



Foreign & Commonwealth Office

Email from Professor Richard Rose, Professor Richard Rose, Director, Centre for the Study of Public Policy University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, 15 May 2014

The effect of enlargement is to result in all states receiving less attention. Small states as a category must be listened to--but not all of them. PERMREPs of small states I talk to know this and do their best to be politely visible and happy to join in all coalitions going--as long as their main points are included. See the attached, based on 2.5 years of research.

A second effect with 28 or 35 is that what was once a group around a table who knew everybody else's position, it tends to break up into subgroups of people with common interests. NATO members would be an extreme example. A looming concern is the Eurozone. It is now small enough and focussed on a few countries, North and South, to operate like a small group trying to agree a settlement in which small states, e.g. Greece and Portugal are not ignored, but Sweden and UK are not present.

A third effect of the countries out there is that they are Mediterranean. Whereas the 2004 enlargement was a tilt toward Berlin and places east, the proposed countries are a tilt toward Vienna and places South East where the Habsburgs and Ottomans meet. Not where UK has a comparative advantage. NB: My research on post-Communist countries involved more than €1million from Austrian funders in the 1990s and I know their strategic outlook.

The bottom line is that the enlargement process (lessons of 2007 and list of countries now up, which hardly meet Copenhagen standards needs reform for different reasons from the Eurozone.