

THIERRY DE MONTBRIAL

Founder and Chairman of the WPC

We are now having a half an hour session with Lord Kerr on an interesting question which is essentially 'Where is the UK heading?' However, it goes beyond the UK. I think you all know about Lord Kerr so I will not go back to that except to say that he is a real, genuine, deep, sincere, open-minded European, and, as some of you know, he worked for a number of months with Valery Giscard d'Estaing on the drafting of the ex-future European Constitution, which shows that he is also a very good diplomat because working with Mr Giscard d'Estaing for a number of months, and remaining friends, is a great achievement.

After the referendum of 23 June, John was slightly depressed. He has recovered now, I think, and my first question, to launch the discussion, will be a very simple one. There is still a lot of confusion everywhere about the legal status of the referendum in the UK; it is very different to that of many other countries including France, so, in your view is Brexit totally irreversible?