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The National Audit Office points out that HM Treasury estimations on the trade/output impact is relatively high compared to other contributions in the literature on long-term GDP effects of BREXIT. One may, however, point out that the standard approaches to analyze BREXIT effects suffer from a rather narrow focus on trade effects - and sometimes on trade plus FDI effects. As the Jungmittag/Welfens (2016) analysis of TTIP effects for Germany/the EU shows, an adequate methodology for understanding the economic effects of deep integration projects (in a mirror perspective, for the UK's leaving of the EU single market) requires to take a careful look at the knowledge production function and to combine the empirical insights with the national production function: effectively this means to combine trade analysis, foreign direct investment analysis and an analysis of innovation dynamics – the latter typically linked to cumulated FDI inflows. While the study of Francois et al. (2013) suggested that the output effect of TTIP in the EU would amount to 0.5% of GDP - and indirectly one can derive from Chapter 6 on FDI aspects another 0.3% of GDP - the total effect of TTIP for Germany in Jungmittag/Welfens is estimated to be around 2%. This again shows that the standard analysis with a narrow focus on trade is insufficient and actually strongly underestimating the output effects of deep integration/a withdrawal from the EU. The National Audit Office's implicit suggestion that HM Treasury's economic analysis of British EU membership effects is an overstatement thus can largely be refuted. The bilateral trade agreement scenario indeed seems to be rather convincing: minus £1800 Pounds is the central estimate for the GDP per capita loss (£400 Pounds higher than the estimated loss for every Scottish citizen in the case of Scottish independence as the Cameron government communicated in the run-up to the Scottish Independence Referendum of 2014). Why the much higher figure of £1800 in the case of Brexit was not included in Cameron's 16-page information brochure for households prior to the 2016 EU referendum is not clear. For a more in-depth analysis of this and other aspects of the BREXIT debate, see Welfens' forthcoming book "An Accidental BREXIT" (Palgrave Macmillan).

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