

Wales for Europe • Cymru dros Ewrop

# **Our Manifesto on Europe**

A blueprint for the next Senedd in Wales

## Preface

Wales for Europe is an independent, cross-party organisation that - in the interests of both peace and prosperity - campaigns for a closer relationship between Wales and the European Union, and for the rights of EU citizens living in Wales. Founded in 2016, the movement now represents thousands of supporters and remains the most prominent pro-Europe group based in Wales.

We are proud to work with our UK-wide partner organisation, European Movement UK, which has over 27,000 members and 250,000 registered supporters. We are also pleased to cooperate with Senedd members by providing the Secretariat for their Cross-Party Group for Europe. This mirrors similar work done by EM-UK with the Westminster parliament.

This manifesto has been produced by the Directors and Branch Representatives group of Wales for Europe. We thank all members, supporters and stakeholders who have contributed and commented on drafts.

Events at the international conference at Davos in January 2026 made it very clear that the issue of the UK rejoining the Single European Market and Customs Union can no longer be postponed. A definite commitment towards rejoining the EU must now be considered as a matter of great urgency, not only for political, social and cultural reasons, but in order to strengthen economic and, indeed, military security among like-minded nations.

On behalf of Wales for Europe,

**Anthony Slaughter**      **President, Wales for Europe.**

**Dr Charles Smith**      **Chair, Wales for Europe.**

Visit our website: <https://www.walesforeurope.org>

## Introduction

It has been six years since the United Kingdom left the European Union. In that time, Wales and the UK have endured a succession of crises: multiple Prime Ministers, a global pandemic, a cost-of-living emergency, war in eastern Europe and in recent months a dangerous diplomatic crisis over Greenland. These events have tested and are continuing to test our resilience, our values, and our economy.

In such a fragile world it is more important than ever for Europe to be united – economically and politically, as well as in terms of security and defence. We can no longer rely on alliances that we have depended on for more than 80 years. The UK is at risk of being seen as weak, isolated and exposed in an increasingly unstable world. These factors magnify the case for the UK to rejoin the EU.

Even before this year's international crisis, public opinion had shifted decisively, a growing majority across Britain now recognising that Brexit has had a damaging impact on our economy.

As early as 2022, polling showed that in every one of Wales's forty constituencies, more people regretted leaving the EU than supported the decision. A Deltapoll survey, published in January 2026, indicated that 65% of people surveyed in Wales would cast their ballot to rejoin the EU if there was another referendum. Amongst 18-24-year-olds across Britain, 86% would vote to rejoin.

While political parties rightly focus on issues such as health, education, housing and security, it is increasingly clear that we cannot meet these challenges without a stronger, more productive relationship with the European Union. The international crisis redoubles the strength of these arguments.

The UK's Office for Budget Responsibility has estimated a 4% long-term reduction in GDP as a result of Brexit. Independent analysis by the National Bureau of Economic Research suggests the impact may be even greater, with GDP reduced by between 6% and 8%, investment down by up to 18%, and employment and productivity falling by 3% to 4% respectively.

The economy of Wales and UK can be strengthened only by being part of the EU's Single Market and Customs Union, with the necessary alignment of rules and standards. A strong economy will also be vital to enable us to invest in our defence capabilities alongside European partners. For all these reasons we must begin to repair our relationship with Europe. Ahead of the 2026 Senedd election, Wales for Europe calls for a renewed partnership with our European neighbours — one rooted in cooperation, shared values and mutual prosperity, as well as the recognition of common external threats.

This Manifesto presents a clear blueprint for the next Senedd: practical, forward-looking policies to mitigate the consequences of leaving the EU, and to build the foundations for Wales's eventual return to the heart of Europe as an active member of the European Union.

# The Next Senedd should:

1. Urge EU leaders to commit to closer collaboration in all spheres, including defence, in the interests of peace in Europe and the world.
2. Continue to support the work of its Cross-Party Group for Europe.
3. Ensure that the Welsh Government creates a Cabinet role responsible for international affairs.
4. Commit to building a clearer and stronger relationship with Europe, arguing strongly for rejoining the customs union and single market, and, ultimately, the European Union.
5. Commission an independent assessment of the economic, cultural and social impact of Brexit in Wales — including retail, hospitality, education, transport, tourism, the arts and public services — and propose practical remedies for improvement.
6. Halt the erosion of standards and rights since leaving the EU, and ensure that Wales maintains, at minimum, equivalent protections and regulations.
7. Recommit to cooperation with the EU by:

- Pursuing deeper collaboration with the EU on climate action, food safety, environmental protection, culture, scientific research and defence.
- Seeking associate membership of key European programmes and agencies, such as Erasmus+ and Creative Europe.
- Seeking an ever-closer relationship with devolved nations and regions and other stakeholders within Europe.
- Strengthening the role of the Welsh envoy to Brussels.
- Making the coordination of these measures a key role among the responsibilities of a Cabinet portfolio holder for international affairs.

## 1. A Closer Relationship with Europe

Wales has always looked outward. At a time when international cooperation is under strain and our membership of the European Convention on Human Rights is questioned, we must show principled leadership. Wales should stand for openness, democracy, and partnership. Recent developments - such as the UK's readmission to the Horizon Europe research programme and Erasmus+ - show what can be achieved through constructive engagement. The next Senedd should build on this momentum and champion a stronger partnership with our closest allies.

### Key Recommendations:

- Support a principled UK foreign policy that prioritises collaboration with European partners and strengthens European security.
- Refresh and strengthen the Senedd's international engagement within the EU and beyond, in the interests of sustainable economic development, peace, democracy and culture.
- Defend the UK's continued membership of the European Convention on Human Rights.
- Recognise the positive shift in public opinion on future UK membership of the EU, and act accordingly.

## 2. An Independent Assessment of Brexit's Impact

Nearly a decade after the referendum, we must honestly assess what Brexit has meant for Wales. Surveys show that even among Leave voters, many now acknowledge that the economy, prices, and trust in politics have all worsened. The next Senedd should press the UK Government to commission a transparent, independent review of the consequences of Brexit — and use that evidence to guide future policy.

### Key Recommendations:

- Commission an independent report on the impact of leaving the single market, customs union, and other EU programmes and institutions.
- Evaluate the real benefits and losses of new trade agreements since Brexit.
- Publish findings and set out a clear policy path to address the damage and rebuild prosperity.

### 3. Protecting Standards and Rights

Membership of the EU gave Wales strong protections in a number of areas, from workers' rights to environmental standards. Since leaving, those safeguards have eroded. The Retained EU Law Act 2023 risks further weakening them, granting UK Government Ministers wide powers to change or remove vital protections with minimal scrutiny. We must not allow a gradual decline in standards to undermine our wellbeing or our global reputation.

#### Key Recommendations:

- Reverse the erosion of rights and standards since leaving the EU.
- Replace the Retained EU Law Act with a binding legal guarantee to maintain or exceed previous standards.
- Maintain close alignment with EU regulations on medicines, aviation, chemicals, food, data, and environmental protection.

### 4. Rebuilding cooperation with the EU

Wales was removed from countless European programmes and institutions that once provided tangible benefits — from Erasmus+ to the European Environment Agency. This isolation has harmed our young people, our researchers, and our cultural industries. We should now rejoin or associate with as many of these programmes as possible. Partnership is the route to opportunity, innovation and shared prosperity.

#### Key Recommendations:

- Consolidate the new agreement between the UK and EU on the Erasmus+ programme.
- Support a UK-EU Youth Mobility Scheme to restore opportunities for a wider cohort of young people to study, work and train abroad.
- Rejoin Creative Europe, and support reciprocal cultural touring arrangements for musicians, performers and creative professionals.
- Seek closer links with the European Medicines Agency and the European Environment Agency.
- Strengthen cooperation with the EU in climate action, food safety, environmental protection, culture, scientific research and defence.

## 5. Get Involved

If you are a candidate for the next Senedd election, you can share your views on these proposals by completing our candidates' survey at:

**<https://www.walesforeurope.org/candidatesurvey>**

To find out more about our campaigns, contact us at:

**[hello@walesforeurope.org](mailto:hello@walesforeurope.org)**

Or visit:

**<https://www.walesforeurope.org/ourmanifesto>**



***WALES FOR EUROPE***  
***CYMRU DROS EWROP***

Wales for Europe • Cymru dros Ewrop

# Ein Maniffesto ar Ewrop

Glasbrint ar gyfer ein Senedd nesaf yng Nghymru

## Rhagair

Mae Cymru dros Ewrop yn sefydliad trawsbleidiol annibynnol sydd - er budd heddych a ffyniant - yn ymgyrchu dros berthynas agosach rhwng Cymru a'r Undeb Ewropeaidd, a thros hawliau dinasyddion yr UE sy'n byw yng Nghymru. Wedi'i sefydlu yn 2016, mae'r mudiad bellach yn cynrychioli miloedd o gefnogwyr ac yn parhau i fod y grŵp pro-Ewrop mwyaf amlwg sydd wedi'i leoli yng Nghymru.

Rydym yn falch o weithio gyda'n sefydliad partner ledled y DU, Mudiad Ewropeaidd y DU, sydd â dros 27,000 o aelodau a 250,000 o gefnogwyr cofrestredig. Rydym hefyd yn falch o gydweithio ag aelodau'r Senedd trwy ddarparu'r Ysgrifenyddiaeth ar gyfer eu Grŵp Trawsbleidiol ar Ewrop. Mae hyn yn adlewyrchu gwaith tebyg a wneir gan EM-UK gyda senedd San Steffan.

Cynhyrchwyd y maniffesto hwn gan grŵp Cyfarwyddwyr a Chynrychiolwyr Cangen Cymru dros Ewrop. Diolchwn i bob aelod, cefnogwr a rhanddeiliad sydd wedi cyfrannu ac wedi rhoi sylwadau ar ddrafftiau.

Gwnaeth digwyddiadau yn y gynhadledd ryngwladol yn Davos ym mis Ionawr 2026 yn glir iawn na ellir gohirio mater ailymuno'r DU â'r Farchnad Sengl Ewropeaidd a'r Undeb Tollau mwyach. Rhaid ystyried ymrwymiad pendant tuag at ailymuno â'r UE fel mater o frys mawr nawr, nid yn unig am resymau gwleidyddol, cymdeithasol a diwylliannol, ond er mwyn cryfhau diogelwch economaidd ac, yn wir, milwrol ymhlith cenedloedd o'r un anian.

Ar ran Cymru dros Ewrop,

**Anthony Slaughter**      **Llywydd, Cymru dros Ewrop.**

**Dr Charles Smith**      **Cadeirydd, Cymru dros Ewrop.**

Ewch i'n gwefan: <https://www.walesforeurope.org>

## Rhagarweiniad

Mae chwe blynedd wedi mynd heibio ers i'r Deyrnas Unedig adael yr Undeb Ewropeaidd. Yn ystod y cyfnod hwnnw, mae Cymru a'r DU wedi dioddef cyfres o argyfyngau: nifer o Brif Weinidogion, pandemig byd-eang, argyfwng costau byw, rhyfel yn nwyrain Ewrop ac yn ystod y misoedd diwethaf argyfwng diplomyddol peryglus dros yr Ynys Las. Mae'r digwyddiadau hyn wedi profi ac yn parhau i brofi ein gwydnwch, ein gwerthoedd, a'n heconomi.

Mewn byd mor fregus, mae'n bwysicach nag erioed i Ewrop fod yn unedig – yn economaidd ac yn wleidyddol, yn ogystal ag o ran diogelwch ac amddiffyn. Ni allwn ddibynnu mwyach ar gynghreiriau yr ydym wedi dibynnu arnynt ers dros 80 mlynedd. Mae'r DU mewn perygl o gael ei hystyried yn wan, ynysig ac agored mewn byd sy'n gynyddol ansefydlog. Mae'r ffactorau hyn yn tanlinellu'r achos dros i'r DU ailymuno â'r UE.

Hyd yn oed cyn argyfwng rhyngwladol eleni, roedd barn y cyhoedd wedi newid yn bendant, gyda mwyafrif cynyddol ledled Prydain bellach yn cydnabod bod Brexit wedi cael effaith niweidiol ar ein heconomi.

Mor gynnar â 2022, dangosodd polau piniwn fod mwy o bobl yn difaru gadael yr UE nag a gefnogodd y penderfyniad ym mhob un o ddeugain etholaeth Cymru. Nododd arolwg Deltapoll, a gyhoeddwyd ym mis Ionawr 2026, y byddai 65% o'r bobl a holwyd yng Nghymru yn pleidleisio i ailymuno â'r UE pe bai refferendwm arall. Ymhlith pobl 18-24 oed ledled Prydain, byddai 86% yn pleidleisio i ailymuno.

Er bod pleidiau gwleidyddol yn canolbwyntio'n briodol ar faterion fel iechyd, addysg, tai a diogelwch, mae'n dod yn fwyfwy amlwg na allwn ni wynebu'r heriau hyn heb berthynas gryfach a mwy cynhyrchiol â'r Undeb Ewropeaidd. Mae'r argyfwng rhyngwladol yn cryfhau'r dadleuon hyn.

Mae Swyddfa Cyfrifoldeb Cyllidebol y DU wedi amcangyfrif gostyngiad hirdymor o 4% mewn CMC o ganlyniad i Brexit. Mae dadansoddiad annibynnol gan y Swyddfa Genedlaethol Ymchwil Economaidd yn awgrymu y gallai'r effaith fod hyd yn oed yn fwy, gyda CMC wedi'i ostwng rhwng 6% ac 8%, buddsoddiad i lawr hyd at 18%, a chyflogaeth a chynhyrchiant yn gostwng 3% i 4% yn y drefn honno.

Dim ond drwy fod yn rhan o Farchnad Sengl ac Undeb Tollau'r UE y gellir cryfhau economi Cymru a'r DU, gyda'r cydlyniant angenrheidiol o reolau a safonau. Bydd economi gref hefyd yn hanfodol i'n galluogi i fuddsoddi yn ein galluoedd amddiffyn ochr yn ochr â phartneriaid Ewropeaidd. Am yr holl resymau hyn, rhaid inni ddechrau atgyweirio ein perthynas ag Ewrop.

Cyn etholiad y Senedd yn 2026, mae Cymru dros Ewrop yn galw am bartneriaeth newydd gyda'n cymdogion Ewropeaidd — un sydd wedi'i gwreiddio mewn cydweithrediad, gwerthoedd a rennir, a ffyniant cydfuddiannol, yn ogystal â chydabod bygythiadau allanol a rennir.

Mae'r Maniffesto hwn yn cyflwyno glasbrint clir ar gyfer y Senedd nesaf: Dyma bolisiau ymarferol, sy'n edrych ymlaen i liniaru canlyniadau gadael yr UE, ac i adeiladu'r sylfeini ar gyfer dychweliad Cymru i ganol Ewrop yn y pen draw fel aelod gweithredol o'r Undeb Ewropeaidd.

# Dylai'r Senedd Nesaf:

1. Annog arweinwyr yr UE i ymrwymo i gydweithio'n agosach ym mhob maes, gan gynnwys amddiffyn, er budd heddwch yn Ewrop a'r byd.
2. Barhau i gefnogi gwaith ei Grŵp Trawsbleidiol dros Ewrop.
3. Sicrhau bod Llywodraeth Cymru yn creu rôl Cabinet sy'n gyfrifol am faterion rhyngwladol.
4. Ymrwymo i adeiladu perthynas gliriach a chryfach ag Ewrop, gan ddadlau'n gryf dros ailymuno â'r undeb tollau a'r farchnad sengl, ac, yn y pen draw, â'r Undeb Ewropeaidd.
5. Comisiynu asesiad annibynnol o effaith economaidd, ddiwylliannol a chymdeithasol Brexit ar Gymru — gan gynnwys manwerthu, lletygarwch, addysg, trafndiaeth, twristiaeth, y celfyddydau a gwasanaethau cyhoeddus — a chynnig atebion ymarferol ar gyfer eu gwella.
6. Atal erydiad safonau a hawliau ers gadael yr UE, a sicrhau bod Cymru'n cynnal, o leiaf, amddiffyniadau a rheoliadau cyfatebol.
7. Ailymrwymo i gydweithredu â'r UE drwy:

- **Mynd ar drywydd cydweithredu dyfnach â'r UE ar weithredu ar yr hinsawdd, diogelwch bwyd, diogelu'r amgylchedd, diwylliant, ymchwil wyddonol ac amddiffyn.**

- **Ceisio aelodaeth gysylltiol o raglenni ac asiantaethau Ewropeaidd allweddol, fel Erasmus+ ac Ewrop Greadigol.**

- **Ceisio perthynas agosach fyth â gwledydd a rhanbarthau datganoledig a rhanddeiliaid eraill o fewn Ewrop.**

- **Cryfhau rôl llysgennad Cymru i Frwse.**

- **Cydlynu'r mesurau hyn i fod yn rôl allweddol ymhlith cyfrifoldebau deiliad portffolio Cabinet ar gyfer materion rhyngwladol.**

# 1. Perthynas Agosach ag Ewrop

Mae Cymru bob amser wedi edrych y tu allan iddi hi ei hun. Ar adeg pan fo cydweithrediad rhyngwladol dan straen a bod ein haelodaeth o Gonfensiwn Ewropeaidd ar Hawliau Dynol yn cael ei chwestiynu, rhaid inni ddangos arweinyddiaeth egwyddorol. Dylai Cymru sefyll dros agoredrwydd, democratiaeth a phartneriaeth. Mae datblygiadau diweddar - fel ail-dderbyn y DU i raglen ymchwil Horizon Europe ac Erasmus+ - yn dangos yr hyn y gellir ei gyflawni drwy ymgysylltu adeiladol. Dylai'r Senedd nesaf adeiladu ar y momentwm hwn a hyrwyddo partneriaeth gryfach â'n cyngbreiriaid agosaf.

## Argymhellion Allweddol:

- Cefnogi polisi tramor egwyddorol gan y DU sy'n blaenoriaethu cydweithio â phartneriaid Ewropeaidd ac yn cryfhau diogelwch Ewrop.
- Adnewyddu a chryfhau ymgysylltiad rhyngwladol y Senedd o fewn yr UE a thu hwnt, er budd datblygiad economaidd cynaliadwy, heddwch, democratiaeth a diwylliant.
- Amddiffyn aelodaeth barhaus y DU o Gonfensiwn Ewropeaidd ar Hawliau Dynol.
- Cydnabod y newid cadarnhaol ym marn y cyhoedd ar aelodaeth y DU o'r UE yn y dyfodol, a gweithredu yn unol â hynny.

# 2. Aseiad Annibynnol o Effaith Brexit

Bron i ddegawd ar ôl y refferendwm, rhaid inni asesu'n onest beth mae Brexit wedi'i olygu i Gymru. Mae arolygon yn dangos, hyd yn oed ymhlith y rhai a bleidleisiodd "Gadael", fod llawer bellach yn cydnabod bod yr economi, prisiau ac ymddiriedaeth mewn gwleidyddiaeth i gyd wedi gwaethygu. Dylai'r Senedd nesaf bwysu ar Lywodraeth y DU i gomisiynu adolygiad tryloyw ac annibynnol o ganlyniadau Brexit - a defnyddio'r dystiolaeth honno i arwain polisi yn y dyfodol.

## Argymhellion Allweddol:

- Comisiynu adroddiad annibynnol ar effaith gadael y farchnad sengl, yr undeb tollau, a rhaglenni a sefydliadau eraill yr UE.
- Gwerthuso manteision a cholledion gwirioneddol cytundebau masnach newydd ers Brexit.
- Cyhoeddi canfyddiadau a nodi llwybr polisi clir i fynd i'r afael â'r difrod ac ailadeiladu ffyniant.

### 3. Diogelu Safonau a Hawliau

Rhoddodd aelodaeth o'r UE amddiffyniadau cryf i Gymru mewn nifer o feysydd, o hawliau gweithwyr i safonau amgylcheddol. Ers gadael, mae'r mesurau diogelwch hynny wedi erydu. Mae Deddf Cyfraith yr UE a Gedwir 2023 mewn perygl o'u gwanhau ymhellach, gan roi pwerau eang i Weinidogion Llywodraeth y DU i newid neu ddileu amddiffyniadau hanfodol gyda chraffu lleiaf posibl. Rhaid inni beidio â chaniatáu i ddirywiad graddol mewn safonau danseilio ein lles na'n henw da byd-eang.

#### Argymhellion Allweddol:

- Gwrthdroi erydiad hawliau a safonau ers gadael yr UE.
- Disodli Deddf Cyfraith yr UE a Gedwir gyda gwarant gyfreithiol rwymol i gynnal neu ragori ar safonau blaenorol.
- Cynnal aliniad agos â rheoliadau'r UE ar feddyginiaethau, awyrennau, cemegau, bwyd, data, a diogelu'r amgylchedd.

### 4. Ailadeiladu cydweithrediad â'r UE

Cafodd Cymru ei thynnu o nifer dirifedi o raglenni a sefydliadau Ewropeaidd a oedd unwaith yn darparu buddion pendant — o Erasmus+ i Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd Ewropeaidd. Mae'r unigedd hwn wedi niweidio ein pobl ifanc, ein hymchwilyr, a'n diwydiannau diwylliannol. Dylem nawr ailymuno neu gysylltu â chynifer o'r rhaglenni hyn â phosibl. Partneriaeth yw'r llwybr i gyfle, arloesedd a ffyniant a rennir.

#### Argymhellion Allweddol:

- Cydgrynhoi'r cytundeb newydd rhwng y DU a'r UE ar raglen Erasmus+.
- Cefnogi Cynllun Symudedd Ieuencid y DU-UE i adfer cyfleoedd i garfan ehangach o bobl ifanc astudio, gweithio a hyfforddi dramor.
- Ailymuno ag Ewrop Greadigol, a chefnogi trefniadau teithio diwylliannol cilyddol ar gyfer cerddorion, perfformwyr a gweithwyr proffesiynol creadigol.
- Ceisio cysylltiadau agosach ag Asiantaeth Meddyginiaethau Ewrop ac Asiantaeth Amgylchedd Ewrop.
- Cryfhau cydweithrediad â'r UE mewn gweithredu dros yr hinsawdd, diogelwch bwyd, diogelu'r amgylchedd, diwylliant, ymchwil wyddonol ac amddiffyn.

## **5. Eich Ymwneud chi**

Os ydych chi'n ymgeisydd ar gyfer etholiad nesaf y Senedd, gallwch rannu eich barn ar y cynigion hyn drwy gwblhau ein harolwg ar gyfer ymgeiswyr yn:

**<https://www.walesforeurope.org/candidatesurvey>**

I gael gwybod mwy am ein hymgyrchoedd, cysylltwch â ni ar:

**[hello@walesforeurope.org](mailto:hello@walesforeurope.org)**

Neu ewch i:

**<https://www.walesforeurope.org/ourmanifesto>**



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