

Don't always believe what is said the newspapers

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This morning brings a salutary reminder to not believe everything that the papers say.

I note [The National](#) newspaper in Scotland reporting that:

POLITICAL economist Richard Murphy has torn apart George Osborne's suggestion that the UK Government should simply reject a new Scottish independence referendum, accusing him and other high-profile Unionists of "killing the very thing they supposedly cherish".

Murphy, a professor of practice in international political economy at City University London and a tax reform campaigner, wrote that the former chancellor's Evening Standard column on the issue was an "absolute clanger".

Not much wrong there, beyond a minor misrepresentation of my job title.

But meanwhile the online version of the [Daily Express](#) had an article on Scottish independence, revelling in two economists suggesting the Scottish economy would have a terrible time if it became independent before noting:

Tax Research UK's Richard Murphy told the Daily Record that Scotland should take on the euro, and could succeed outside of the union.

He said: "I do see it is possible for Scotland to stand as an independent state.

"I don't pretend it would be without difficulty but, bluntly, I don't see any country in Europe that won't be -facing difficulties soon."

The second and third quotes are undoubtedly me. But would I suggest that Scotland should 'take on the euro'? That would never happen. I would never suggest it went near it. I suspect I actually said it should join Europe. But that is something very different indeed.

All it does prove is that care is required in believing what is said in newspapers.