

There is an alternative economic narrative - and it's c...

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There [is talk today](#) of there being no alternative economic narrative.

That's not true. [Take this from the Guardian](#):

Britain's trade unions must build a movement for an "economic alternative" rooted in green technologies and forcing banks to lend to small businesses, the leader of the TUC says on Monday.

On the same day as the government-commissioned Vickers report outlines plans for reforming UK banks, the TUC's general secretary, Brendan Barber, will urge trade unions to "shift the debate" away from deficit reduction and on to building a new economy.

And yes, I do advise the TUC. And I'm proud of that fact. And yes, this does sound like some things I say though I had no direct influence I know of.

But that's not the point: the point is that right now is the Labour leadership can't or won't take the lead in setting the terms for the economic debate we need then the trade unions will, and that's great news.