where my taxes are paid directly to Scotland to be solely managed and used in Scotland. I want my children and grandchildren to grow up knowing that the decisions that will affect their lifestyle will be made by people who live in the same country as them and understand the importance of Scotland's diversity.

The statements and aims outlined in this constitution are important to me as they provide a coherent and explicit explanation of the crime being committed against me and other sovereign Scottish nationals of unlawful annexation and covert colonisation by the Anglo-British state. It's ongoing suppression of my human right to assert self-determination, both as an individual and collectively as a nation, is unlawful and undemocratic. This document serves as the reference upon which the claim to self-determination can be made.

Scotland is a colony of England. In my lifetime England has asset stripped Scotland while leaving Scots living in poverty. North Sea Oil and gas is the obvious example where around £25 trillion has flowed to Westminster with little benefit to Scotland. Today EGL2, Eastern Green Link 2 is being planned for completion by 2029 and will cable almost all of Scotland's renewable energy to Drax in Yorkshire England for FREE again with no benefit to the people of Scotland. The work of Liberation Scotland is essential to progress the case for Scottish independence from England, especially given the failings of Scotland's SNP Government. Thanks to them and to you.

Scotland has been illegally subjugated by the English state, its assets stripped and its people impoverished for centuries. This has to end !

Scotland is an ancient country. We have been duped into believing we are part of a voluntary equal union. This is a lie !

The aims of the constitution are the very rock that our nation is based on. The Act of Union was not agreed by the Scottish people and has never been an equal union. We wish to be free of our English overlords.

I see this as the only way to free my country from being an English colony which is being disguised by naming it a Union. My children and grandchildren deserve to live and thrive in a free Scotland.

I wish to see Scotland independent and out of this toxic UK.

I am a Scot. My country is colonised, my ethnicity, my language, my culture is being extinguished by England and Anglophiles.

Scotland has the right to be governed by the people of Scotland, and no one else.

Scotland should never have been gifted to England by the corrupt elites. Our country has given so much to the world and our neighbours claim it as theirs.

Over 300 years of injustice, exploitation and repression can begin to be addressed by the success of this endeavour. Scotland should be free.

Scotland has and always has had, different priorities from England. Scotland should be in charge of these priorities, not an unelected neighbouring government whose main aim is to exploit Scotland with its power - which is what it has done for over three centuries!

Like all colonial subjects, the people of Scotland deserve liberation.

Scotland's people are being impoverished. It is time the last colony of the Empire was freed from it's chains.

I believe in the sovereign right of the people of Scotland to decide Scotland's future.

I would like to see an independent Scotland free to run it's own affairs of State for it's sovereign people. The sovereign people of my country Scotland to have the right to govern by themselves and to have a democratic freedom to vote without interference by our Colonial Master England. Decisions for Scotland made Law in Scottish Parliament only.

Because I want our sovereign democratic rights to be honoured – the folk of Scotland – to be free from the outright wrongful injustice of English tyranny, and to stop the centuries old plundering and stealing of our assets by the English state. Allowing Scotland to become a truly free independent nation, so that we may live under our own self governance and rules; our nation, with our own free-will and choices. Where then, I hope Scotland would use our sovereign wealth to fully support the lives of all our citizens – focusing on what I believe are the core values of Scots – creating a more liberal caring, fairer society for everyone, and not just the privileged few. Giving us the choice to also abandon the practices of the unfair English biased governance; one that seeks to pander and promote the self-serving practices of the egocentric, selfishness, greedy, profiteering and corrupt sectors and industries that are most commonly associated with free-market neoliberalism, and that are heavily influenced by an elite few of super wealthy individuals, and the banking/ financial market sectors.

It is a step in the right direction for international recognition of Scotland as an independent nation.

Independence is normal. Oppression, rewriting history and asset stripping by another state is not.

The people of Scotland are being denied their sovereignty and the assets of Scotland and being stripped by its neighbour England, calling itself United Kingdom.

The restoration of the Rights of Scots as detailed in the proposed constitution will finally restore what has been removed by the Anglo-State. It is an emotional read. It means Scots will, finally, be treated with dignity and respect. Thank you.

Scotland has been plundered for 300 years it's long enough for us to suffer English domination.

I believe this constitution is Scotland's chance for a brighter future. We are a progressive, multicultural, forward thinking, inclusive people and our constitution should reflect this. This is the future I want for my children and grandchildren; an Independent Scotland.

Scotland is tied into an unfair, undemocratic union of inequality that according to London in a voluntary union but they refuse to allow Scotland a democratic route to leave this union of inequality. The wealth of our nation and natural resources is being stolen from us by our colonial rulers in London. The Scotland of people are not benefiting from the wealth of our nation has. Our taxes and national resources are being stolen and squandered by the English.

The aims of the constitution are the basis of a peaceful method of achieving independence for the nation of Scotland. A democratic route for the people of Scotland to choose its own future is being denied by the British Anglo state government that has colonised the nation of Scotland. I wish my country to be free to make its own decisions, elect its own central government and have full control of its resources, fiscal, environmental and welfare policies.

I want Scotland to be free of being a colony, and to seek and receive reparations from England for the last 317 years.

There has never been a greater need to restore the rights of the Scottish people to its origins and to determine our future by our own hands.

For the liberation and freedom of my children and grandchildren. We are Scotland !

Scotland was a sovereign independent nation with an excellent Constitution, we **MUST** get our Country back.

Scotland's culture is being destroyed and our resources are being plundered by the Westminster Government. The Scottish Parliament and the Scottish people of Scotland, have a voice and this voice is ignored and frequently mocked. The ideals and culture of the Scottish people are ignored.

I'm Scots-Irish and the British Crown perpetrates hate crimes against Scotland & Ireland and our peoples.

As an English born resident of Scotland for almost 5 decades, I fully recognise the wealth and global power of the country of my birth, England, has been at the financial, cultural and historic cost of each nation around the world that it colonised, without those nations having either a democratic say or choice. When there has been an electoral choice, as was the case with Scotland, it was not made with the democratic mandate of the Sovereign people of Scotland.

It is time. For my children and children's children. For the liberation of our beautiful country, Scotland !