



Inside the Brexit deal: the agreement and the aftermath

As businesses adapt to the UK's new trade deal with the EU, negotiators on both sides reveal what really happened.

The government is hailing Boris Johnson's post-Brexit trade agreement with the EU as a triumph.

Yet others point out that it introduces billions of pounds of red tape, ignores the UK's strength in financial services and has hit that most totemic of Brexit industries, fishing.

The inside story of the negotiations explores how the UK ended up here – and whether it can benefit from its newfound sovereignty.

This article by George Parker, Peter Foster, Sam Fleming and Jim Brunsden was first published in the FT Magazine 23rd January, 2021.

[Read the Article](#)

Brexit: the first 100 days

Sheffield for Europe are planning an event (on Zoom) just after Easter, in the week beginning 12th April, to reflect on the first few months post-Brexit.

We will let you know as soon as we have further details.

Is Brexit Done? Will we stop talking about it?



Richard Corbett, former MEP for Yorkshire and Humber, and the last Labour leader in the EU Parliament sets out a number of reasons why the Brexit issue 'won't simply go away', and why the Labour party cannot ignore the issue. You can read his article: Why the Brexit issue won't simply go way, in LabourList, by using the link below.

[Read the Article](#)

No Downside to Brexit!

Do you remember the former **Brexit Secretary David Davies** telling the House of Commons in 2016 that 'there will be no downside to Brexit at all'?

Despite those words, it seems like there are already huge negative consequences for our economy and communities as a result of Brexit.

You may have heard about the Yorkshire crab and shellfish industry, which used to export 80% of its catch to the EU, and which is now facing major problems.

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Inside this issue:

Inside the Brexit deal	1
Brexit: the first 100 days	1
Is Brexit Done?	1
No Downside to Brexit!	1
Northern Ireland	2
How is Brexit for you?	2
Fashion Industry fears	2
The Digby Jones Index	2
A 'total disaster'	2
Erasmus	3
Join the European Movement	3
Rejoin Register	3
EU citizens' identity	3
Forthcoming events	3

There are new taxes on exports of steel products from South Yorkshire, as well as big increases in supply times for factories in the UK.

Yorkshire Bylines is compiling a

'*David Davies Downside Dossier*', which has so far listed 78 'downsides'. You can read about it here.

[Read the Article](#)

If you have any 'downsides' of your own to add, particularly if your business is affected, please let us know:

sheffieldforeurope@gmail.com

Northern Ireland

You will be aware of the problems in Northern Ireland, where there have been food shortages in supermarkets, and threats to staff at the Irish Sea Border (the one that Boris Johnson agreed to and now denies exists).

The problems exist because of Brexit. The Brexit deal signed by Boris Johnson means that there has to be a border between the EU Single Market and the UK, which is now outside the Single Market.

There cannot be a 'hard border' on the island of Ireland between the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, because that would threaten the Good Friday Agreement. Therefore, the border is in the Irish Sea.

This was always going to be a problem, which cannot be resolved – unless the whole of the UK re-joins the Single Market.

There is a very useful 5-minute explanation of the situation, by **Ros Atkins** of the BBC.

[Watch the Video](#)

How is Brexit for you?

We all have our stories to tell about the how Brexit has affected us.

Would you like to tell your story?

We would like you to record a short (30 second- 1 minute) video on your mobile phone, saying how you have been affected.

These videos will make powerful viewing about the impact Brexit has had on ordinary people, whose jobs, lives, families and communities have been affected.

You can [Upload your Videos here](#) or get in touch with us if you have any questions about this

Sheffieldforeurope@gmail.com

Fashion Industry fears for future over consequences of Brexit Trade Deal



The UK fashion industry contributes £35bn to UK GDP and employs almost 1 million people, but has been put at real risk by the Brexit trade deal and current Government policy.

UK Fashion is a thriving industry, based on global leadership, complex supply chains and a deeply interconnected relationship with overseas collaborators, but is facing several critical issues which will jeopardise the immediate and long term future of the sector.

Brought together by [Fashion Roundtable](#), the industry has highlighted the key issues, impacts and unforeseen consequences of Brexit in an Open Letter to the Government, with 451 signatories, that has received cross-party parliamentary support.

[Read the Letter](#)



The Digby Jones Index



In July 2016, prominent Leave supporter **Lord Digby Jones**, declared that there would not be 'any economic pain' from leaving the EU, and that: 'If there are job losses, they would be very few'.

Even in January 2019, he was saying that 'not a single job' would be lost because of Brexit.

We now all know that many jobs have already been lost, and more will come.

YorkshireBylines is compiling a list of jobs lost and companies re-locating out of the UK and into the EU as a result of Brexit. You can read it here:

[Read the Article](#)

A 'total disaster'

A number of businesses in the region have declared that the Brexit deal is a 'total disaster' for South Yorkshire and Derbyshire, which will result in business closures and job losses.

You can read the report in The Star by following the link below.

[Read the Article](#)

Erasmus

This EU scheme offers university and college students and apprentices funding to study in institutions across the EU.

Boris Johnson promised last year that there would be 'no threat to the Erasmus scheme' as a result of Brexit.

However, it has now been decided that staying in the EU scheme is 'too costly'. Instead, the government has created the 'Turing' scheme to enable students to go on exchanges 'across the world', but which is far less generous than Erasmus.

The EU are not willing to give access to Scotland or Wales alone, saying it has to be negotiated for the UK as a whole. Erasmus is still available in Northern Ireland.

Why shouldn't young people from the rest of the UK also have this opportunity?

If you have been or will be affected by the withdrawal of the Erasmus scheme, please let us know your story. E-mail us at:

sheffieldforeurope@gmail.com

Join the European Movement

Sheffield for Europe is a Branch of the European Movement, and many of you are also individual members of the European Movement, as well as members and supporters of Sheffield for Europe. If you are not already a member of the European Movement, please consider joining, using the link below.

[I'LL JOIN THE MOVEMENT TODAY](#)

Rejoin Register

There is a register for all pro-Europeans to sign-up to rejoin the EU. You can access it at:

www.rejoinregister.org

For more information about this, please contact

gareth.steel@gmail.com

If you have enjoyed this newsletter, please feel free to send copies to your friends.

EU citizens' identity, belonging & representation post-Brexit Survey

This survey is part of a wider research project on the situation of EU citizens post-Brexit, conducted at the University of Strathclyde by **Prof Tanja Buelmann** (Chief Investigator) with support from **Dr Alexandra Bulat** (Research Associate).

If you are an EU citizen living in the UK and would like to take part, please use the link below.

[Complete the Survey](#)

Join us on Twitter, Facebook and our Website



Forthcoming events by pro-EU Groups

Leicestershire and Rutland European Movement

Euro Cafe with Speakers from the3million



Thursday 25th February at 6.30pm

[Click here to register to attend](#)

Oxford for Europe

Why Brexit Isn't Settled and Why Friendship Matters

Terry Reintke and Richard Corbett

Monday 1st March at 6pm

This meeting is about where we are 2 months on from departure from the Single Market and Customs Union. We want to discuss how strong our links remain with our friends in the EU and what practical steps we can take to build on them.

[Click here to register to attend](#)

Grassroots for Europe

[Grassroots for Europe](#) is at the preliminary stage of organising a **Festival for Europe in 2022**.

This is to rival the planned 'Festival of Britain' (otherwise known as 'Festival of Brexit') which the government is planning for 2022.

If anyone is interested in getting involved in this enormous undertaking, please contact

[Joe Pye](#)