

BREXIT BRIEF

Brexit Brief Issue 89
12 June 2020



Introduction

The Brief seeks to provide up-to-date information on the progress and content of the UK-EU negotiations, and bring together relevant statements and policy positions from key players in Ireland, the UK and the EU.

The Brief is part of a wider communications programme covering the work of the IIEA's UK Project Group – including commentaries, speeches, texts and event reports – which are highlighted on the Institute's website. (www.iiea.com)

Section One: State of Play

Negotiations: Round Four

The Fourth Round of EU-UK Future Relationship Negotiations took place by videoconference between 2 and 5 June 2020. Over three full days of talks, 11 negotiating tables dealt with an extensive agenda covering:

Trade in Goods; Trade in Services, Investment & Other Issues; Fisheries; Level Playing Field for Open and Fair Competition; Law Enforcement Cooperation; Energy (Civil Nuclear Cooperation); Thematic Cooperation; Social Security; Participation in Union Programmes; Horizontal Arrangements & Governance; Governance for Level Playing Field; and Governance for Aviation.

On Friday, 5 July, the EU Chief Negotiator, Michel Barnier said: "At the end of this week my responsibility as Union negotiator is to tell you the truth. And the truth is that there was no substantial progress. We can only take note that there has been no substantial progress since the beginning of these negotiations, and that we cannot continue like this forever."

The UK Chief Negotiator, David Frost, commented that: "Progress remains limited. For our part we are willing to work hard to see whether at least the outline of a balanced agreement covering all issues can be reached soon. Any such deal must of course accommodate the reality of the UK's well-established position [...]"

Attention now turns to important scheduled meetings in June. The Commission will have an opportunity to take stock with the representatives of the 27 Member States, the President of the European Council, Charles Michel, and the European Parliament Coordination Group, headed by the German MEP, David McAllister. The EU-UK Joint Committee will meet for the second time on 12 June. The European Council will meet via videoconference on 19 June, with the pandemic as its main concern but with a report on the Brexit negotiations certain to figure on a crowded agenda.

The High Level Meeting between Prime Minister Boris Johnson, Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and European Council President Charles Michel, provided for in the Political Declaration will be convened on Monday, 12 June 2020.

The date and detailed arrangements for this meeting are still to be decided but Michel Barnier has commented that: "it is clear that we are approaching a moment of truth" and that "if we keep our mutual respect, our serenity and our determination, I have no doubt that we will find, in the course of the summer or by early autumn at the latest, a landing zone between the United Kingdom and the European Union. Then, finally, we will reach an agreement on our partnership for the future."

On the British side, hopes are invested in the prospect of the Prime Minister and Commission President "injecting" some real political momentum into the negotiation process. David Frost has argued that: "we must intensify and accelerate our work. We need to conclude this negotiation in good time." British officials have insisted that: "We need a broad agreement in

place by the summer. We can't still be having this conversation in September or October."

The question of extending the transition period remains in play but the UK side still firmly rules out a request for extension and refuses to agree to any move on the issue proposed by the EU team. The devolved administrations in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have called for an extension to the period, citing the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on government time. A recent opinion poll found that two-thirds of voters and almost half of Leave voters wanted a longer transition period, which would leave the political system to focus on Covid-19.

Northern Ireland business leaders have issued a strong demand for an extension, warning, in the words of an *Irish Times* report, that: "businesses will go to the wall unless they are given more time by the UK and the EU to set themselves up for the unprecedented changes to the way they trade with Britain." The European Commission continues to say that its door remains open to the possibility of a one- or two-year extension.

Further rounds of detailed negotiation will take place in the coming months. The EU wants to wrap up negotiations by the European Council summit on 15-16 October to provide sufficient time to ratify any agreement in both the European Parliament and the UK Parliament and, possibly, by the 27 Member States.

Michel Barnier Statement 5 June 2020

In his extensive press conference Statement on Round Four of the negotiations Michel Barnier dealt with the main points of continuing debate and divergence between the parties:

On fisheries, the United Kingdom did not show any real willingness to explore other approaches than zonal attachment on quota sharing. It also continues to condition access to its waters to an annual negotiation – which is technically impossible for us. Whereas the EU wants to build a more stable economic partnership.

On the level playing field, we didn't make any progress on these rules of economic and commercial fair play, despite choosing to focus this week on issues that should have been more consensual, such as non-regression mechanisms on social and environmental standards, climate change, taxation or sustainable development.

On the governance of our future relationship, we were unable to make progress on the issue of the single governance framework establishing legal linkages between our different areas of cooperation.

Finally, on police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters, we had a slightly more constructive discussion on the question of commitment to the European Convention on Human Rights, although important questions remain as to how to reflect this commitment in our agreement."

On all these points, Barnier insisted, the EU side has been asking for nothing more than what is covered in the terms of the Political Declaration. He remarked that: "This document is available in all languages, including English. It is a good read, if I may say so. It is – and will remain for us – the only valid reference, the only relevant precedent in this negotiation, as it was agreed by both sides."

Michel Barnier then addressed the issues related to the Northern Ireland Protocol, arguing that there must be vigilance with regard to its timely and correct implementation. He welcomed the publication of the UK Command Paper published on 20 May, but underlined the fact that there are many details to be settled if there is to be successful movement "from aspiration to operation, in line with the legal Treaty. So we really need to work more on the technical details".

Mr Barnier has told the *Irish Times* that pragmatic approaches should be used to ensure that the special arrangements for checks on goods on the Irish Sea drawn up jointly by the two sides do not become unduly onerous for businesses.

David Frost Statement 5 June 2020

The UK Chief Negotiator spoke of the discussions on the full range of issues, including the most difficult ones. He conceded that progress remained limited but stated that the talks had been positive in tone. The teams had reached an important moment for the talks, he noted, and argued that: "We are close to reaching the limits of what we can achieve through the format of remote formal Rounds. If we are to make progress, it is clear that we must intensify and accelerate our work."

David Frost agreed that it was important to conclude negotiations in good time to enable people and businesses to have certainty regarding the the situation following the end of the transition period and to allow ratification of any agreements reached: "For our part we are willing to work hard to see whether at least the outline of a balanced agreement, covering all issues, can be reached soon. Any such deal must of course accommodate the

reality of the UK's well-established position on the so-called 'level playing field', on fisheries, and the other difficult issues."

The UK side argues strongly that the Political Declaration "is a declaration, it is not a treaty – it is a description of the areas we would discuss once the Withdrawal Agreement was in force and that is what we are doing. Everything that is in the Political Declaration does not have to go into a legally-binding treaty."

Compromises and 'Blinking First'

Comment on the outcome of Round Four has ranged from acceptance of the inevitability of 'no-deal' to predictions of a last-minute agreement in October or even later.

The BBC Europe Editor, Katya Adler, wrote immediately after Michel Barnier's Brussels Press Conference:

[...] before you rush to join the "no-deal-is-now-the-most-likely-outcome" school of thought, consider this: while both sides continue to insist – loudly - that their position will not waver (on all issues linked to national sovereignty for the UK; on anything associated with the single market for the EU), those assurances could also be viewed as a message aimed at domestic audiences, while both sides consider – quietly - what compromises they might actually make. Frankly, after four rounds of negotiations, each side is already all too familiar with the attitude and intentions of the other. What is needed now is movement. Call it blinking. Call it compromise. Call it concessions or whatever you will. Without it there will be no deal. That much is clear.

The question is – where might compromise be possible? State aid rules, environmental standards, tariffs on some agricultural products,

fishing quotas? Michel Barnier told Katya Adler that if a deal were close this autumn there would almost certainly be what he called a "dense" period of last-minute negotiations.

Irish Government Preparations for No-Deal Brexit

The Tánaiste, Simon Coveney, has tabled a memorandum to the Cabinet setting out plans for dealing with the continuing uncertainty about the future trading relations between the UK and the European Union. He has received approval for the drafting of a new omnibus Bill to prepare key Government Departments for the unwanted situation. The proposed legislation will be drafted for presentation to the Oireachtas in the early autumn in the light of developments. The memorandum sets out the elements of two scenarios: a strictly limited trade deal and a no-deal Brexit coming into operation at the beginning of 2021. A no-deal Brexit will involve the imposition of tariffs – outlined in recent UK Government documentation – which would apply to the beef sector, dairy products, and many processed foods.

Across the Irish Sea, the new Governor of the Bank of England, Andrew Bailey, has told banks to step up their preparations for the risk of the United Kingdom failing to agree a trade deal with the European Union before the December deadline. The Director General of the CBI, Carolyn Fairbairn, has also spoken of the impossibility of firms preparing for a no-deal outcome as they face the unprecedented challenges of the pandemic.

Section Two: The Evolving Debate

Negotiations on Fisheries

On 26 May 2020, the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Michael Creed T.D., attended a meeting with the EU Chief Negotiator Mr Michael Barnier and Fisheries Commissioner Virginijus Sinkevicius in relation to fisheries negotiations with the UK. The meeting included Ministers from the Member States most impacted by the UK withdrawal from the EU, including Fisheries Ministers from France, Germany, Spain, Denmark, Sweden, the Netherlands and Belgium.

The Ministers were given an update by Mr Barnier on the state of play in the negotiations on a fisheries agreement with the UK after three rounds of discussions. It focused on the EU negotiating mandate for these discussions which states that the EU seeks to “uphold existing reciprocal access conditions, quota shares and traditional activity of the Union fleet”.

Ministers welcomed Mr Barnier’s strong commitment to the linking of all the parts of these complex negotiations, and specifically the link between the overall economic partnership and the conclusion of a fishing agreement. They expressed full confidence in Michel Barnier and his team to defend the essential objectives and principles of the mandate.

Minister Creed commented: “I very much welcome this detailed briefing from Mr Barnier on the current state of play in the fisheries negotiations. I reiterated Ireland’s full commitment to the EU negotiating mandate

and delivering an outcome that upholds our existing access and quota shares. The work done to date by Mr Barnier and his team gives confidence that Irish and EU fishing interests will be robustly defended in the negotiations.”

House of Commons Committee on the Future Relationship with the European Union

The House of Commons Committee on the Future Relationship with the European Union is undertaking an overarching inquiry looking at all aspects of the negotiations between the UK and EU. The Committee has invited written evidence submissions to its inquiry, particularly those that address the following questions:

- What are the priorities for the UK, and for the EU, in the negotiations on the future relationship? How should the interests of different sectors of the economy and parts of the UK be balanced?
- How will the implementation of the Withdrawal Agreement interact with the negotiations on the future relationship? What is the role of the Joint Committee, and what other mechanisms will be available for the UK and EU to resolve disagreements?
- How prepared is the UK Government to negotiate and implement the future relationship with the EU, including in the event a free trade agreement is not secured? Which aspects of the future relationship could be negotiated after the transition period?

- How effectively is the Government consulting with businesses, stakeholders, and the devolved institutions, to inform the UK negotiating position?

Launching the inquiry, Committee Chair Hilary Benn MP said:

As negotiations between the UK and the EU begin, the questions that will define the next nine months are emerging. What are each side's priorities? How can the competing interests of different stakeholders be balanced? How prepared are the UK and the EU for the range of possible outcomes? These are complex questions, and if a future relationship that works for both parties is to be agreed, there is no time to waste. Similarly, clarity is required regarding the implementation of the Withdrawal Agreement, particularly the implications of the Northern Ireland Protocol.

House of Lords Select Committee on the European Union

On 1 June 2020, the House of Lords European Union Committee published its 9th Report of the Session 2019-21 on the Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland. The Report, having reviewed progress on implementation of the Withdrawal Agreement, including the Protocol, concludes that: "The combination of uncertainty, lack of momentum and lack of time, compounded by the shock of the COVID-19 pandemic, is a potent threat to economic prosperity and political stability in Northern Ireland."

Key points in the Report include:

- The months since the UK left the EU have been "characterised by uncertainty and

an absence of momentum and of detail on how [the Protocol] will be implemented."

- The UK Government has been unable to "explain precisely or consistently what it agreed with the EU" and the EU insistence that "the rules are the rules" has rendered Northern Ireland business fearful that there will be no flexibility on the application of the Protocol. The Report notes that "this has led to a diminution of trust between the two sides, with the upshot [...] that Northern Ireland has felt like 'a pawn in the game'."
- The Government Command Paper on the implementation of the Protocol should have provided "much needed clarity" to Northern Ireland stakeholders on what the Protocol will mean for them in practice. The Report comments however, that the Paper's "heavy reliance on the future tense" is an indicator of how much work remains, how many issues are as yet unresolved, and indicates that much work must be undertaken before the Protocol becomes operational.
- The Report stresses that: "The combination of uncertainty, lack of momentum and lack of time, compounded by the shock of the COVID-19 pandemic, is a potent threat to economic prosperity and political stability in Northern Ireland."
- The Report recalls that the Protocol's Article 5 "retains a single regulatory zone for goods on the island of Ireland" in order to avoid a hard border on the island of Ireland. It indicates that this implies a requirement for the imposition of new customs processes

and regulatory checks on goods moving from Great Britain to Northern Ireland and expresses concern that, aside from the acknowledgement that additional sanitary and phytosanitary checks will have to take place, the Command Paper argues that “no new bespoke customs infrastructure in Northern Ireland will be required.” The Report argues that in light of this, the Command Paper “fails adequately to explain how these new processes will be undertaken.”

- The Report further argues that the Government has not adequately addressed the continued uncertainty on whether Northern Ireland businesses will be required to complete exit summary declarations on goods moving to Great Britain. While the Government, relying in part on the principle of ‘unfettered access’, now states that they should not be required, the Report points to “contradictory statements by Ministers and officials” and says that the Government “has yet to explain how such a position can be reconciled with Article 5.”
- The Report concludes that the Protocol represents a “seismic change” and notes the limited time remaining before it becomes operational. It argues that at this stage, all parties, including the UK Government, the EU, the Irish Government, and the political parties in Northern Ireland, should work together to prioritise and urgently address the interests of the people and communities of Northern Ireland. It declares that: “Anything less would diminish the efforts of all those who have worked so hard for peace and good relations across these islands.”

European Parliament UK Group

On 29 May 2020, the Chair of the European Parliament’s UK Coordination Group, David McAllister, made the following Statement:

The EU-UK negotiations have so far yielded little progress. Instead, over the past few days, the EU was attacked over its insistence that the current negotiations must translate the Political Declaration, which Prime Minister Johnson personally negotiated line-by-line last autumn, into a legal text. The UK Government would damage trust and would seriously undermine the negotiations if it were to renege on what it signed up to less than one year ago. The European Parliament will not consent to an agreement that departs from the Political Declaration.

As stated in several resolutions, Parliament will not consent to an agreement that does not include provisions on level playing field, fundamental rights, robust governance and a stable framework for fisheries. It also considers the full implementation of the Withdrawal Agreement, co-signed by the UK Prime Minister, to be crucial. Today we reiterate our full support for the EU Chief Negotiator, who has a clear political mandate from the European Council and the overwhelming support of the European Parliament to negotiate an ambitious agreement that covers all the areas and sectors included in the Political Declaration. Not only the ones in which the UK government is interested.

The Statement further argued that the EU cannot risk undermining its internal market or the interests of EU companies and industries.

The UK legal proposals contain examples of areas where the UK wants to keep access to the Single Market whilst not abiding by its rules, for example, almost complete freedom of movement for service providers, recognition of professional qualifications, and electricity interconnection. Mr McAllister pointed out that: "The EU has provided none of these in any of its agreements with third countries. As the UK is no longer an EU member, it cannot enjoy the right to decide on financial services equivalence or the adequacy of data protection, which are EU sovereign competences."

Nissan Warning Signal

Nissan's global operations head, Ashwani Gupta, has signalled to the UK Government that the company's manufacturing plant in Sunderland is "unsustainable" if the UK departs from the European Union without a trade deal. It was necessary to understand that the EU is the plant's biggest customer and that tariff-free access to the EU market was essential. Nissan has invested billions of pounds in Sunderland which employs 7,000 workers.

Section Three: Background Material and Further Reading

Background Material

European Commission. Statement by Michel Barnier following Round 4 of negotiations for a new partnership between the European Union and the United Kingdom. 5 June 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/SPEECH_20_1017

GOV.UK David Frost's statement following the conclusion of round 4 negotiations with the EU, 5 June 2020. <https://no10media.blog.gov.uk/2020/06/05/david-frosts-statement-following-the-conclusion-of-round-4-negotiations-with-the-eu/>

RTE Barnier says no real progress in post-Brexit trade talks. *RTE*, 5 June 2020. <https://www.rte.ie/news/brexit/2020/0605/1145681-brexit/>

Politico Brexit deadlock: What happens next? *Politico*, 5 June 2020. <https://www.politico.eu/article/brexit-deadlock-what-happens-next/>

RTE A British view of Brexit talks – things are still on track. *RTE*, 6 June 2020. <https://www.rte.ie/news/brexit/2020/0605/1145768-brexit-the-view-from-britain/>

BBC Brexit: Who will blink first in UK-EU stand-off? *BBC*, 6 June 2020. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-52944700>

Financial Times. UK and EU look for compromises after Brexit talks end in stalemate. *FT*, 6 June 2020. <https://www.ft.com/content/bf3df5c5-dee2-4071-b201-32130111ce1c>

The Guardian. Brexit: Barnier hints in talks of EU concessions on state aid rules. *Guardian*, 5 June 2020. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2020/jun/05/brexit-barnier-hints-in-talks-of-eu-concessions-on-state-aid-rules>

Telegraph Britain moving away from tariff-free deal as EU offers to extend talks to October for last-minute agreement. *Telegraph*, 6 June 2020. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2020/06/05/britain-moving-away-tariff-free-deal-eu-offers-extend-talks/>

Financial Times. The Brexit drama returns, but a suitable ending has yet to be scripted. *FT*, 7 June 2020. <https://www.ft.com/content/ba60d0e4-a683-11ea-a27c-b8aa85e36b7e>

Telegraph As inevitable it may be, a no-deal Brexit will not last long. *Telegraph*, 6 June 2020. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2020/06/05/inevitable-may-no-deal-brexit-will-not-last-long/>

The Observer The Coronavirus crisis won't give Boris Johnson an alibi for a calamitous Brexit. *Observer*, 7 June 2020. <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/jun/07/the-coronavirus-crisis-wont-give-boris-johnson-an-alibi-for-a-calamitous-brexit>

Irish Times Brexit: UK says sides need face-to-face talks to make progress. *IT*, 6 June 2020. <https://www.irishtimes.com/news/world/uk/brexit-uk-says-sides-need-face-to-face-talks-to-make-progress-1.4271819>

Joint Ministerial Committee (EU Negotiations) Communique, 21 May 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/joint-ministerial-committee-eu-negotiations-communique-21-may-2020>

European Parliament McAllister on EU-UK talks: Full support for the EU Chief Negotiator, 29 May 2020. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20200529IPR80125/mcallister-on-eu-uk-talks-full-support-for-the-eu-chief-negotiator>

House of Lords EU Committee. The Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland. 9th report of Session 2019-21, 1 June 2020. <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld5801/ldselect/ldecom/66/66.pdf>

European Commission. EU Task Force. Agenda: EU-UK Future Relationship Negotiations: 02-05 June 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/agenda-fourth-round-uk-eu-future-relationship-negotiations-2-5-june-2020_en

European Commission. Statement following the meeting of the Specialised Committee on Gibraltar between the European Union and the UK Government via videoconference, 27 May 2020. <https://www.ec.europa.eu/info/publications/statement-following-meeting-specialised-committee-gibraltar-between-european-union-and-uk-government>

European Commission Europe's Moment: Repair and Prepare for the Next Generation, 27 May 2020. <https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/communication-europe-moment-repair-prepare-next-generation.pdf>

UK Cabinet Office Citizens' Rights. Letter from Cabinet Minister Gove to Vice President Sefcovic, 14 May 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/letter-from-the-chancellor-of-the-duchy-of-lancaster-to-the-vice-president-of-the-european-commission>

European Commission Citizens' Rights. Letter from Vice President Sefcovic to Minister Gove, 28 May 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/brexit_files/info_site/2020_05_28_letter_vp_sefcovic_to_the_rt_hon_michael_gove_mp_redacted.pdf

Financial Times Johnson heading for crunch Brexit talks with von der Leyen. *FT*, 2 June 2020. <https://www.ft.com/content/96dfdcc0-f0d5-4c7c-814d-e21c8b9c900a>

Financial Times Diplomatic mission spat increases UK-EU tensions. *FT*, 25 May 2020. <https://www.ft.com/content/21b926fd-f064-477b-9437-67002b2287e0>

The Guardian The pandemic is being used as cover for a no-deal Brexit. *Guardian*, 3 June 2020. <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/jun/03/pandemic-no-deal-brexit-vote-leavers-coronavirus>

Politico Michel Barnier: 'No agreement' unless UK sticks to Brexit promises. *Politico*, 31 May 2020. <https://www.politico.eu/article/michel-barnier-no-agreement-unless-uk-sticks-to-brexit-promises/>

Telegraph. A post-Brexit deal is there to be done, so long as Brussels doesn't push its luck. *Telegraph*, 4 June 2020. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2020/06/04/post-brexit-deal-done-long-brussels-doesnt-push-luck/>

Financial Times No-deal Brexit holds fewer fears for a Covid-ravaged economy. *FT*, 4 June 2020. <https://www.ft.com/content/4440f83d-7e8a-4510-b8b7-3fb9146da51a>

Government of Scotland Covid-19: The Case for Extending the Brexit Transition Period, June 2020. <https://www.gov.scot/publications/covid-19-case-extending-brexit-transition-period/>

The Guardian Stormont backs calling for extension to Brexit transition with Covid-19 crisis. *Guardian*, 2 June 2020. <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/jun/02/stormont-backs-calling-for-extension-to-brexit-transition-period-border-checks-covid-19-coronavirus>

BBC Nissan: UK factory still under threat from no-deal Brexit. *BBC*, 3 June 2020. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-52900528>

The Guardian UK Fisheries accuse EU of using 'nuclear option' in Brexit talks. *Guardian*, 2 June 2020. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2020/jun/02/uk-fisheries-accuse-eu-of-usomg-nuclear-option-in-brexit-talks>

Financial Times Coronavirus: UK farmers face brutal test ahead of Brexit. *FT*, 3 June 2020. <https://www.ft.com/content/1db1dfcc-09b4-4c6a-94a8-0442b037d557>

Politico Business cannot prepare for a no-deal Brexit in the middle of a pandemic. *Politico*, 1 June 2020. <https://www.politico.eu/article/business-cannot-prepare-for-a-no-deal-brexit-in-the-middle-of-a-pandemic/>

Daniel Hannan Hit by a crisis like no other, the Eurocrats' one wish is to teach Brexit Britain a lesson. *Telegraph*, 30 May 2020. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/05/30/hit-crisis-like-no-eurocrats-one-wish-teach-brexit-britain-lesson/>

The Telegraph. Britain and EU set to clash over new extradition treaty in crunch trade talks. *Telegraph*, 2 June 2020. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/06/01/uk-demand-british-judges-have-right-reject-eu-extradition-requests/>

Philip Stephens. Britain's Brexiters still do not understand Europe. *FT*, 28 May 2020. <https://www.ft.com/content/63450adc-a025-11ea-b65d-489c67b0d85d>

The Guardian. The new immigration rules are not really about Brexit. They're about ripping off workers. *Guardian*, 26 May 2020. <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/may/26/immigration-rules-brexit-ripping-off-workers-covid-19-low-skilled>

Financial Times UK falling short of post-Brexit target for customs agents, warns industry, *FT*, 26 May 2020. <https://www.ft.com/content/be64c437-3ef2-4290-bf30-4cd3a97aa870>

Euractiv. The Brexit stalemate explained, 29 May 2020. [https://www.euractiv.com/section/uk-europe/video/the-brexit-stalemate-explained/?](https://www.euractiv.com/section/uk-europe/video/the-brexit-stalemate-explained/)

Irish Times Bank of England tells banks to get ready for no-deal Brexit. *IT*, 4 June 2020. <https://www.irishtimes.com/business/economy/bank-of-england-tells-banks-to-get-ready-for-no-deal-brexit-1.4269591>

Bobby McDonagh Dominic Cummings affair reflects Brexit exceptionalism. *IT*, 25 May 2020. <https://www.irishtimes.com/opinion/dominic-cummings-affair-reflects-brexit-exceptionalism-1.4261255>

RTE Cabinet to discuss omnibus bill on Brexit. *RTE*, 29 May 2020. <https://www.rte.ie/news/2020/0529/1143299-brexite/>

Irish Times Irish planning for no-deal Brexit to restart as EU-UK talks go badly. *IT*, 29 May 2020. <https://www.irishtimes.com/news/politics/irish-planning-for-no-deal-brexite-to-restart-as-eu-uk-talks-go-badly-1.4265185>

Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine. Minister Creed and other Fisheries Ministers meet Mr Michel Barnier and Commissioner Virginus Sinkevicius on fisheries negotiations with the UK, 26 May 2020. https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/press/pressreleases/2020/may/title_143177.en.html

RTE Irish fish quotas under threat in Brexit talks. *RTE*, 26 May 2020. <https://www.rte.ie/news/business/2020/0526/1142647-brexite-fish-talks>

Irish Times Brexit: Britain and EU urged to quickly agree on Northern Ireland protocol. *IT*, 1 June 2020. <https://www.irishtimes.com/news/world/uk/brexite-britain-and-eu-urged-to-quickly-agree-on-northern-ireland-protocol-1.4267234>

Denis Staunton Brexit: Uncertainty risking North's prosperity, says report. *IT*, 1 June 2020. <https://www.irishtimes.com/news/world/uk/brexite-uncertainty-risking-north-s-prosperity-says-report-1.4267228>

Alex Kane. Irish Sea 'border' looks set to stay. *IT*, 1 June 2020. <https://www.irishtimes.com/opinion/alex-kane-irish-sea-border-looks-set-to-stay-1.4266946>

RTE Brexit Protocol uncertainty a 'potent threat' to Northern Ireland – report. *RTE*, 1 June 2020. <https://www.rte.ie/news/brexite/2020/0601/1143712-house-of-lords-irish-protocol/>

Irish Times Newton Emerson: Brussels playing games with Irish sea border. *IT*, 4 June 2020. <https://www.irishtimes.com/opinion/newton-emerson-brussels-playing-games-with-irish-sea-border-1.4269775>

Irish Times. Business leaders demand delay to Irish Sea border checks. *IT*, 5 June 2020. <https://www.irishtimes.com/business/economy/business-leaders-demand-delay-to-irish-sea-border-checks-1.4271474>

Irish Times. Barnier insists pragmatic workarounds are possible for trade in the North. *IT*, 6 June 2020. <https://www.irishtimes.com/news/world/europe/barnier-insists-pragmatic-workarounds-are-possible-for-trade-in-the-north-14272020>

BBC Brexit: Arlene Foster concerned over 'lack of progress.' *BBC*, 6 June 2020. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-52941234>

Further Reading

Giddens, Anthony Turbulent and Mighty Continent. What Future for Europe?

The Institute of International and European Affairs (IIEA) is Ireland's leading international affairs think tank. Founded in 1991, its mission is to foster and shape political, policy and public discourse in order to broaden awareness of international and European issues in Ireland and contribute to more informed strategic decisions by political, business and civil society leaders.

The IIEA is independent of government and all political parties and is a not-for profit organisation with charitable status. In January 2017, the Global Go To Think Tank Index ranked the IIEA as Ireland's top think tank.

© Institute of International and European Affairs, June 2020

Creative Commons License

This is a human-readable summary of (and not a substitute for) the license.

<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike/4.0/> 4.0 International (CC BY-NC-SA 4.0)

You are free to:

- Share - copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format
- Adapt - remix, transform, and build upon the material
- The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms.

Under the following terms:

Attribution — You must give appropriate credit, provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made. You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use.

NonCommercial — You may not use the material for commercial purposes.

ShareAlike — If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original.

No additional restrictions — You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits.



The IIEA acknowledges the support of the Europe for Citizens Programme of the European Union



The Institute of International and European Affairs,

8 North Great Georges Street, Dublin 1, Ireland

T: +353-1-8746756 F: +353-1-8786880

E: reception@iiea.com W: www.iiea.com