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THE UK'S EU VOTE: THE 1975 PRECEDENT AND TODAY'S NEGOTIATIONS

EMMANUEL MOURLON-DRUOL

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THE FIRST UK EEC MEMBERSHIP REFERENDUM OF 1975

A When did the UK enter the EEC?

Founded in 1958, the European Economic Community enlarged to include the United Kingdom on 1 January 1973.

1958
1973
1975
1992
2004

At the beginning of European integration in the early 1950s, the UK had the choice on several occasions to participate as a founding member, but each time declined to do so.

1950
1954
1957
1960
1963
1967
1970
1973

The UK refused to join the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) in 1951.

1951
1954
1957
1960
1963
1967
1970
1973
1975
1992
2004

Fourth, the strategy of Conservative leader Edward Heath, who had negotiated entry, was heavily criticised by the Labour party before and during the 1974 general election campaign.

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IMPLICATIONS FOR POLICY

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B Skillful political marketing can decide the outcome of the referendum

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