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DOES BREXIT MEAN WITHDRAWING FROM THE WORLD?

By Steve Bakke  January 22, 2019



The original idealistic hope for the European Union (E.U.) was to create a foreign affairs powerhouse, one which would smooth differences and create commonality.

There's concern surrounding the U.K.'s attempt to exit the E.U. (Brexit). Some observers feel this is tantamount to withdrawing from our interconnected world. However, unlike most international arrangements, the E.U. brought with it a "supranational" system. Each member country is bound by enforceable agreements, similar our "federalism." There is an unelected governing body and even a supreme/high court.

The harsh reality is that the E.U. now is a conglomeration of 28 countries, with different traditions, forms and philosophies of government, and vastly different financial strength. Pile on top of that differences in culture, lifestyle, religion, and spending priorities. And sadly, they all retain many of their own unique "bad habits."

Imagine how Americans would react if faced with joining a "Union of the Americas" with a "governing council" seated in Caracas, and bound by a court system based in Montreal. We wouldn't like it. The desire for sovereignty is prominent and strong.

We should support Brexit while favoring strong international trade and defense arrangements and honoring the natural desire for sovereignty.