



Written by [William F. Jasper](#) on September 16, 2016

“Gallop­ing Populists” Blast President Juncker’s Call for EU Superstate

Jean-Claude Juncker (shown), the head of the European Commission, the European Union’s executive branch, has reignited a firestorm. In his annual [State of the European Union \(SOTEU\)](#) address to the European Parliament in Strasbourg on Wednesday, Juncker decried the “gallop­ing populism” and nationalism that are responsible, he said, for placing the EU in “an existential crisis.” His speech confirmed charges that Euroskeptics had been making for years, especially in debates leading up to the [historic Brexit vote](#) in Britain this past June: that is, that EU globalists intended to continue centralizing political and economic power in Brussels until they had extinguished all national sovereignty and all national ability to resist an omnipotent [EU superstate](#).



Particularly contentious were claims that EU planners were plotting to establish an EU military force, charges that the EU flatly denied. However, in his September 14 SOTEU speech, Juncker did indeed call for moving forward with the plan. United Kingdom Independence Party (UKIP) Defence Spokesman Mike Hookem, a Member of the European Parliament (MEP), reminded voters that he and other Brexit advocates had warned this was coming. “President Juncker speaks openly today of an EU army, something the remainers vehemently denied during the referendum campaign,” Hookem said. “He has denied he wants it to run alongside NATO but how long before he wants to replace NATO in the wake of Brexit?”

“During the campaign we were lied to about there being no plans for an EU Army,” Hookem charged, but, “Here in Strasbourg Juncker makes it clear that Brussels wants its own military and we will not have the power to protect ourselves.” Then, addressing British Prime Minister Theresa May, Hookem declared: “Mrs. May, invoke Article 50 now to remove any doubt about Brexit. What we have here are calls for more EU, not less.” As we have [reported](#), Prime Minister May was a staunch opponent of Brexit, and, even though she now claims to be committed to carrying it out, the reality appears to be that she is trying to sabotage it with delaying tactics. Hookem’s appeal to her to invoke Article 50 is a call to initiate the formal two-year process for dissolving the UK’s current membership in the EU, a step she still has not taken.

Nigel Farage, MEP, the UKIP leader most responsible for making the Brexit vote a reality, scorched Juncker and the plan for a European Army, pointing out that people across Europe would not endorse the plan, if it were put to a Brexit-type vote.



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If Twitter traffic is any kind of accurate barometer, Farage's statement is borne out by tweets taking Juncker to task. An article Thursday on Euractiv.com, "[Euroceptics took Twitter by storm during Juncker speech,](#)" reports that anti-EU, pro-Brexit posts made up nearly three-fourths of the Twitter posts using the #SOTEU hashtag.

Photo of Jean-Claude Juncker: AP Images

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