



Sir Michael Lyons
Chairman
BBC Trust Unit
Room 211
35 Marylebone High Street
London W1U 4AA

26th March 2008

Dear Sir Michael —

Today and “Europe”

Further to my letter of 27th February, which was acknowledged by your P.A., June Pranty, on 11th March, I now enclose the detailed rebuttal by David Keighley and Minotaur Media Tracking of the ESC’s report of 28th February. I find it persuasive, and trust you will do so too.

The next analysis should be with us by mid-April, covering the period from September to December 2007, including the signing of the Lisbon Treaty. I understand that *Today*’s coverage remained shallow and patchy, particularly on the referendum issue.

Would you agree that, apart from continuing this somewhat detailed correspondence, it might be sensible to have a meeting between those who advise me and those whom you deem appropriate in the BBC? Whichever way the referendum vote goes in the Lords in June, it is clear that public interest in the EU will increase for the foreseeable future. It is also clear from our debates and from many casual conversations that most of their Lordships have not yet grasped the basics of our relationship with the EU. If they haven’t got it, how can the public be expected to understand what is happening?

I fear it remains the BBC’s duty to give them the chance of doing so.

Yours sincerely, *I with continuing good wishes —*

Malcolm Pearson

Lord Pearson of Rannoch