



## The Collapse of the British Film Industry



In one word - Brexit. It has not started yet and it is very unclear when it will start. In July this year, the word was it would cost £100m per year for 6 to 8 years to sort out the trade deals with the EU. In a recent poll, 76% of industry professionals were very much in favour to stay with the EU. Principal reason was funding and co-production deals. In a Guardian article about three weeks ago, the numbers had jumped up to £5bn over a ten to twelve period.

Astonishingly, David Davis, head of the Brexit department admitted that his department had grown by a factor of 4 in one month... you mean, 16 people alone are working on this problem?! His leadership should be called into question.

Further, with the tremendously harsh austerity programme started by the now sacked George Osborne, GDP and tax revenues have decreased from £698 bn in 2008 to £454bn in 2015.

## Austerity does not work.



Who is next? The film industry? It has been floating on £1.5bn on average of tax credits and has produce an aggregate return of 5.74% return for investors over the last eight years. How long will this situation last? Will the Tax credits go before or after the Article 50 negotiations? Will France, Germany and Spain gang up against Britain, to which they have said and their populations have favoured a 'hard brexit' to punish all of us. I would also include the United States as there focused has always been towards Europe, not the UK.

What would be the results if this was to happen? In the film industry alone, up to 4,200 companies could lose out and shut their doors, plus a further 6,790 companies would be effected, from facility companies through to studios. An estimate of 39,000 jobs could be possibly lost over a 4 year period as a result. UK animation has already suffered with its work force in decline from 9,400 to 5,500 full time employees and fewer companies, under 300. Moreover, most of the companies employ around 2 staff members, could be the hardest hit.

So, be prepared and good luck.