The party combines a desire to devolve power to the lowest possible level with a push for international cooperation on issues that cross national boundaries. Spearheaded by Jo Grimond, the Liberal Party was one of the first voices calling for Britain to join the Common Market (the forerunner of the European Union) in the 1950s. Then in the European Referendum of 1975, many pro-European Labour figures cooperated with the Liberals, pving the way for the formation of the SDP and later merger to form the Liberal Democrats.

The party has continued to argue the pro-European case since, including opposing Britain’s departure from the European Union.