

EU INSTITUTIONS

- **European Parliament:**

- [Brexit: MEPs want EU and UK to take care of citizens' rights first:](#)

The EP held a joint hearing organised by the committees of Civil Liberties, Employment and Petition on the situation and rights of EU citizens in the UK. In this respect, Parliament's Brexit coordinator, Guy Verhofstadt informed that an EP resolution on this issue will be adopted by the EP probably at the end of the summer break.

- [The impact of Brexit in relation to the right to petition and on the competences, responsibilities and activities of the Committee on Petitions](#)

This study considers issues raised in petitions to the European Parliament by citizens concerned about the way Brexit will impact on their rights. In particular, it looks at the changes that Brexit will determine in relation to voting rights, the right to petition, the right to apply to the European Ombudsman and the European Citizens' Initiative. It also focuses on the way Brexit will affect UK citizens in the EU-27, and EU citizens living in the UK. In this respect, it considers challenges and risks for both citizens who have resided in the EU-27 or the UK for less than 5 years, and for those who have already acquired the right to permanent residence at the time of Brexit.

- [The Consequences of Brexit for the Customs Union and the Internal Market Acquis for Goods.](#)

This briefing paper examines, from a legal perspective, the consequences Brexit may have for the internal market acquis in the field of trade in goods, and for the Customs Union.

- [The Role and Powers of the European Parliament in the Brexit Process.](#)

This document explores the role and powers of the European Parliament in the Brexit process. It describes the challenges and relevant steps and stages of the process and highlights the significance of agreement to be concluded between the EU and the UK.

- **European Council:**

- [General Affairs Council \(Art. 50\).](#) 20/06/2017

On 20th June, EU Ministers will discuss the state of play of Brexit negotiations, after the first round of talks with the UK which is expected to take place ahead of the Council meeting. Ministers will discuss the procedure to decide on the relocation of the two EU agencies currently based in the UK: the European Medicines Agency (EMA) and the European Banking Authority (EBA).

- [Directives for the negotiation of an agreement with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland setting out the arrangements for its withdrawal from the European Union.](#)

The Council, meeting in an EU27 format, adopted a decision authorising the opening of Brexit negotiations with the UK and formally nominating the Commission as EU negotiator on 22 May 2017. The Council also adopted a set of negotiating directives for the first phase of the talks. These negotiating directives prioritise issues identified as necessary for an orderly withdrawal of the UK. This includes citizens' rights, the financial settlement and the situation in Ireland, as well as other situations in which there is a risk of legal uncertainty as a consequence of Brexit.

MORE INFORMATION

- [EU sets out criteria for relocating UK agencies.](#) Source Euobserver.

According to Euobserver an EU Council decision will be made by October on which city should host the now London-based European Medicines Agency (EMA) and the European Banking Authority (EBA). The EC will assess applications by mid-September and EU ministers will decide in October.

- [Brexit and the EU budget](#). Source Jacques Delors Institute.

On the 20th of April 2017, the Jacques Delors Institute, the Centre for European Reform and France Stratégie co-hosted a seminar aimed to discuss the “divorce bill” and the upcoming negotiations on the EU’s Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF).

- [Brexit: a reading list of post-EU Referendum publications by Parliament and the Devolved Assemblies](#)
- [Brexit and Beyond - How the UK might leave the EU](#). Source Centre on Constitutional Change.
- [Brexit timeline: key dates in UK’s divorce with EU](#). Source Financial Times

Events:

- [Forum : Brexit challenges for La Bretagne](#). 29 Juin 2017. Rennes. France

FISHERIES

- [Big fish in big trouble in Europe](#). Source Joint Research Centre

A new study by an international team of scientists, published in Nature Ecology & Evolution, warns that many large fish species, including many of the sharks and rays of Europe, are threatened with extinction. In addition to these, the large fish species that are threatened include six species of sturgeon, the Northern Wolffish (*Anarhichas denticulatus*), Blue Ling (*Molva dipterygia*), the Dusky Grouper (*Epinephelus marginatus*), Atlantic Halibut (*Hippoglossus hippoglossus*) and (wild) Atlantic Salmon (*Salmo salar*).

- [EFSA explains risk assessment: nitrites and nitrates added to food](#)

In June 2017 EFSA published two scientific opinions on its re-evaluation of nitrites and nitrates added to food. EFSA scientific advice will inform risk managers in the European Commission and Member States who regulate the safe use of nitrites and nitrates as food additives as well as their overall levels in food in the EU.

EFSA has concluded that existing safe levels for nitrites and nitrates intentionally added to meat and other foods are sufficiently protective for consumers. Consumer exposure to nitrites and nitrates as food additives is within safe levels for all population groups, except for a slight exceedance in children whose diet is high in foods containing these additives. However, if all dietary sources of nitrites and nitrates are considered, the safe levels (ADIs) may be exceeded for all age groups.

- [EU-China Food Safety Project Ramps Up fight against food fraud](#). Source FoodIngredientsFirst

The EU through its programme “Horizon 2020” and Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) have joint forces to improve food safety and tackle food fraud. The EU-China-Safe project will involve key players of the food industry, research organizations and Governments across two of the world’s largest trading areas.

EP Questions:

- [The spread of invasive fish species in the Baltic Sea](#) - Rolandas Paksas (EFDD)
- [2015 Seal Regulation](#) - Anders Primdahl Vistisen (ECR)
- [Bluefin tuna recovery plan for the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean](#) - Siôn Simon (S&D)
- [Subsidising catches of 'useless' fish species in the Sea of Crete](#) - Eleftherios Synadinos (NI)
- [Defining the technical characteristics of purse seines for fishing small blue fish](#) - Ruža Tomašić (ECR).
- [Collecting accurate fish stock data in Mediterranean waters](#) - Roberta Metsola (PPE)

• Agendas:

- [EP Committee for Fisheries](#), 21-22 June

Useful links:

- [Minutes of Meeting of the expert group meeting on the Official controls of food of animal origin.](#)
- [Compliance to the common fisheries policy: list of Union inspectors who may carry out inspections](#)
- [Roadmap: Evaluation of the Protocol to the Fisheries Partnership Agreement with São Tomé and Príncipe](#)
- [EP briefing: European Maritime and Fisheries Fund](#)
- [Minutes of the Joint Committee meeting between Liberia & the EU](#)
- [Ex-ante Study of a Possible Modernisation of the EU-Chile Association Agreement](#)
- [DG MARE Study on implementing the Sustainable Blue Growth Agenda for the Baltic Sea Region](#)

Events:

- EP Hearing on the "Consumption of fish in Europe". 21 June. Brussels
- [Pulse gear – A more sustainable alternative for traditional beam trawling](#). 21 June. Brussels

cristina.fernandez@seafish.co.uk