

HARD BREXIT

The push for Sovereignty

SUMMARY

- Most 'honest' bid for sovereignty
- Cutting as many binding ties with EU and focusing on independence, even if there's a predicted damage to the UK economy
- Room to reform and recreate relevant legislation
- Leave the single market with no trade agreement
- Leave the customs union
- No transition period
- Implementation of WTO rules, potentially resulting in a hard border in Ireland
- No EU regulation governing UK
- Imposition of border controls between EU/UK countries
- End jurisdiction of European Court
- No free movement
- Full control over immigration
- Much higher demand for stronger international trade links, rather than EU 'fortress'
- Need for a stronger relationship with Commonwealth and partnered nations

NATURAL HEALTH IMPACTS

- Expanded non-EU trade of natural health products
- Loss of EU protections for environment
- Importation of EU medicines' laws
- MHRA can ban 'borderline' natural products at will without tempering by EU case law
- Risk of over-regulation of supplement industry by pharmaceutical-pressured MHRA
- Increase in prices for imported products
- Risk of increased cost of imported ingredients used in UK-made products
- Useful EU case law no longer relevant
- EU 'mutual recognition' protections lost

OPINION LEADERS



BORIS JOHNSON
CONSERVATIVE

"That was the vision of Brexit we fought for"



JACOB REES-MOGG
CONSERVATIVE

"[Brexit is] a wonderful liberation for the country"



SIMON CLARKE
CONSERVATIVE

"We've looked into the abyss [...] and we've all got a decision about what to do"



STEVE BAKER
CONSERVATIVE

"Our democracy is under threat if we continue down this path"

ECONOMIC IMPACTS

- Expanded non-EU trade
- Increase of costs of goods and services
- Increase in border checks at ports and airports
- Freedom to choose trading partners outside of the EU
- Room to reform and recreate relevant legislation
- No EU 'divorce' bill
- Increased traction in WTO disputes
- Relocation of European Medicines Agency (EMA) from London to Amsterdam
- Exodus of business and industry HQs to EU to avoid trade blocks
- Restricted movement of labour
- Risk of slowed growth (one-third of UK export firms have already lost business due to Brexit)
- Loss of tariff-free trade status
- Increased cost of imports
- Increased cost of exports
- Risk of food shortages due to customs delays
- Uncertainty around success
- Loss of EU subsidies
- Uncertain trade conditions for Gibraltar (British overseas territory)

SOCIAL IMPACTS

- Sense of regained sovereign control
- Delivers strong Brexit result for Leave supporters
- Loss of EU Human Rights legislation and protections
- Loss of access to EU Court of Justice
- Potential risk of deepened social divides in UK
- Potential risk of greater inequalities
- Potential risk of loss of hard-won equality and human rights protections
- Potential souring of relationship with EU member states
- Freedom to recreate and replace relevant above areas
- No guaranteed rights for EU citizens living in the UK
- EU case law no longer relevant
- EU 'mutual recognition' protections lost
- Tighter control on immigration
- Possible border friction between Northern Ireland (UK) and Republic of Ireland (EU)
- Legitimacy for second Scottish independence vote (62% voted Remain in referendum)

SOFT BREXIT

Compromise for an easier transition

SUMMARY

- Compromises sovereignty in adoption of current EU legislation, which may result in giving up some freedoms and independence
- Establishes a free trade area for goods
- Establish a new security partnership
- Continue to cooperate in protection of personal data, establish cooperative accords and arrangements for fishing
- Implement a joint institutional arrangement to provide for proper democratic accountability
- Facilitated customs arrangement
- UK remains bound by EU rules and tariffs (but UK loses say in making them)
- Free movement of EU citizens
- Frictionless border with Republic of Ireland

NATURAL HEALTH IMPACTS

- Importation of EU medicines' laws
- Maintains existing environmental/GMO protections from EU
- Less likelihood of price rises of imported products
- MHRA can ban 'borderline' natural products at will without tempering by EU case law
- Risk of over-regulation of supplement industry by pharmaceutical-pressured MHRA
- Useful EU case law no longer relevant
- EU 'mutual recognition' protections lost
- Companies distributing US products likely to relocate EU bases to EU (e.g. Ireland, Netherlands)

OPINION LEADERS



HERESA MAY
CONSERVATIVE

"Our proposal is comprehensive. It is ambitious. And it strikes the balance we need"



DOMINIC RAAB
CONSERVATIVE

"This is the right approach – for both the UK and for the EU"



JEREMY CORBYN
LABOUR

"Brexit is what we make of it together, the priorities and choices we make in the negotiations"



CARWYN JONES
LABOUR (WALES)

"This was a referendum based on an idea – not a plan"

ECONOMIC IMPACTS

- Relocation of key EU orgs such as European Medicines Agency (EMA) to other EU countries
- Access to the single EU market for services (and possibly goods) maintained
- No border checks
- Exodus of business and industry HQs to EU to avoid trade blocks
- Risk of slowed growth (one-third of UK export firms have already lost business due to Brexit)
- Uncertainty around success
- Some English firms optimistic
- Lack of UK traction in EU trade discussions
- Loss of EU subsidies

SOCIAL IMPACTS

- Compromise for keeping a close relationship with EU
- A 'weakened' UK in eyes of Hard Brexit supporters
- Varied opinion on free movement
- No guaranteed rights for EU citizens living in the UK
- EU case law no longer relevant
- Mutual Recognition no longer relevant
- Possible border friction between Northern Ireland (UK) and Republic of Ireland (EU)
- Some legitimacy for second Scottish independence vote (62% voted Remain in referendum)

NOTE

Soft Brexit is the closest alternative to remaining in the EU (i.e. reversal of Brexit), as it adopts many of existing EU laws into UK legislation - especially so in the transition period. Therefore, it has to be considered the most desirable for those wanting to remain out of given options. Noteable Remain campaigners include **Nicola Sturgeon**, First Minister of Scotland and leader of the Scottish National party, as well as **Sir Vince Cable**, leader of the Liberal Democrats. Both having no weight inside the European negotiations, however, it could be said their resistance at this stage in the process is idealistic and further calls for a second referendum too late to block tide of events.

NO DEAL

Failure with negotiations/embracing uncertainty

SUMMARY

- No agreement is reached on the terms of departure
- No transition period
- No EU 'divorce' bill (although this could end up in court)
- No agreement on EU citizens' rights in the UK or UK citizens in the EU
- No security cooperation
- No customs union
- No bilateral agreement on flights
- Border checks between EU/UK and UK/EU would be re-imposed severely affecting imports/exports
- UK would become a 'third country' with significantly reduced access to the EU single market
- Implementation of WTO rules, potentially resulting in a hard border in Ireland
- No EU regulation governing UK
- No jurisdiction for European Court

NATURAL HEALTH IMPACTS

- Loss of EU protections for environment
- Increased cost of ingredients used in natural health foods and supplements
- EU case law no longer relevant
- Mutual Recognition no longer relevant
- Companies distributing US products likely to relocate EU bases to EU (e.g. Ireland, Netherlands)

OPINION LEADERS

NOTE

Whereas few are specifically in want of a No Deal scenario (as opposed to a negotiated Hard Brexit), it has been suggested as a very realistic outcome and preparation has begun for its possibility. Notable reasoners for a No Deal event are **Jacob Rees-Mogg**, of the Conservative Party, and **Nigel Farage**, ex-UKIP leader and forefront Leave campaigner. It is also important to note that a share of the Conservative party, as well as other vocal Leave advocates, favour a Hard or No Deal Brexit over a proposed Soft Brexit, due to the idea that compromise is a disingenuous and half-measured outcome for the referendum result.

ECONOMIC IMPACTS

- Unknown future post-negotiations (positive or negative)
- Strengthened reliance on trade with Commonwealth
- Greater demand to form strong international deals outside of 'EU fortress'
- Full control of UK border
- Restricted movement of labour
- Slowed growth
- Loss of tariff-free trade status
- Increased cost of imports
- Increased cost of exports
- Food shortages due to customs delays
- Business concerns
- Dependence on acceptance of WTO trade rules with Europe and internationally
- Uncertainty around success
- Lack of UK traction in EU trade discussions
- Loss of EU subsidies
- Uncertain trade conditions for Gibraltar (British overseas territory)

SOCIAL IMPACTS

- Unknown future post-negotiations
- Sense of regained sovereign control
- Delivers strong Brexit result for Leave supporters
- Potential risk of deepened social divides in UK
- Potential risk of greater inequalities
- Potential risk of loss of hard-won equality and human rights protections
- Potential souring of relationship with EU member states
- Freedom to recreate and replace relevant above areas
- EU case law no longer relevant
- Mutual Recognition no longer relevant
- Expected border friction between Northern Ireland (UK) and Republic of Ireland (EU)
- Highest legitimacy for second Scottish independence vote (62% voted Remain in referendum)