

Greens: “The Stansted 15 are human rights defenders – the real criminals are the Home Office.”



10 December 2018

In reaction to the conviction of the Stanstead 15 [1], Green Party of England and Wales co-leader Jonathan Bartley denounced the treatment of the activists as “unprecedented and wrong”. He also called for root and branch reform of the UK’s immigration system and an end to charter flights.

Bartley said:

“The treatment of the Stansted 15 is unprecedented and is wrong. From the trumped up charges they faced to the verdicts handed down. The principled action the Stansted 15 took exposed the brutality of these secretive charter flights, and a number of people set to be removed from the UK on that plane have been able to stay in the UK safely as a result of their principled actions. The Stansted 15 are human rights defenders – the real criminals are the Home Office.

“We need root and branch reform of our immigration system and that can start with stopping the use of charter flights for deportations immediately.”

[1] <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/stansted-15-deportation-stop-london-airport-guilty-verdict-terror-a8675966.html>

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Green Party says European Court of Justice ruling ‘lights way out of Brexit chaos’



10 December 2018

The Green Party of England and Wales and Scottish Green Party welcome the

news this morning that the European Court of Justice ruling has confirmed the UK can unilaterally revoke Article 50.

Ross Greer, Green Member of Scottish Parliament and one of the pursuers of the action to the ECJ said:

“This is a huge victory for the UK, achieved despite the Conservative government’s attempts to prevent it and limit their own options. We now have legal certainty that the UK is free to change its mind and stop the process of leaving the EU. We can stay in and enjoy not just the significant benefits of membership but the unique benefits of the UK’s advantageous membership and all of the opt-outs which come with it.

“That is a choice for us alone to make and does not require the approval of any other EU state and it is a choice the people should be free to make via a referendum. It is clear that we don’t have to choose between becoming poorer with May’s deal or much poorer very quickly with No-Deal, there is another way. It’s time to let the public take back control of the Brexit process.”

Molly Scott-Cato, Green Party of England and Wales Brexit spokesperson said:

“The ECJ ruling has lit up the path out of the Brexit calamity. MPs should vote down the withdrawal agreement tomorrow and then support a People’s Vote. If the country support continuing EU membership the court has told us we can revoke Art 50 and keep our existing terms. The threat to this strategy comes from Labour whose posturing around mythical renegotiation and a general election would waste the time we need to organise the referendum.”

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Greens welcome ECJ advisor opinion that UK can stop Article 50 without EU approval



4 December 2018

The Green Party of England and Wales and the Scottish Greens have welcomed the opinion of the Advocate General of the European Court of Justice (ECJ) Manuel Campos Sánchez-Bordona, which indicates that the UK can unilaterally revoke Article 50.

The opinion comes as Westminster debates the Prime Minister's Brexit deal, and is expected to be confirmed by the full ECJ in January, following legal action brought to the ECJ by a group of Scottish politicians including Ross Greer MSP.

Ross Greer, Green Member of Scottish Parliament and one of the pursuers of the action to the ECJ, said:

"It's now clearer than ever that the UK does not have to pick between the terrible deal negotiated by the Tories or the disaster of a no-deal Brexit. The choice of becoming much worse off or disastrously worse off is no choice at all. We now we know this omnishambles can be ended though, ideally by putting the final say back in the hands of the public."

Molly Scott-Cato MEP, Green Party Brexit spokesperson, said:

"This opinion sends a clear message to Westminster that there is a way out of the Brexit chaos ahead. MPs preparing to vote on Brexit next week don't have to accept the false choice between the Prime Minister's disastrous deal or the nightmare of no-deal. The case is stronger than ever to give the British public a say on their future with a People's Vote on Brexit."

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Caroline Lucas: Brexit TV debate must be cross-party



26 November 2018

Calling on broadcasters to include the Green Party in any TV debate on the Government's Brexit deal, Caroline Lucas MP said:

"It's good to hear the Prime Minister is considering reaching out to the public with a TV debate on her bungled Brexit deal. But for this conversation about our collective future to have any semblance of democracy, it must represent the views of everyone.

"That means it must be cross-party, featuring a diverse range of voices representing every nation, as well as every stance on this deal and our relationship with the EU – not just the Government and an opposition party who are falling far short of actually opposing the Prime Minister's approach.

"I stand ready to debate with all other parties, and make the case that a People's Vote is now the only democratic way forward."

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Caroline Lucas calls for Select Committee on Climate Change after “vague” speech by Gove



26 November 2018

Responding to Michael Gove's [speech](#) on the latest climate change projections, Green Party MP Caroline Lucas said:

"These projections paint a devastating picture of what climate breakdown means for the UK if we continue down the path we're on. Michael Gove's vague talk of mitigating the worst impacts of floods, droughts and storms are far from reassuring.

"It's increasingly clear the Government isn't going to embark on the urgent economic transformation we need to secure our futures. It's now up to Parliament to create a Select Committee on Climate Change to pile pressure on ministers and chart a course out of this crisis.

"Those MPs must urgently begin drafting legislation to impose absolute limits on our use of resources and outlaw wasteful product designs. They must measure the Government's success according to people's quality of life and the health of our ecosystems – not economic growth. And they must set out binding plans to ensure people can thrive as we reimagine our society."

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