

Research Briefing **Brexit Update**

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National Assembly for Wales
Research Service

The National Assembly for Wales is the democratically elected body that represents the interests of Wales and its people, makes laws for Wales, agrees Welsh taxes and holds the Welsh Government to account.

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Research Briefing

Brexit Update



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1. Introduction

This paper provides an update on the most recent developments on Brexit of relevance to Wales. It includes sections on the work of the Assembly and Welsh Government; EU; UK; and Scotland and Ireland. The period covered is 29 November 2017 – 10 January 2018, although reference is made to later events where information is available at time of final drafting.

2. Developments in Wales

National Assembly for Wales

External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee

The External Affairs and Additional Legislation (EAAL) Committee is the lead Committee in the Assembly for co-ordinating the Brexit-related activities of Committees.

The most recent sessions of the EAAL Committee were:

- 4 December: Private seminar on the UK Government's proposed Trade Bill; Discussion on the UK Government's trade bill and its implications for Wales; Discussion on UK future trade policy and its implications for Wales.
- 11 December: Resilience and preparedness: the Welsh Government's administrative and financial response to Brexit - key themes; Legislative Consent: European Union (Withdrawal) Bill - consideration of the draft interim report; EU Commission Work Programme 2018; Forward Work Programme. The Committee agreed to start a new inquiry: Wales's future relationship with the European Union.
- 8 January: scrutiny of the Cabinet Secretary for Finance in relation to the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill, the implications for Wales, Article 50 Negotiations, common frameworks, regional policy, and the recent meetings of the Joint Ministerial Committee (EU Negotiations); and consideration of the evidence.

5 December: David Rees spoke on **Brexit and the Welsh Economy** at Policy Forum Wales, Nathan Gill AM and Steffan Lewis AM were the chairs for the day.

The Research Service's own blogs are published on **In Brief**. The latest Brexit blogs are **A Continuity Bill: Why and when?**; and **Negotiations on the UK's Withdrawal from the EU: Monitoring Report**.

Other

The Climate Change, Environment and Rural Affairs Committee has published its reports on **Marine Protected Areas in Wales**, and the **Future of Agricultural and Rural Development Policies in Wales**.

The Economy, Infrastructure and Skills Committee is considering the use made of support from the EU and the impact of Brexit as part of its inquiry into **Selling Wales to the World**.

The Equalities, Local Government and Communities Committee is considering the implications of Brexit on Human Rights as part of its inquiry into Human Rights in Wales. The Committee held an informal discussion on the latest developments in relation to Brexit and Human Rights with the Equalities and Human Rights Commission and experts from the Assembly Commission.

The Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee has begun reporting on where subordinate legislation currently being laid before the Assembly may need amending after the UK leaves the EU.

The Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee has launched its **inquiry into Powers in the EU (Withdrawal) Bill to make subordinate legislation**. The consultation closed on 30 November.

Welsh Government

30 November: **Statement following the meeting between First Minister and the First Secretary of State**.

30 November: **£26m EU-backed investment to help young people into work and training**.

7 December: **Finance Secretary will share his views on Brexit** and new tax-raising powers at the CBI Wales annual dinner.

11 December: **Phase 1 Negotiations statement**.

12 December: **More work to be done despite Brexit progress** – Mark Drakeford.

13 December: **Written Statement - JMC (EN). Joint Ministerial Committee (EU Negotiations) Communiqué**.

13 December: **A significant deal to safeguard Wales' fish stocks** – Lesley Griffiths.

14 December: **Regional investment funding and decisions must not be stripped from Wales post-Brexit** – First Minister.

8 January: **£50m fund to help prepare Wales for Brexit** - First Minister Carwyn Jones has today announced a significant cash boost to help Welsh businesses and public services plan and prepare for Brexit.

News

4 December: **After Brexit: An agenda for public services in Wales** (Bevan Foundation and Wales Public Services 2025)

4 December: **Access to EU Single Market and Customs Union critical for rural Wales, FUW reminds**.

8 December: **NFU Cymru responds to latest Brexit news**.

11 December: **Monmouthshire NFU members meet with David Davies MP**.

12 December: **NFU Cymru affirms Brexit asks at House of Commons**.

12 December: **Transcript of address by DEFRA Minister of State, George Eustice MP to TFA Conference on 14 November 2017**.

13 December: **FUW Caernarfon AGM discusses post-Brexit industry**.

4 January: **Holyhead will be one of the biggest losers from Brexit** (Professor Richard Wyn Jones in the Irish Times)

4 January: **NFU Cymru welcomes commitment to agriculture from Secretary of State**.

4 January: **"Welsh Farming Must Not be Left Behind!..." says CLA Cymru**.

5 January: Oxford Farming Conference offers glimmer of hope for industry but Wales needs clarity – FUW.

8 January: Gove's Oxford speech gives us all much to chew over – TFA.

3. EU developments

European Council

30 November: 2018 EU budget adopted.

30 November: A renewed EU Industrial Policy Strategy: Council adopts conclusions.

1 December: Remarks by President Donald Tusk after his meeting with Taoiseach Leo Varadkar.

5 December: UK's deficit back below 3% of GDP, Council closes procedure.

5 December: Defence cooperation: Council adopts conclusions on EU-NATO cooperation,
endorsing common set of new proposals for further joint work.

8 December: North Sea fisheries: new multiannual management plan agreed.

8 December: Statement by President Donald Tusk on the draft guidelines for the second phase of the Brexit negotiations.

11 December: Defence cooperation: Council establishes Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO), with 25 member states participating.

12 December: Invitation letter by President Donald Tusk to the members of the European Council ahead of their meetings on 14 and 15 December 2017.

12 December: Omnibus regulation: Council adopts new, simplified, agricultural rules.

13 December: Council agreement on 2018 fishing quotas in the Atlantic and North Sea.

13 December: Second Council conclusions on the 11th World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference.

14 December: Reinforcing European defence: remarks by President Donald Tusk at the event on PESCO.

14 December: European Council conclusions, 14 December 2017.

15 December: European Council (Art. 50) guidelines for Brexit negotiations, 15 December 2017. Guidelines.

15 December: Remarks by President Donald Tusk following the European Council meetings on 14 and 15 December 2017.

20 December: Trade defence instruments: EU ambassadors confirm the outcome of the final political trilogue with European Parliament.

European Commission

29 November: Speech by Michel Barnier at the Berlin Security Conference.

29 November: **The Future of Food and Farming** – for a flexible, fair and sustainable Common Agricultural Policy, **Factsheet. Commission eyes end of 'one-size-fits-all' farm policy** (EUObserver)

29 November: Brexit: European Commission proposes legislative amendments for the **relocation of the European Medicines Agency and the European Banking Authority from London.**

7 December: **December infringements package:** key decisions.

8 December: **Remarks by President Juncker at the joint press conference with Theresa May, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.**

8 December: **Remarks by Michel Barnier, the European Commission's Chief Negotiator, at the press conference on the Joint Report from the Negotiators of the European Union and the United Kingdom Government.**

8 December: **Brexit: European Commission recommends sufficient progress to the European Council (Article 50).**

8 December: **Communication from the Commission to the European Council (Article 50) on the state of progress of the negotiations with the United Kingdom under Article 50 of the Treaty on European Union.**

8 December: **Joint report from the negotiators of the European Union and the United Kingdom Government on progress during phase 1 of negotiations under Article 50 TEU on the United Kingdom's orderly withdrawal from the European Union.**

8 December: **Joint technical note expressing the detailed consensus of the UK and EU positions on Citizens' Rights.**

11 December: **European Commission welcomes first operational steps towards a European Defence Union.**

12 December: **Press statement by Michel Barnier following the General Affairs Council (Article 50).**

12 December: **Questions and Answers – the rights of EU27 and UK citizens post-Brexit, as outlined in the Joint Report from the Negotiators of the European Union and the United Kingdom Government.**

13 December: **Statement by Michel Barnier at the plenary session of the European Parliament on the state of play of the Article 50 negotiations with the UK.**

13 December: **Already €278 billion delivered to Europe's real economy under the European Structural and Investment Funds.**

13 December: **EU farm policy rules to be further simplified.**

14 December: **Consumption per capita varied between 53% and 132% of the EU average.**

14 December: **A more united, stronger and more democratic Union: Joint Declaration on the EU's legislative priorities for 2018-2019.**

15 December: Consultation on **Reducing marine litter: action on single use plastics and fishing gear** (closes 12 February)

15 December: **Remarks by President Jean-Claude Juncker following the European Council meetings of 14 and 15 December 2017.**

19 December: **Michel Barnier: Financial services excluded from Brexit trade deal.**

19 December: **Slide presented by Michel Barnier, European Commission Chief Negotiator, to the Heads of State and Government at the European Council (Article 50) on 15 December 2017.**

19 December: **Autumn 2017 Standard Eurobarometer: Fixing the roof while the sun is shining.**

20 December: **Press statement by Michel Barnier following the adoption of a recommendation to begin the discussions on the next phase of the orderly withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union** (in French).

20 December: Brexit: **European Commission recommends draft negotiating directives for next phase of the Article 50 negotiations.**

20 December: **Commission's recommendation including supplementary negotiating directives. Annex - Supplementary negotiating directives.**

20 December: **EU puts in place new trade defence rules.**

20 December: **Rule of Law: European Commission acts to defend judicial independence in Poland.**

9 January: **Speech by Michel Barnier** at the Trends Manager of the Year 2017 event.

European Parliament

29 November: **Brexit: progress but not enough.**

30 November: **EU budget 2018 approved: support for youth, growth, security.**

8 December: **Sustainable North Sea fisheries: MEPs and ministers strike provisional deal.**

12 December: **Simpler and fairer EU farm policy.**

13 December: **Trust is crucial in Brexit talks, say MEPs during debate.**

13 December: **Joint progress report allows move to phase two of Brexit talks, says Parliament.**

18 December: **European Parliament, Brexit and Agriculture - debate in Yorkshire.**

21 December: **The Brexit process: Moving to the second phase of negotiations** - European Parliamentary Research Service Blog.

9 January: **Brexit / United Kingdom withdrawal from the EU** [Ten issues to watch in 2018] - European Parliamentary Research Service Blog.

News

7 December: Exclusive - **EU parliament details UK concessions on rights** (Reuters)

20 December: **Lagarde Defends IMF's Brexit Forecasts After Experts Dismissed** (Bloomberg)

1 January: **Flemish farmer busts conventional wisdom on EU farm policy** - Community-supported model thrives without subsidies from Brussels (Politico)

3 January: **Northern France's parallel Brexit talks** - Politicians and officials on either side of the Channel get together to tackle big border challenges (Politico)

3 January: **German firms brace for added costs in British trade** - Reintroducing customs will increase paperwork and slow transit of EU goods in and out of Britain (Handelsblatt Goba)

7 January: **Regions demand Brexit compensation from EU budget** (Politico)

8 January: **Who's who in the Bulgarian EU presidency** (Politico)

8 January: **U.K. Should Have 'Canada Plus Plus Plus' Brexit Deal, Italy Says** (Bloomberg)

8 January: **Where Brexit will hurt most in Europe** (Politico)

9 January: **Emmanuel Macron breaks French taboo on farm subsidies** (Politico)

4. UK developments

UK Government

30 November: **Minister Steve Baker continues regional engagement in Norfolk on EU exit.**

5-11 December: The Prime Minister spoke with **Prime Minister Rajoy of Spain, Taoiseach Leo Varadkar, Prime Minister Boyko Borissov of Bulgaria,**

8 December: **Joint report on progress during phase 1 of negotiations under Article 50 TEU on the UK's orderly withdrawal from the EU.**

8 December: **Prime Minister's commitments to Northern Ireland.**

8 December: Updates of: **Status of EU citizens in the UK: what you need to know; Example case studies: EU citizens' rights in the UK; UK nationals in the EU: what you need to know.**

11 December: **Prime Minister Theresa May updated the House of Commons on negotiations for the UK's departure from the European Union.**

11 December: **UK and Gibraltar continue engagement on Rock's Brexit interests.**

15 December: European Council. **Theresa May's surprise Christmas present: Applause from the EU** (Politico)

18 December: **PM Commons statement on European Council.**

20 December: **A letter from the Prime Minister to UK nationals living in Europe.**

4 January: **Farming for the next generation** – Michael Gove at the Oxford Farming Conference 2018.

9 January: **Ministerial appointments: January 2018.**

10 January: **Joint article: a deep and special partnership** – by Philip Hammond and David Davis that originally appeared in Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung on 10 January 2018.

House of Commons

European Union (Withdrawal) Bill as amended in committee.

The European Union (Withdrawal) Bill 2017-19: Summary of Commons Committee Stage – House of Commons Library.

The European Union (Withdrawal) Bill: clause 7 “the correcting power” – House of Commons Library.

Brexit: 'sufficient progress' to move to phase 2 – House of Commons Library.

29 November: Urgent Question on the costs of Brexit. Debate on EU Nationals.

30 November: Adjournment debate on Leaving the EU: Student Exchanges.

4 December: Day 4 of the Committee stage of the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill.

5 December: David Davis gave a Statement and answered questions on EU Exit Negotiations.

6 December: Day 5 of the Committee stage of the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill.

6 December: Scottish questions: Leaving the EU: Devolution.

7 December: Environment, Food and Rural Affairs questions, many about Brexit. A question on EU Referendum: Electoral Commission Resources.

7 December: Debate on the UK Fishing Industry.

11 December: The Prime Minister gave a statement on Brexit Negotiations, followed by a debate.

12 December: Day 6 of the Committee stage of the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill.

13 December: Many EU-related Questions in Welsh Questions.

13 December: Day 7 of the Committee stage of the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill.

14 December: A series of questions on Exiting the European Union.

18 December: The Prime Minister gave a statement on the 14-15 December European Council, followed by questions.

19 December (Westminster Hall): Debate on a Sector Deal for Steel.

20 December: A series of Brexit questions in Northern Ireland questions.

20 December: Day 8 of the Committee stage of the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill.

21 December: The Attorney General answered questions on the Prisoner Voting agreement at the 47-member Council of Europe. (Background in the Law Society Gazette)

8 January: Debate on the Taxation (Cross-border Trade) Bill.

9 January: Debate on the Trade Bill.

9 January: Withdrawal Bill deadline missed (Guardian)

Committees

Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy:

28 November: Written evidence: The Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry and the Bio-Industry Association, British Medical Association.

29 November Secretary of State questioned on Brexit, gig economy and Industrial Strategy.

1 December: Letter from Chief Executive of ADS to the Chair relating to Brexit aerospace inquiry.

5 December: Pharmaceutical companies spending millions to mitigate Brexit uncertainty, Transcript.

12 December: Evidence from food and drink manufacturers warns of dangers of 'no deal'.

13 December: Wetherspoon, Diageo and Nestle questioned on impact of Brexit, Transcript.

Publication of Report: Leaving the EU: implications for the civil nuclear sector and written evidence from 17 organisations.

Defence:

5 December: Examination of the implications of the Department for Exiting the European Union's policy paper 'Foreign policy, defence and development - a future partnership paper', Transcript, Professor Prins written evidence.

Environment, Food and Rural Affairs:

29 November: Brexit impact on dairy, poultry and pigs industries (Transcript) evidence session. Brexit impact on fishing industry, Transcript evidence session.

13 December: Brexit impact on fishing industry, Transcript.

6 December: Brexit – Trade in Food inquiry, Transcript,

20 December: Brexit – Trade in Food inquiry with Michael Gove and George Eustace, Transcript.

European Scrutiny:

Committee published Government response to a report from its predecessor committee in the last Parliament. Committee published meeting summary for 29 November, Meeting summary for 13 December. Meeting summary for 19 December

8 December: Chair statement regarding the Report on Phase 1 of the Leaving-EU Negotiations

19 December: Letter sent by the Committee to Theresa May on the disapplication of primary legislation under the EU (Withdrawal) Bill – referred to by Bill Cash in Liaison Committee on 21 December.

Exiting the EU:

29 November: Evidence session on Impact of Brexit on trade, Transcript.

1 December: Progress of the UK's negotiations on EU withdrawal - report released.

6 December: [David Davis questioned on Brexit sectoral impact assessments, Transcript.](#)

7 December in Armagh: The progress of the UK's negotiations on EU withdrawal, [Transcript.](#)

13 December: [Participation in EU agencies after Brexit, Transcript.](#)

20 December: The Committee continued its scrutiny of the [progress of the Article 50 negotiations in the wake of the European Council summit, Transcript.](#)

21 December: [Brexit sectoral analyses published by Committee. Letter to Secretary of State from the Chair on the sectoral analyses, and reply – 6 December; Letter to Secretary of State from the Chair on the sectoral analyses – 13 December, and reply – 19 December.](#)

10 January: Evidence Session on [Canada-EU trade arrangements -](#)

Foreign Affairs:

29 November: [Academics questioned on future of Britain's diplomatic relationship with Europe, Transcript.](#)

13 December: [FCO written evidence.](#)

Health:

[Brexit and health and social care – people & process: Government Response to the Committee's Eighth Report of Session.](#)

5 December: [Effects of Brexit on supply chain of medicines examined, Transcript.](#)

12 December: [Brexit - risks and opportunities for the life science sector](#) evidence session. Evidence Session - Brexit: the regulation of medicines, medical devices and substances of human origin, [Transcript](#)

19 December: Evidence Session - Brexit: the regulation of medicines, medical devices and substances of human origin, [Transcript.](#)

Home Affairs:

29 November: [Home Office delivery of Brexit: immigration, Transcript.](#)

5 December: Home Office delivery of Brexit: policing and co-operation, [Transcript.](#)

Human Rights:

27 November: [Letter to the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union regarding the EU \(Withdrawal\) Bill.](#)

6 December: [Letter from the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, on the outstanding human rights questions raised by the EU Withdrawal Bill.](#)

International Trade:

29 November: Evidence session on the [Trade Bill, Transcript.](#)

6 December: [Application of EU trade agreements after Brexit](#) examined, [Transcript.](#) [Letter from the Secretary of State on the World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference.](#)

13 December: **Implications of Irish border arrangements on future trade policy** examined, **Transcript**.

18 December: **Committee launches inquiry into trade with developing countries**.

10 January: Evidence Session on the **Continuing application of EU trade agreements**.

17 January UK-US trade relations will be examined.

Liaison:

20 December: **Prime Minister questioned on Brexit negotiations and transitional arrangements**, **Transcript**.

Northern Ireland:

29 November: Evidence Session, **The land border between Northern Ireland and Ireland**, with Chloe Smith and Robin Walker, **Transcript**.

30 November: **Bombardier session in Stormont**.

6 December: **Impact of Bombardier redundancies on Northern Ireland economy** examined, **Transcript**, NI Dept Economy evidence, NI Dept BEIS evidence.

13 December: **Boeing quizzed on Bombardier tariff complaints**.

9 January: New inquiry launched on **Northern Ireland Fisheries and Brexit**.

Procedure:

7 December: **Chair tabled amendments to EU (Withdrawal) Bill on scrutiny powers for Commons**.

21 December: **Exiting the EU: scrutiny of delegated legislation - Further call for evidence**.

Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs:

29 November: **Clause 11 is seen as constitutionally insensitive, says PACAC – Report**.

Science and Technology:

4 January: **Brexit science and innovation Summit call for evidence launched**.

Scottish Affairs:

18 December: **Migration to Scotland after Brexit** examined, **Transcript**. A further evidence session will be held on 16 January.

Treasury:

5 December: **Correspondence from the Chief Secretary to the Treasury relating to OBR forecasting of potential future payments to the European Union**.

6-7 December evidence published: **Sir Amyas Morse, Comptroller and Auditor General, National Audit Office** (oral evidence), **Honda Motor Europe, EEF, Personal Investment Management & Financial Advice Association (PIMFA), City of London Corporation**.

9 January: Chair's letter to HMRC about **potential upfront VAT payments after Brexit**.

10 January: Chair asks **NAO to examine Brexit withdrawal payment**.

Briefing on **VAT and Import Duties clauses in Taxation (Cross-border Trade) Bill**.

Welsh Affairs:

12 December The Committee heard from Farmers' Union Wales and NFU Cymru on **agricultural issues and the implications of Brexit and the devolution settlement**, Transcript.

19 December **Secretary of State questioned on the work of the Wales Office**, Transcript.

9 January **Impact of Brexit on Welsh meat production examined**.

House of Lords

29 November: Statement and questions on **Brexit: Costs**.

30 November: Questions on **Brexit: Cultural and Educational Programmes**.

5 December: Questions on **Brexit: Irish Border**. Statement and questions on **Brexit Negotiations**. Debate on **Trade and Customs Policy**.

6 December: Questions on **Brexit: Health Policy**.

8 January: Questions on **Brexit: Reports to Parliament**, **Brexit: Environmental Enforcement Agency**, **Brexit: Child Refugees**.

Committees

Constitution:

29 November: Evidence Session on the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill with **Keir Starmer (Labour)** and **Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat)**, Transcript.

6 December: **EU Withdrawal Bill implications for Northern Ireland**, Transcript, written evidence.

13 December: Ministers from the Department for Exiting the European Union, along with the Solicitor General, and the Leader of the House of Lords – **evidence session**, Transcript.

European Union:

7 December: The Committee published its **report Brexit: deal or no deal**.

20 December: Damian Green gave evidence on **Brexit and devolution**.

21 December: **Letter to David Davis, regarding sectoral analyses**.

EU Energy and Environment Sub-Committee:

30 November: **Letter to Thérèse Coffey, DEFRA, on UK's trade in waste**.

7 December: **Letter from Michael Gove on a new environmental accountability body**.

13 December: **Chair's letter to George Eustace on fisheries**.

10 January: The **Impact of Brexit on UK's trade in waste evidence session with Dr Thérèse Coffey MP**, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State.

EU External Affairs Sub-Committee:

30 November: **EU external approach to migration evidence session**, **Transcript**.

17 December: The **Brexit: sanctions policy report** was published.

11 January: **Brexit: Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) missions inquiry** launched, first evidence session.

18 January: An evidence session on the EU external approach to migration will be held.

EU Financial Affairs Sub-Committee:

29 November: **Financial regulation and supervision following Brexit**, **Transcript**, evidence session.

5 December: **Treasury Minister gives evidence on financial regulation and supervision after Brexit**, **Transcript**.

11 December: **Think tank gives evidence on post-Brexit financial regulation and supervision**, **Transcript**.

20 December: **Welsh MEP Dr Kay Swinburne**, the Vice-Chairman of the European Parliament's Economic & Monetary Affairs Committee (ECON), gave evidence, **Transcript**.

2 December: **Letter from Philip Hammond MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer, on Transition for financial services**.

EU Home Affairs Sub-Committee:

29 November: **Reciprocal healthcare after Brexit**, **Transcript**.

7 December: **Government response to Brexit: judicial oversight of the European Arrest Warrant report**.

8 December: **Brexit risks disrupting the supply of medical radioisotopes**, says committee in **letter to Business and Health Ministers**.

20 December: **Minister questioned on the EU data protection package**.

EU Internal Market Sub-Committee:

30 November: Committee follow up session on **post-Brexit trade in air services**, **Transcript**.

EU Justice Sub-Committee:

7 December: Has started an inquiry on the question of **enforcement and dispute resolution post-Brexit**.

12 December: The Sub-Committee concluded its **follow-up inquiry into Brexit: citizens' rights** by hearing from Brandon Lewis, Minister of State for Immigration, **Transcript**.

19 December: The Committee published its **report asking how consumers will be protected post-Brexit**. Also a **Letter from Lord Boswell to Immigration Minister on citizens' rights post-Brexit**.

16 January: There will be an evidence session with the European Free Trade Association on Brexit: enforcement and dispute resolution.

Liaison:

29 November: **Ninth Informal Brexit Liaison Group meeting held**.

6 December: **Letter from David Davis on the Interparliamentary Forum on Brexit**.

18 December: **Letter from Lord Callanan regarding statutory instruments**.

19 December: **Tenth Informal Brexit Liaison Group meeting held**.

News

30 November: **Migration since the Brexit vote: what's changed in six charts** (ONS)

30 November: **Putting Brexit to the test** (TUC)

17 December: **Ministers' plot could slash paid holidays for 7 million workers** (TUC)

17 December: **Mayday: What Barnier's words on Brexit mean for the prime minister** (Prospect)

18 December: **The real price of Brexit begins to emerge** (Financial Times)

18 December: **Iain Duncan Smith says British business will just have to 'get by' with harder EU trade after Brexit** (Business Insider)

20 December: **Brexit: UK plans to soften impact on European banks** (BBC)

20 December: **IMF downgrades UK growth forecast on Brexit uncertainty** (BBC)

5. Scotland

Scottish Parliament

Scottish Parliament Brexit Updates: **30 November, 8 December, 14 December, 21 December**.

7 December: Urgent Question on **European Union (Regulatory Alignment)**.

7 December: Debate on **Sea Fisheries and End-year Negotiations**.

9 January: Debate on the Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Relations Committee's inquiry into the **article 50 withdrawal process**.

Scottish Government

30 November: **Update from Minister for UK Negotiations on Scotland's Place in Europe**.

1 December: **Fisheries talks conclude** - EU/Norway deal brings some success.

4 December: **Brexit talks – Irish border**.

8 December: **First Minister comments on Brexit developments**.

11 December: **Championing fishing interests** - Rural Economy Secretary sets out **priorities for annual negotiations**.

12 December: **Returning EU powers** - Preparations underway for 'Continuity Bill'.

13 December: **Challenging outcome for fisheries**.

20 December: **Current Trade Bill unacceptable**, and **Keeping Scotland in the Single Market**.

4 January: **EEA workers vital to economy**.

8 January: **Keeping Scotland in Europe** - "Next few months are a window of opportunity" says First Minister.

10 January: **Scottish EU Bill likely to be introduced in February** - EU Withdrawal Bill incompatible with devolution.

6. Northern Ireland

The Assembly publishes a '**Brexit Brief**' newsletter and **Brexit information**.

The Assembly's Research and Information Services has a **Brexit Hub** with information and links to resources on the subject of Brexit and Northern Ireland.

13 December: **Positive result from EU Fisheries Council**.

18 December: **May warned on Irish 'contradiction' at heart of future EU deal** (BBC interview)

7. UK-Ireland relations

8 December: **Statement on Brexit negotiations by Taoiseach Leo Varadkar**.

8. Reports published

Trust in a time of Brexit – Clause 11 (UK in a Changing Europe)

Britain needs to spell out how it hopes to achieve post-Brexit security soon (UK in a Changing Europe)

Brexit and immigration control in Northern Ireland (UK in a Changing Europe)

Post-Brexit UK trade policy remains a wish list (LSE Brexit)

Expect a backlash if the £50bn offer doesn't move negotiations on (LSE Brexit)

The Political Tribes of Europe (Chatham House)

Two-speed Europe is a mistake (Opinion piece in Politico by Bohuslav Sobotka, former Prime Minister of the Czech Republic)

Never mind the DUP, Theresa May needs Ireland on side to survive this shambles (The Conversation)

May's Irish dilemma is a precursor of even more intractable dilemmas of Brexit to come (LSE Brexit)

After Brexit - Alternate forms of Brexit and their implications for the United Kingdom, the European Union and the United States (RAND Corporation)

Brexit negotiations phase two – here's what happens next (The Conversation)

EU law expert: how binding is the Brexit 'deal'? (The Conversation)

The impact of Brexit on equality law (UK in a Changing Europe)

Brexit is becoming a masterpiece in procrastination (UK in a Changing Europe)

Brexit marks a pivotal moment for the future of UK waste policy (UK in a Changing Europe)

Understanding the Brexit vote: the interplay between economic internationalisation and cultural openness (LSE Brexit)

Britain's insistence on impact assessments helped wrap Brussels in red tape (LSE Brexit)

Brexit assessments: ignorance isn't bliss — quantitative forecasts do matter (LSE Brexit)

Environmental protection after Brexit: A race to the bottom? (Welsh Brexit blogs)

Brexit and the Welsh Economy (Welsh Brexit blogs)

Brexit and Fulfilling Work: Responding to Threats and Exploiting Opportunities (Carnegie UK Trust)

Europe's Thirst for Cheap Labor Fuels a Boom in Disposable Workers (New York Times)

The wide open plains of Phase 2 (UK in a Changing Europe)

Brexit and Wales update from the Wales Governance Centre – December 2017 (Welsh Brexit blogs)

What has been learned from recent EU trade negotiations? (LSE Brexit)

Planning for Brexit: the automotive sector (CBI)

What a 'no deal' Brexit means for businesses in Northern Ireland (CBI)

Brexit is an opportunity to tackle inequality (Politico's Global Policy Lab)

What the Brexit deal means for EU citizens and their families (The Conversation)

The EU turned Scotland's Highland region into a model of economic success – will Brexit reverse that? (The Conversation)

Exposure to Brexit in regions on both sides of the Channel (UK in a Changing Europe)

Has Brexit reshaped British politics? (Professor John Curtice in UK in a Changing Europe)

Now is the moment of truth: Britain must set out a realistic Brexit negotiating position (LSE Brexit)

[**Brexit appealed to white working-class men who feel society no longer values them**](#) (LSE Brexit)

[**Legatum Institute's 'solution' for the Brexit border is highly problematic**](#) (LSE Brexit)

[**Understanding the Brexit vote: the interplay between economic internationalisation and cultural openness**](#) (LSE Brexit)

[**What do British citizens think about the rights of EU citizens in the UK as part of the Brexit divorce?**](#) (LSE Brexit)

[**The Day the Unicorns Cried: the deal on phase 1 of the Brexit talks**](#) (EU law analysis blog)

[**EU agrees to start phase two of Brexit talks: experts react**](#) (The Conversation)

[**Into Phase II: how the EU27 see the outcome of the December European Council**](#) (UK in a Changing Europe)

[**Walesa on Polish nationalism: When demons awake**](#) (EUObserver)

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