

Funding the Future

The lies over Brexit have undermined the UK's body poli...

Published: January 13, 2026, 10:32 am

A damp Saturday morning has changed my plans for the day. There were going to be no blogs, but I always reserve the right to change my mind on such things. So I will share [this new report](#) from King's College London and others:

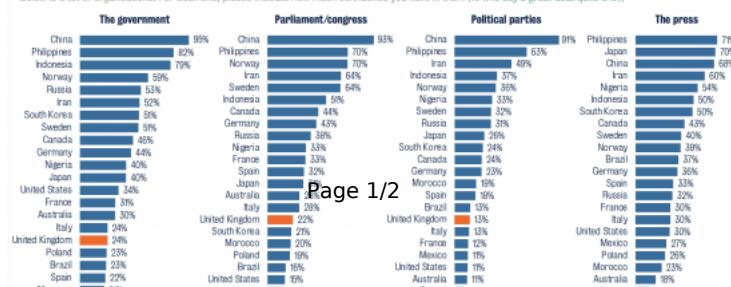


The report looks at indicators of trust over time in a range of nations. The methodology is not flawless: surveys are not all taken simultaneously. But these surveys are always indicators at best. I can live with the faults.

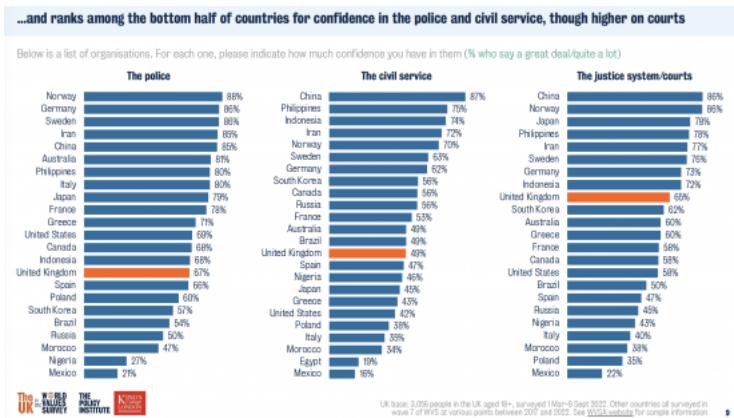
The key findings are on two pages:

The UK is among the least likely to have confidence in the government, parliament, political parties or the press...

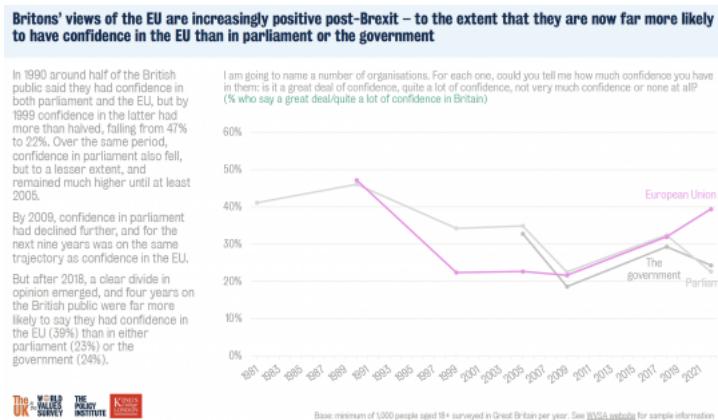
Below is a list of organisations. For each one, please indicate how much confidence you have in them (% who say a great deal/quite a lot)



The second is this:



I will contextualise both of those with this data:



My interpretation is straightforward. As the UK public has been fed what is a very obvious lie over the EU they have lost faith in politics, the media and the institutions of power that support the operations of the state. Is there any surprise in that?

Of course, there is more to this loss of trust than that one issue. But is it pivotal? I think it might be, because when senior politicians - of all parties - so obviously lied about this issue and are now in denial about it they made lying acceptable elsewhere. The consequences are obvious.