

# Brussels Weekly Update: BREXIT – 20/11/2017

## EU INSTITUTIONS

### European Parliament:

- **EP questions on Brexit:** Members of the EP (MEP) can submit questions for written answer to the European Commission (among other EU Institutions). The content of questions is the sole responsibility of their author(s), and a MEP can submit a maximum of five questions per month.
  - [Brexit — seats](#). Louis Michel (ALDE).
- EP study: [The settlement of disputes arising from the United Kingdom's Withdrawal from the European Union](#).

This study, commissioned by the European Parliament's Policy Department for Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs at the request of the AFCO Committee, analyses the various jurisdiction options, under EU law and under public international law, in settling disputes arising from the Withdrawal Agreement of the UK from the EU and in the context of the Future Relationship Agreement with the UK. It examines in particular the continued involvement of the CJEU in the new context of the EU-UK relations and, based on CJEU case-law and previous international agreements, presents the various governance possibilities for these agreements

### European Commission:

- [Barnier's Brexit timeline: No transition deal until October 2018](#). Source POLITICO.

POLITICO reported about a document prepared by EC Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier that setting out that a Brexit transition deal between the EU and the U.K. will not be formalized until October next year. Under a best-case scenario in which EU leaders decide in December that sufficient progress has been reached in the Brexit talks to move to the second phase, negotiations on a transition will not begin until around February next year.

### European Council:

- [Remarks by President Donald Tusk in Gothenburg after his meeting with Theresa May](#)
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## MORE INFORMATION

- [Environment Secretary Michael Gove announces plans to consult on a new, independent body for environmental standards](#). UK Government.

Ministers will consult on a new independent, statutory body to advise and challenge government and potentially other public bodies on environmental legislation – stepping in when needed to hold these bodies to account and enforce standards. A consultation on the specific powers and scope of the new body will be launched early next year.

- [Home Office delivery of Brexit: customs operations](#). Source UK Parliament.

This report looks at the possible operational challenges, particularly for the Home Office, the risks that need to be addressed and the additional contingency planning that needs to be done. The practical challenge involved in changing customs and border arrangements is significant and potentially costly: imports and exports are worth billions of pounds and involve a vast number of businesses and intermediaries. HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) has estimated that Brexit could lead to an increase of up to 360% in the annual number of customs declarations

in the UK, from the current total of 55 million to 255 million, if the arrangements after Brexit require declarations for UK trade with EU countries; and more than double the current number of traders may have to go through customs processes

- [Not in the Same Boat: The economic impact of Brexit across UK fishing fleets](#) . Source New Economics.

This report tries to weigh the risks and opportunities of Brexit for UK fishers, analysing six different possible scenarios for Brexit – from the hardest to the softest final deal, from a fishing perspective.

- [Fisheries inquiry launched](#). Source UK Parliament.

On 15 November, the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee took oral evidence on the future of UK Fisheries and the impact of Brexit. Following that session, the Committee wishes to examine in depth some of the potential changes to fisheries and seafood trading arrangements following the UK's exit from the EU, and how these will affect fishers, seafood processors, consumers, coastal communities and the environment

- [Trade Bill 2017-19](#). Source UK Parliament

The Bill was introduced to the House of Commons and given its First Reading on Tuesday 7 November 2017. It includes provisions on the implementation of international trade agreements; the establishment of the Trade Remedies Authority and also on the collection and disclosure of information relating to trade.

- [Brexit – the Voices of European Business](#). Source COBCOE

COBCOE is the membership organisation for British chambers of commerce and business associations in Europe. In September 2017, a report on Brexit was published. It contains the results of 12 months of research among 1,000 businesses across continental Europe, and was presented to ministers in the UK Department for Exiting the European Union in London and to officials from the European Commission Taskforce on Article 50 Negotiations in Brussels.

- [AmCham EU response to the House of Lords EU Select Committee Inquiry on "Brexit: deal or no deal?"](#)
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#### Videos:

- [Brexit throws Europe's fishing industry into troubled waters](#). Source DW.
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#### Events:

- [Hearing on Brexit and the impact on land transport](#). 22 November. Brussels.
- [Workshop "Brexit, the Financial Settlement and the Future of EU Finances](#). 23 November. Dublin
- [The Future of the EU & Future of the UK, Scotland & EU Relationship](#). 22 November. Brussels.