

## Funding the Future

# The demand for Scottish independence is not going away,...

Blog/2022/11/24/the-demand-for-scottish-independence-is-not-going-away-however-hard-england-  
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I wrote these tweets yesterday just after watching the Scottish referendum decision. in the UK Supreme Court:

Richard Murphy @RichardJMurphy · 22h  
My very quick summary of today's Supreme Court (SC) decision  
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1) The SC had the right to decide on this  
2) Legally the SC says that a referendum does not need to end the Union and so it is legal.  
BUT.....  
...

Richard Murphy @RichardJMurphy · 22h  
3) Practically a referendum might end the Union and in case it does the SC will not let Scots decide if they want to stay in a supposedly voluntary union because, they claim, being denied that choice does not oppress them.  
4) I think you'll find it does.....  
AND....  
...

Richard Murphy @RichardJMurphy · 22h  
5) And in case of doubt, I suggest this was a colonial court making a colonial decision, undermining their other argument.  
In other words, the decision undermined its own validity.  
#Scotland  
...

I have reflected since. In essence, the decision made was intensely political.

It was initially said that the decision was *prima facie* legal because it need not, by itself, change the nature of the UK.

But it was said that it was practically possible that it would and so it was not within the scope of the powers of the Scottish parliament.

And then it was said Scotland could not use international law as a basis for seeking

independence because it was a) not oppressed or b) subject to violence. In reality, I am quite sure international law has not ever sought to say the right to democracy and self-determination is dependent on being either of these things: democracy is a positive and not a negative.

Unionist politicians have made the matter worse by confirming that, of course, Scotland is in a voluntary Union, but have then refused to say how it might leave it of its own free will.

I can't help but think this is another indication of the march of fascism: holding the people of what is very obviously a country (its own, unbroken, legal tradition; education system, etc) in Union against their will - and denying them the chance to test that will, is hard to interpret any other way. If that were happening to me in England I know how I would feel. I know how the Irish felt. And that is why I feel so passionately about this for Scotland.