Twitter Thread by Barrister's Horse

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SNP thread

1. Scotland's independence rested on the UK staying in the single market - that is why we saw repeated Brexit related litigation in the Scottish courts.

2. If an independent Scotland wished to join the EU, a hard border between Scotland & England would be required to protect the single market & prevent migrants using Scotland as a route into England.

3. Then there are the issues re currency & debt which would need to be settled before EU membership became a serious proposal.

Many in the SNP realise this, hence the divisions we're witnessing.

4. Just as the Brexit Party popularity waned after mission accomplished, the SNP's popularity rests on campaigning, rather than achieving what they're campaigning for.

Polls show that a hard border isn't popular in a country that relies heavily on tourism.

5. The SNP would have been better placed to set their sights lower & supported an Efta/EEA Brexit, but they went all out to stop the UK exiting the EU and ultimately lost.

A hollowed out cause is all that remains for the SNP, with no realistic prospect of success.

6. Repeatedly skirting the issues re eligibility to join EU won't cut the mustard - people deserve a clear plan, to know how long the process would take & how the hurdles will be overcome.

7. A decade spent in the wilderness, independent, trying to reduce existing debt, to settle debts to UK, sort out a currency, border, UK/Scotland trade deal, before accession process to the EU can commence would be painful.

The SNP know this,
We know this, &
The EU know this.

8. But most of all, it's the damage a 2nd indyref would cause the SNP if independence was rejected again. They've placed so much emphasis on it, a 2nd indy failure would reduce the Party to tatters.

The realistic politicians in the Party know this.