

Funding the Future

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I am grateful to Martin MacDonald who posted this tweet:

 **Martin MacDonald** @lnnealadair · 14h
I've never worked out why the Unionists get so excited and happy crowing about figures which show how damaging the Union is to Scotland's economy. I'd have thought they'd want to keep quiet about it.

To which he appended this chart:

Country	Population	Status	Deficit (% GDP) 2019
Denmark	5,806,081	Independent	3.7
Luxembourg	613,894	Independent	2.2
Bulgaria	7,000,039	Independent	2.1
Cyprus	875,899	Independent	1.7
Netherlands	17,282,163	Independent	1.7
Greece	10,724,599	Independent	1.5
Germany	83,019,213	Independent	1.4
Austria	8,858,775	Independent	0.7
Malta	493,559	Independent	0.5
Slovenia	2,080,908	Independent	0.5
Sweden	10,230,185	Independent	0.5
Croatia	4,076,246	Independent	0.4
Ireland	4,904,240	Independent	0.4
Czechia	10,649,800	Independent	0.3
Lithuania	2,794,184	Independent	0.3
Portugal	10,276,617	Independent	0.2
Latvia	1,919,968	Independent	-0.2
Estonia	1,324,820	Independent	-0.3
Poland	37,972,812	Independent	-0.7
Finland	5,517,919	Independent	-1.1
Slovakia	5,450,421	Independent	-1.3
Italy	60,359,546	Independent	-1.6
Belgium	11,455,519	Independent	-1.9
Hungary	9,772,756	Independent	-2.0
United Kingdom	66,796,807	Independent	-2.1
Spain	46,937,060	Independent	-2.8
France	67,012,883	Independent	-3.0
Romania	19,414,458	Independent	-4.3
Scotland	5,463,300	Region of the UK	-8.6

Does anyone smell a rat?

Could that rat just be **in the near 40% of costs supposedly** for the benefit of Scotland that the UK government dumps into GERS without there being any justification

provided, or any element of choice on the part of the Scottish people, which have most definitely rejected what Westminster is trying to do?

It is ludicrous to claim - as the [mainstream media parrots out all over the place today](#) - that Scotland has, or might have, a deficit of the sum claimed by GERS.

Very politely, there's some decidedly dodgy accounting going on here, because the evidence clearly shows it. It's simply not true that Scotland has the deficit claimed for it, and [I explain why here](#).