



BRIEFING PAPER

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Brexit timeline: events leading to the UK's exit from the European Union

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Summary

In a referendum held on 23 June 2016, the majority of the UK electorate voted to leave the European Union.

On 29 March 2017, in writing to European Council President Donald Tusk, the Prime Minister formally triggered Article 50 and began the two-year countdown to the UK formally leaving the EU (commonly known as 'Brexit').

This paper provides a timeline of the major events leading up to the referendum and subsequent dates of note, looking ahead to expected events as the UK and EU negotiate Britain's exit.

The UK is expected to leave the European Union at 11pm on 29 March 2019.

1. Events leading up to the EU Referendum on 23 June 2016

Key events

17 December 2015: The [European Union Referendum Act](#) receives Royal Assent, providing for a referendum on the UK's future membership of the EU.

22 February 2016: The Prime Minister announces the EU referendum date – 23 June 2016.

23 January 2013 In a speech at Bloomberg, Prime Minister David Cameron discusses the future of the European Union and declares he is in favour of an in-out referendum in the future on the basis of a new settlement for the UK in the EU.

14 April 2015 Launch of the [Conservative Party Manifesto](#) for the 2015 General Election.

This pledges: "Real change in our relationship with the European Union" and commits to "hold an in-out referendum on our membership of the EU before the end of 2017".

25-26 June 2015 Meeting of the [European Council](#). Here, the Prime Minister sets out his plans for an in-out referendum. It is the first step in the negotiation process and the European Council agrees to return to the issue in December.

15-16 October 2015 European Council meeting.

19 October 2015 The Prime Minister makes a [statement](#) to Parliament on the previous week's European Council meeting. He sets out the four things he needs to achieve for the UK's renegotiation package in the areas of economic governance, competitiveness, sovereignty and social benefits and free movement

10 November 2015 David Cameron delivers a [speech](#) on Europe to Chatham House, setting out the case for EU reform and reaffirming his commitment to an EU referendum before the end of 2017.

In a [letter to Donald Tusk](#) the Prime Minister sets out the four areas where he is seeking

reform as part of negotiations on the UK's membership of the EU.

17 December 2015 The [European Union Referendum Act](#) receives Royal Assent. This provides for the holding of a referendum in the UK and Gibraltar on whether the UK should remain a member of the EU.

2 February 2016 Donald Tusk [writes](#) to Members of the European Council on his proposal for a new settlement for the UK within the EU.

The European Council publishes its [Draft Decision](#) concerning a 'New Settlement for the United Kingdom within the European Union'.

3 February 2016 The Prime Minister gives a statement to the House of Commons on the progress made regarding the [UK-EU renegotiation](#).

18-19 February 2016 European Council meeting.

19 February 2016 Following the meeting of the European Council, David Cameron gives a [statement](#) outlining his negotiations to secure a deal giving the UK special status in the EU.

22 February 2016 The Prime Minister announces the EU referendum date – 23 June 2016 – after securing a deal on Britain's membership of the EU.

The government publishes [The best of both worlds: the United Kingdom's special status in a reformed European Union](#).

In the House of Commons, David Cameron makes a [statement](#) on the UK's new special status in the EU and announces the date of the referendum.

11-13 April 2016 Published by the Government on 6 April, an [EU referendum leaflet](#) is delivered to every household in the UK, setting out the case for remaining in the EU.

2. Referendum – General Election

Key events

- 23 June 2016:** UK holds referendum on its membership of the EU, with the majority of voters choosing to leave the EU (51.9% of the vote versus 48.1% voting to remain).
- 24 June 2016:** Prime Minister David Cameron announces his intention to resign.
- 13 July 2016:** Theresa May becomes the new UK Prime Minister.
- 2 October 2016:** In her Party Conference speech, Theresa May announces a 'Great Repeal Bill' and confirms Article 50 will be triggered before the end of March 2017.
- 3 November 2016:** High Court gives its judgment in the Gina Miller case, finding in favour of the claimants. The Government announces it will appeal against the decision.
- 17 January 2017:** Prime Minister gives her Lancaster House speech, setting out the Government's 'Plan for Britain' and the priorities that the UK will use to negotiate Brexit.
- 24 January 2017:** Supreme Court rejects the Government's appeal of the Gina Miller case.
- 26 January 2017:** Government publishes *European Union (Notification of Withdrawal) Bill*.
- 2 February 2017:** Government publishes its Brexit White Paper, formally setting out its strategy for the UK to leave the EU.
- 16 March 2017:** *European Union (Notification of Withdrawal) Act* received Royal Assent.
- 29 March 2017:** Prime Minister triggers Article 50 of the Treaty on European Union.
- 30 March 2017:** Government publishes the Great Repeal Bill White Paper.
- 18 April 2017:** Prime Minister calls a General Election – to be held on 8 June 2017.

23 June 2016 The UK holds a referendum on its membership of the EU. The question posed to the electorate: "Should the United Kingdom remain a member of the European Union or leave the European Union?"

24 June 2016 Result of the referendum is announced, with the majority of voters choosing to leave the EU. The referendum results are:

Remain:	16,141,241	(48.1%)
Leave:	17,410,742	(51.9%)

In a [statement](#) outside 10 Downing St, Prime Minister David Cameron announces his resignation, though will stay in office until a new leader is in place, which should be by the Conservative Party Conference in October. EU leaders and the Netherlands EU Presidency release a [statement on the outcome of the UK referendum](#).

27 June 2016	David Cameron gives a statement to the House of Commons on the outcome of the EU Referendum .
28-29 June 2016	European Council meeting, the first since the referendum. Following the meeting on 28 June, the Prime Minister gives a statement and answers questions .
29 June 2016	David Cameron makes a statement to the House of Commons on the first EU Council meeting since the referendum .
13 July 2016	Theresa May becomes the new UK Prime Minister. David Davis is appointed Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union.
20 July 2016	Speaking to the President of the European Council, Theresa May suggests that the UK relinquishes the rotating Presidency of the Council, scheduled for the second half of 2017.
13 August 2016	Chancellor Philip Hammond guarantees EU funding beyond the date the UK leaves the EU.
1 September 2016	Writing in the Belfast Telegraph ahead of a trip to Northern Ireland, David Davis insists " We don't want a hard border post Brexit... we remain open for business ."
5 September 2016	David Davis makes a statement to the House of Commons, explaining the work of the Department for Exiting the European Union .
8 September 2016	In an Irish Times article , David Davis insists Ireland will not have to choose between having a strong commitment to the UK or to the EU – it can and should have both. Theresa May holds her first formal bilateral meeting with European Council President Donald Tusk to discuss the UK's withdrawal from the EU.
2 October 2016	In her speech to the Conservative Party Conference , the Prime Minister announces a 'Great Repeal Bill' to repeal the European Communities Act 1972. In the same speech the Prime Minister confirms that she will trigger Article 50 before the end of March 2017 and declares:

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"It is not up to the House of Commons to invoke Article 50, and it is not up to the House of Lords. It is up to the Government to trigger Article 50 and the Government alone".

David Davis announces that the Government plans to repeal the 1972 European Communities Act (ECA).

4 October 2016	The High Court of Justice in Northern Ireland hears a legal challenge to Brexit. The question for the court is whether the UK Government needs the consent of the Northern Ireland Assembly to leave the EU.
10 October 2016	David Davis makes a statement to the House of Commons on the next steps in leaving the EU .
13 October 2016	Nicola Sturgeon, First Minister of Scotland and SNP leader, announces that a Scottish independence referendum bill will be published for consultation. She later says that a second referendum on Scottish independence is likely by 2020.
13, 17-18 October 2016	The High Court hears the Gina Miller case: judicial review proceedings challenging the legality of the UK Government's proposed use of prerogative powers to give notice of intention to leave the EU under Article 50.
20-21 October 2016	European Council meeting. At the end of the session, Theresa May gives a statement regarding the subjects covered in the meeting and takes questions.
24 October 2016	The Prime Minister gives a Statement to the House of Commons on the previous week's meeting of the European Council . Theresa May chairs her first Joint Ministerial Committee meeting with Devolved Administration leaders, with 'exiting the EU' being a major theme of the meeting.
28 October 2016	The High Court in Northern Ireland rules in favour of the UK Government, following the court case heard on 4 October.
3 November 2016	The High Court gives its judgment in R (Gina Miller & Dos Santos) v Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union . The Court finds in favour of the claimants and

rules the Government cannot, according to the UK's constitutional law, use prerogative powers to give the notice required by Article 50 TEU to withdraw from the European Union. The Government says it will [appeal](#) against the decision and is granted permission to "leapfrog" the Court of Appeal and go directly to the Supreme Court.

The Government maintains its intention to stick to the March 2017 timetable for Article 50 to be invoked.

7 November 2016	David Davis gives a Statement to the House of Commons on the process for invoking Article 50 .
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24 November 2016	Alex Ellis, the current British Ambassador to Brazil, is appointed Director General at the Department for Exiting the European Union and will take up his position in January 2017.
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5-8 December 2016	<p>The UK's Supreme Court hears the Government's appeal against the High Court ruling that Parliament must vote on whether Article 50 can be triggered.</p> <p>For the first time ever, the Supreme Court sits <i>en banc</i>, meaning that all sitting justices hear the case.</p>
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7 December 2016	<p>The House of Commons vote on respecting the outcome of the referendum is passed by a large majority.</p> <p>MPs also call on the Prime Minister to commit to publishing the Government's plan for leaving the EU before Article 50 is invoked.</p>
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3 January 2017	Sir Ivan Rogers, the UK Permanent Representative to the EU, resigns.
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4 January 2017	Sir Tim Barrow is appointed as UK Permanent Representative to the EU , taking up the role the following week.
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17 January 2017	<p>David Davis gives a statement to the House of Commons on the 'New Partnership with the EU'.</p> <p>In a speech at Lancaster House the Prime Minister sets out the government's 'Plan for Britain' – the plan for leaving the EU – which includes 12 priorities that the UK Government</p>

will use to negotiate Brexit: [The government's negotiating objectives for exiting the EU](#).

19 January 2017

The Prime Minister writes in *The Times* Scotland on her plans for the whole of the UK to benefit post-Brexit: "[I want an exit that will work for all of us](#)"

Writing in *The Sun*, Theresa May explains how the Government's plan for exiting the EU fits into her wider plan for a better Britain: "[We will create a fairer society](#)".

Addressing the World Economic Forum in Davos, Theresa May speaks about her plans for Brexit and a Global Britain: [Davos 2017: Prime Minister's speech](#).

24 January 2017

The Supreme Court [rejects](#) (by a majority of 8 to 3) the Government's appeal against the November 2016 High Court ruling and states that Ministers "require the authority of primary legislation" in order to give the Article 50 notice.

On the devolution questions raised, the Court unanimously holds that the UK Parliament is not legally required to seek consent from the devolved legislatures.

Responding to the Supreme Court's ruling, the Government issues the following statement:

"The British people voted to leave the EU, and the government will deliver on their verdict – triggering Article 50, as planned, by the end of March. Today's ruling does nothing to change that.

It's important to remember that Parliament backed the referendum by a margin of 6 to 1 and has already indicated its support for getting on with the process of exit to the timetable we have set out.

We respect the Supreme Court's decision, and will set out our next steps to Parliament shortly".

David Davis gives a statement to the House of Commons on [Article 50](#), in response to the judgment by the Supreme Court.

26 January 2017

With legislation a requirement following the Supreme Court's ruling, the Government publishes a draft Bill that will allow the UK to start the process of leaving the EU: [The](#)

[European Union \(Notification of Withdrawal\) Bill.](#)

The Bill is very short, with only one operative clause:

1. Power to notify withdrawal from the EU

(1) The Prime Minister may notify, under Article 50(2) of the Treaty on European Union, the United Kingdom's intention to withdraw from the EU.

(2) This section has effect despite any provision made by or under the European Communities Act 1972 or any other enactment.

30 January 2017 Writing in the *Irish Times*, the Prime Minister sets out the Government's commitment to the UK's relationship with the Republic of Ireland: [I want Ireland and the UK to have a stronger relationship after Brexit.](#)

1 February 2017 The European Union (Notification of Withdrawal) Bill passes its Second Reading in the House of Commons by [498 votes to 114.](#)

2 February 2017 The Government publishes its Brexit White Paper, formally setting out its strategy for exiting the EU: [The United Kingdom's exit from, and new partnership with, the European Union.](#)

Following publication of the Brexit White Paper, David Davis gives a [statement](#) to the House of Commons.

6 February 2017 The Prime Minister gives a statement to Parliament on issues discussed at the informal [European Council](#) in Malta: migration, America and Brexit.

7 February 2017 UK ministers hold the first meeting of a new forum dedicated to discussing the implications of [Brexit for the Overseas Territories.](#)

8 February 2017 The European Union (Notification of Withdrawal) Bill passes its [Third Reading](#) in the House of Commons, by 494 votes to 122.

The Bill now moves to the House of Lords.

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17 February 2017	To coincide with a visit to Downing Street by French Prime Minister Bernard Cazeneuve, Theresa May writes in French newspaper Le Figaro: " We have voted to leave the EU, but not Europe " (English translation).
1 March 2017	Ministers hold the second meeting of the Joint Ministerial Council to discuss Gibraltar's priorities as the UK prepares to exit the EU.
9-10 March 2017	The Prime Minister meets EU leaders at the European Council in Brussels.
13 March 2017	Parliament passes the European Union (Notification of Withdrawal) Bill.
14 March 2017	Theresa May gives a statement to Parliament on the March European Council meeting and the next steps in preparing to trigger Article 50.
16 March 2017	<p>In receiving Royal Assent, the European Union (Notification of Withdrawal) Act gives the Government the legal power to notify the European Council of the UK's intention to leave the EU, formally beginning the Brexit process.</p> <p>David Davis, Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, says:</p> <p>"The Queen has today given Royal Assent to the Article 50 Bill, giving the government the formal power to trigger Article 50 and deliver on the will of the British people.</p> <p>By the end of the month we will invoke Article 50, allowing us to start our negotiations to build a positive new partnership with our friends and neighbours in the European Union, as well as taking a step out into the world as a truly Global Britain."</p>
20 March 2017	Sir Tim Barrow, the UK's Permanent Representative to the European Union, informs Donald Tusk of the UK's intention to invoke Article 50 of the Lisbon Treaty on 29 March 2017.
29 March 2017	Theresa May writes to European Council President Donald Tusk to notify him of the UK's intention to leave the EU: Prime Minister's letter to Donald Tusk triggering Article 50 .

The Prime Minister makes a statement to Parliament on [Article 50](#).

30 March 2017	<p>The Government publishes the Great Repeal Bill White Paper.</p> <p>David Davis gives a statement to Parliament: Legislating for UK Withdrawal from the EU.</p>
31 March 2017	<p>The President of the European Council publishes draft negotiation guidelines for the 'EU 27' (the EU members excluding the UK).</p>
6 April 2017	<p>Theresa May meets with Donald Tusk in Downing Street and she reiterates the UK's desire to ensure a deep and special partnership with the EU following its exit from the Union. The PM also reaffirms the UK's position on Gibraltar and insists there will be no negotiation on the territory's sovereignty.</p>
18 April 2017	<p>The Prime Minister calls a General Election to be held on 8 June 2017.</p>
19 April 2017	<p>MPs approve a motion for an Early Parliamentary General Election by 522 votes to 13.</p>
29 April 2017	<p>EU-27 leaders meet at the first summit since the UK officially triggered Article 50.</p> <p>In this Special European Council (Article 50), meeting, the EU-27 nations unanimously adopt guidelines for the Brexit negotiations ahead.</p> <p>The UK Government publishes a 'Northern Ireland and Ireland Position Paper', outlining the UK's position on how to address the unique circumstances of Northern Ireland and Ireland in light of the UK's withdrawal from – and new partnership with – the EU.</p>
3 May 2017	<p>Dissolution of Parliament at 00:01am.</p>
7 May 2017	<p>Second round of French presidential elections.</p> <p>Pro-European Emmanuel Macron defeats Marine Le Pen to win the French presidency, taking over 66% of the vote.</p>
16 May 2017	<p>The Labour party launches its 2017 General Election manifesto.</p>

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In the section on [Brexit](#), the party's pledges include:

Labour accepts the referendum result and a Labour government will put the national interest first.

We will prioritise jobs and living standards, build a close new relationship with the EU, protect workers' rights and environmental standards, provide certainty to EU nationals and give a meaningful role to Parliament throughout negotiations.

To scrap the Conservatives' Brexit White Paper and replace it with fresh negotiating priorities that have a strong emphasis on retaining the benefits of the Single Market and the Customs Union.

A Labour government will immediately guarantee existing rights for all EU nationals living in Britain and secure reciprocal rights for UK citizens who have chosen to make their lives in EU countries.

17 May 2017

The Liberal Democrat Party launches its election [manifesto](#).

On [Europe](#), the Liberal Democrats promise:

When the terms of our future relationship with the EU have been negotiated (over the next two years on the Government's timetable), we will put that deal to a vote of the British people in a referendum, with the alternative option of staying in the EU on the ballot paper.

To press for the UK to unilaterally guarantee the rights of EU nationals in the UK.

Continued membership of the single market and customs union.

18 May 2017

The Conservative Party launches its [manifesto](#) for the upcoming General Election.

The manifesto includes several policies related to Brexit, including the following pledges:

As we leave the European Union, we will no longer be members of the single market or customs union but we will seek a deep and special partnership including a comprehensive free trade and customs agreement.

The final agreement will be subject to a vote in both houses of parliament.

To agree the terms of our future partnership alongside our withdrawal, reaching agreement on both within the two years allowed by Article 50 of the Treaty on European Union.

Once EU law has been converted into domestic law, parliament will be able to pass legislation to amend, repeal or improve any piece of EU law it chooses, as will the devolved legislatures, where they have the power to do so.

3. General Election – close of Phase 1

Key events

8 June 2017: General Election results in a hung Parliament, with the Conservatives winning the most seats and Theresa May forming a government.

19 June 2017: First round of UK-EU exit negotiations begin.

21 June 2017: State Opening of Parliament – Queen’s Speech includes a ‘Great Repeal Bill’.

13 July 2017: Government introduces the *European Union (Withdrawal) Bill*, commonly referred to as the ‘Great Repeal Bill’.

12 September 2017: EU Withdrawal Bill passes Second Reading in the House of Commons.

22 September 2017: Prime Minister delivers her key Brexit speech in Florence, setting out the UK’s position on moving the Brexit talks forward.

19-20 October 2017: European Council meeting to assess progress on the first phase of Brexit negotiations.

13 November 2017: Government outlines plans for a *Withdrawal Agreement and Implementation Bill*.

8 December 2017: UK and EU publish a Joint Report on progress made during Phase 1 of negotiations. This concludes Phase 1 of negotiations and both sides move to Phase 2.

8 June 2017	General Election in the UK. The election results in a hung Parliament, with the Conservatives winning the most seats.
9 June 2017	Theresa May goes to the Queen and later, outside Downing St, announces she is forming a government.
17 June 2017	The government confirms that Parliament will sit for two years instead of the usual one, to give MPs enough time to fully consider the laws required to make Britain ready for Brexit.
19 June 2017	The first round of EU exit negotiations begins. The UK and the European Commission, representing the EU, agree the Terms of reference for the Article 50 negotiations between the UK and the EU . Later, David Davis gives a statement following this opening round of the talks.
21 June 2017	State Opening of Parliament. The Queen’s Speech includes a ‘Great Repeal Bill’ in the

Government's legislative programme and other Brexit-related Bills. The Queen announces:

"A Bill will be introduced to repeal the European Communities Act and provide certainty for individuals and businesses. This will be complemented by legislation to ensure that the United Kingdom makes a success of Brexit, establishing new national policies on immigration, international sanctions, nuclear safeguards, agriculture and fisheries.

My Government will seek to maintain a deep and special partnership with European allies and to forge new trading relationships across the globe. New Bills on trade and customs will help to implement an independent trade policy, and support will be given to help British businesses export to markets around the world."

In a [Debate on the Address](#) following the Queen's Speech, the Prime Minister gives a brief outline of Brexit-related Bills:

The first part of this Queen's Speech is of course about Brexit—a Brexit deal that works for every part of the country and commands the greatest possible public support. Over 80% of the electorate backed the two major parties, both of which campaigned on manifestos that said that we should honour the democratic decision of the British people, so this Government will respect the will of the British people and see Brexit through. We will seek to build a wide consensus as we do this and as we take Bills through the House, including a trade Bill, a repeal Bill, and an immigration Bill, as has been referred to, and also a Bill to deal with control of access to our waters for fishermen and a new Bill on agriculture to give greater stability to farmers.

23 June 2017

The Prime Minister gives a [press statement](#) on a number of subjects covered at the European Council June 2017 meeting, including giving reassurance to EU citizens living in the UK.

26 June 2017

Theresa May gives a statement to Parliament following the weekend's [European Council](#).

This Council followed the formal start of the negotiations for the UK's departure from the

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EU and comes on the first anniversary of the referendum that led to that decision.

In her statement, the Prime Minister outlines several points with regards to the rights of EU citizens living in the UK.

In conjunction with this statement, the government publishes a [policy paper](#) on the rights of EU citizens in the UK and UK nations in the EU.

David Davis opens the Queen's Speech debate on "[Brexit and Foreign Affairs](#)."

11 July 2017	David Davis gives evidence to the Lords EU Committee for its inquiry on scrutiny of the Brexit negotiations.
13 July 2017	<p>The Government introduces the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill.</p> <p>Ahead of the second round of exit negotiations the following week, the Government also publishes position papers laying out the UK's approach on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ongoing Union Judicial and Administrative Proceedings• Nuclear materials and safeguards issues• Privileges and Immunities <p>The Government publishes a technical note considering how the UK's withdrawal agreement with the EU should be implemented in UK law.</p>
14 July 2017	The second round of EU exit negotiations begins.
20 July 2017	At the conclusion of the second round of talks, David Davis makes a statement .
10 August 2017	Brexit Minister Robin Walker completes a three-day tour of the Crown Dependencies , having discussed the implications of Brexit with the Chief Ministers of Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man.
15 August 2017	In the first of a series of papers on the UK's future partnership with the EU, the Government sets out proposals for a future customs relationship .

16 August 2017	The Government publishes a position paper on Northern Ireland and Ireland , proposing no physical infrastructure at the border.
21 August 2017	Ahead of the third round of exit negotiations, the Government publishes position papers outlining the UK's negotiating approach to goods on the market and to confidentiality and access to the official documents .
22 August 2017	The Government publishes a future partnership paper outlining the UK's position on providing a cross-border civil judicial cooperation framework .
23 August 2017	A future partnership paper discussing options for enforcement and dispute resolution mechanisms for UK-EU agreements is published by the Government.
24 August 2017	In the latest of a series of papers looking at the UK's partnership with the EU post-Brexit, the Government outlines proposals for a shared approach on data protection .
28 August 2017	The third round of UK-EU negotiations begins. The Government publishes a series of Technical Notes on functionality and Protocol 7 , on existing contracts for the supply of nuclear material , and on spent fuel and radioactive waste .
31 August 2017	At the conclusion of the third round of exit talks, David Davis gives a statement .
5 September 2017	David Davis gives a statement to the House of Commons on EU exit negotiations , updating Members on the July and August negotiating rounds.
6 September 2017	The government publishes a future partnership paper outlining the UK's objectives for continued collaboration on science and innovation .
7, 11 September 2017	The <i>European Union (Withdrawal) Bill</i> has its Second Reading: Day One ; Day Two .
12 September 2017	After the EU Withdrawal Bill passes its Second Reading, the Prime Minister says: "Earlier this morning Parliament took a historic decision to back the will of the

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British people and vote for a bill which gives certainty and clarity ahead of our withdrawal from the European Union.

Although there is more to do, this decision means we can move on with negotiations with solid foundations and we continue to encourage MPs from all parts of the UK to work together in support of this vital piece of legislation.”

The Government publishes its latest future partnership paper, outlining the UK's objectives on [foreign policy, defence and development](#).

18 September 2017	The Government publishes the latest in the series of future partnership papers, discussing the options for security, law enforcement and criminal justice .
22 September 2017	The Prime Minister delivers a key Brexit speech in Florence , setting out the UK's position on how to move the Brexit talks forward and offering a transition period after the UK formally leaves the EU in March 2019.
24 September 2017	Federal elections in Germany. Angela Merkel secures a fourth term as German Chancellor.
25 September 2017	The fourth round of UK-EU Brexit negotiations begins.
26 September 2017	The Prime Minister meets with European Council President Donald Tusk.
28 September 2017	David Davis gives a statement following the conclusion of the fourth round of talks. The Government publishes the latest (September) edition of the technical note on the comparison of EU-UK positions on citizens' rights .
3 October 2017	The European Parliament adopts a Resolution on the state of play of negotiations with the United Kingdom .
6 October 2017	Theresa May hosts a Business Advisory Council meeting at Downing St, to hear the views of business leaders on Brexit.
9 October 2017	The fifth round of negotiations begins in Brussels.

The Prime Minister updates the House of Commons on [UK plans for leaving the EU](#).

The Government publishes two White Papers on [preparing for our future UK trade policy](#) and the [Customs Bill: legislating for the UK's future customs, VAT and excise regimes](#).

12 October 2017	Following the fifth round of UK-EU negotiations, David Davis gives a statement .
16 October 2017	A joint statement is issued by the Prime Minister and President of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker, following their working dinner in Brussels.
17 October 2017	David Davis, Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, gives a statement to Parliament on the fifth round of negotiations with the EU.
19 October 2017	Ahead of EU Council, Prime Minister Theresa May writes an open letter to EU citizens living in the UK.
19-20 October 2017	European Council meeting , including EU27 considering whether 'sufficient progress' has been made on Phase 1 of the Brexit negotiations
20 October 2017	Theresa May gives a statement to the press while in Brussels for a European Council summit.
23 October 2017	The Prime Minister gives a statement to the House of Commons on the October meeting of the European Council.
25 October 2017	David Davis gives evidence to the Exiting the EU Committee, for its inquiry into progress of the UK's negotiations on EU withdrawal.
30 October 2017	Theresa May meets with First Minister of Wales, Carwyn Jones, and explains the UK Government's priority to deliver a successful EU exit that will work for the whole of the UK, with relevant repatriated powers passed to the devolved administrations.
31 October 2017	David Davis gives further evidence to the Lords EU Committee for its inquiry on scrutiny of the Brexit negotiations.

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2 November 2017	At a roundtable discussion, government ministers meet with consumer groups to ensure consumer rights and protections are maintained once Britain leave the EU.
6 November 2017	Robin Walker (Minister at the Department for Exiting the European Union) and Alun Cairns (Secretary of State for Wales) hold an evidence session in front of committees at the National Assembly for Wales, answering questions on the EU Withdrawal Bill.
7 November 2017	<p>The Government sets out further details of how its new settled status scheme – for EU citizens and their families – will work.</p> <p>The scheme is set out in a policy paper sent to the European Commission as part of the Brexit negotiations: Citizens' rights: administrative procedures in the UK.</p>
8 November 2017	In a visit to Warsaw, David Davis reaffirms the UK's commitment to strengthening its relationships across Europe after exit.
9-10 November 2017	Further UK-EU negotiations take place in Brussels.
10 November 2017	At the conclusion of the latest round of UK-EU negotiations, David Davis gives a statement .
13 November 2017	<p>The Government announces a new Bill to enshrine the Withdrawal Agreement between the UK and the EU in domestic law. In a statement to the House of Commons, David Davis outlines plans for a <i>Withdrawal Agreement and Implementation Bill</i>.</p> <p>The Prime Minister chairs a roundtable with leaders of Europe's key business organisations, to discuss shared opportunities for industry as the UK prepares to leave the EU.</p> <p>At the European Foreign Affairs Council in Brussels, Defence Minister Lord Howe reaffirms the UK's commitment to European security, saying:</p> <p>We are leaving the European Union but not Europe, and regional security remains top of our agenda in the face of increased Russian assertiveness.</p> <p>With challenges to our common security becoming more serious, our</p>

response must be to work together more closely.

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- 14 November 2017 David Davis gives a [speech at UBS](#), to reassure financial institutions that the UK Government hopes to strike a deal with the EU allowing City firms to move staff in and out of the UK.
- The *European Union (Withdrawal) Bill* begins its Committee Stage.
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- 16 November 2017 In a [speech to the Süddeutsche Zeitung Economic Summit](#) in Berlin, David Davis warns the EU not to put 'politics above prosperity'.
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- 17 November 2017 Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson writes in the Irish Times, explaining how the [UK and Ireland can strengthen ties via Brexit](#).
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- 23 November 2017 David Davis visits Estonia and pledges that the UK will remain the greatest ally of European partners in matters of security and defence after Brexit.
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- 8 December 2017 The UK and EU publish a [Joint Report on progress during Phase 1 of negotiations under Article 50 TEU on the UK's orderly withdrawal from the EU](#).
- This concludes Phase 1 of the negotiations and both sides agree to move to Phase 2 in January 2018 – talks on transition and the framework for future EU-UK relations.
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4. Close of Phase 1 – *EU (Withdrawal) Act* becomes law

Key events

11 December 2017: Prime Minister updates Parliament on Brexit negotiations.

18 January 2018: The *European Union (Withdrawal) Bill* has its First Reading in the House of Lords.

2 March 2018: Prime Minister gives a speech at Mansion House on the UK's future economic partnership with the European Union.

14 March 2018: The European Parliament endorses a resolution laying out a possible association agreement framework for future EU-UK relations after Brexit.

19 March 2018: The amended Draft Withdrawal Agreement is published.

16 May 2018: The *European Union (Withdrawal) Bill* finishes its House of Lords stages and goes into parliamentary ping pong

26 June 2018: The European Union (Withdrawal) Bill receives Royal Assent and becomes an Act of Parliament: the European Union (Withdrawal) Act.

11 December 2017 The Prime Minister updates the House of Commons on [Brexit Negotiations](#) for the UK's departure from the European Union.

In a meeting with Gibraltar's Deputy Chief Minister, Dr. Joseph Garcia, Minister Robin Walker reiterates the Government's commitment to securing a Brexit deal that works for Gibraltar. This is the fifth meeting of the Joint Ministerial Council (Gibraltar EU Negotiations).

15 December 2017 The European Council adopts new [guidelines](#) for Phase 2 (the guidelines agreed on 29 April 2017 will continue to apply in Phase 2.)

18 December 2017 The Prime Minister gives a [statement to Parliament](#) on the previous week's European Council meeting.

19 December 2017 Home Secretary Amber Rudd writes an [open letter](#) to EU citizens in the UK, outlining the agreement reached with the EU on their future rights.

20 December 2017 Theresa May writes an [open letter](#) to UK nationals living in Europe.

The European Commission issues a [Recommendation for a Council Decision](#) to supplement the May 2017 Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations. The Annex

to the Council Decision contains draft negotiating directives for the second phase.

10 January 2018	German newspaper <i>Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung</i> publishes a joint article by Philip Hammond and David Davis, highlighting the importance of the relationship between the UK and Germany.
16 January 2018	The <i>European Union (Withdrawal) Bill</i> has its first day in Report Stage.
18 January 2018	First Reading of the <i>European Union (Withdrawal) Bill</i> in the House of Lords.
24 January 2018	David Davis gives evidence to the Exiting the EU Committee, for its inquiry into progress of the UK's negotiations on EU withdrawal.
26 January 2018	The Chancellor, Brexit Secretary and Business Secretary write an open letter to businesses , setting out the UK's ambitions for an 'implementation period' (transition period) following Brexit.
29 January 2018	The European Commission's new negotiating directives are adopted by the General Affairs (Article 50) Council. The Council notes the importance of translating the commitments in the December 2017 Joint Report into 'legal text'. David Davis gives evidence to the Lords EU Committee for its inquiry on scrutiny of the Brexit negotiations.
30-31 January 2018	The <i>European Union (Withdrawal) Bill</i> has its Second Reading in the House of Lords.
5 February 2018	David Davis, UK Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, and Michel Barnier, the EU Chief Negotiator, hold an informal meeting focussing on three issues: the transition period, the Ireland/Northern Ireland border and governance of the withdrawal agreement.
6-8 February 2018	The seventh round of UK-EU Article 50 negotiations takes place.
7 February 2018	The European Commission publishes an amendable draft legal text on transition. This partially reflects the January 2018 negotiation directives on the transition period. It is a Commission proposal and not yet the official position of the Council, which may amend it.

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8 February 2018	<p>The Government publishes a Technical Note outlining the UK's position on international agreements during the implementation period.</p> <p>The Prime Minister holds a roundtable with senior representatives of Japanese businesses that are significant investors in the UK, discussing the opportunities and challenges presented by the UK's exit from the EU.</p>
14 February 2018	<p>In a speech, the Foreign Secretary sets out the path for an outward-facing, liberal and global Britain following its exit from the EU.</p>
16 February 2018	<p>Discussions begin to give residents from Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway (EEA/EFTA states) similar rights post-Brexit as those from EU Member States.</p>
17 February 2018	<p>The Prime Minister delivers a speech about Brexit and security cooperation at the Munich Security Conference.</p>
19-20 February 2018	<p>Further UK-EU Article 50 negotiations take place.</p>
20 February 2018	<p>David Davis gives a speech in Vienna on delivering a Future Economic Partnership.</p> <p>Guy Verhofstadt MEP, European Parliament Brexit Coordinator, gives evidence to the Lords EU Committee for its inquiry on scrutiny of the Brexit negotiations.</p>
21 February 2018	<p>The Government responds to the European Commission's legal text on transition in a Draft text for discussion: implementation period.</p> <p>The <i>European Union (Withdrawal) Bill</i> begins its Committee Stage sittings in the House of Lords.</p> <p>Michel Barnier, the EU's Chief Negotiator on Brexit, gives evidence to the Lords EU Committee for its inquiry on scrutiny of the Brexit negotiations.</p>
26-27 February 2018	<p>Another round of UK-EU Article 50 negotiations takes place.</p>
27 February 2018	<p>Michel Barnier updates the European Council (in EU27 format) on the latest developments in the EU-UK Brexit negotiations.</p>
28 February 2018	<p>The European Commission publishes the draft Withdrawal Agreement between the European Union and the United Kingdom.</p>

This translates into legal terms the Joint Report from the negotiators of the EU and the UK Government from December 2017 on the first phase of negotiations.

It also proposes text, on the basis of EU positions, for other withdrawal issues that are mentioned in the joint report but have not been subject to an agreement yet.

The draft Withdrawal Agreement will now be sent to the Council (Article 50) and the European Parliament's Brexit Steering Group for discussion, before being transmitted to the UK for negotiation.

1 March 2018	The Prime Minister meets European Council President Donald Tusk in Downing St to discuss progress made in the Brexit negotiations and to look ahead to the European Council later in March.
2 March 2018	Theresa May gives a speech at Mansion House , on the UK's future economic partnership with the European Union.
5 March 2018	<p>The Prime Minister gives a statement to the House of Commons on the UK's future economic partnership with the European Union.</p> <p>Minister Robin Walker hosts the Chief Ministers from Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man to give them an update on the UK's exit from the EU.</p>
5-7 March 2018	Further UK-EU Article 50 negotiations
6 March 2018	Theresa May meets with Guy Verhofstadt MEP at Downing St, discussing the importance citizens' rights and a commitment to avoiding a hard border between Ireland and Northern Ireland.
7 March 2018	European Council President, Donald Tusk, issues draft guidelines on the framework for the EU's post-Brexit relations with the UK.
8 March 2018	Following the latest meeting of the JMC(GEN), the UK and Gibraltar announce a series of measures to secure the UK-Gibraltar relationship.
13-15 March 2018	Further UK-EU Article 50 negotiations.

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- 14 March 2018 The European Parliament [endorses](#) a resolution laying out a possible association agreement framework for future EU-UK relations after Brexit.
- Opening session – at coordinators' level – of meetings on issues related to Ireland/Northern Ireland. The opening session looking at objectives of the exercise and an agreement of follow-up work.
- The First Ministers of Scotland and Wales, along with representatives from the Northern Ireland Civil Service, visit Downing Street for an update and discussion on EU negotiations and the EU Withdrawal Bill.
-
- 16-19 March 2018 Further UK-EU Article 50 negotiations.
-
- 19 March 2018 David Davis gives a [statement](#) in Brussels following the conclusion of the latest round of Article 50 negotiations.
- The amended [Draft Withdrawal Agreement](#) is published. This includes agreed legal text for the implementation period, citizens' rights, and the financial settlement, as well as a significant number of other articles. The UK and the EU negotiating teams state their aim to finalise the entire Withdrawal Agreement by October 2018.
-
- 21 March 2018 The Foreign Secretary [announces](#) the creation of 250 new diplomatic roles over the next two years, with ten new embassies/high commissions to be opened.
- This action is part of the government's Global Britain vision, strengthening relationships with countries around the world as the UK leaves the EU.
-
- 23 March 2018 The European Council (in EU27 format) adopt [guidelines](#) on the framework for post-Brexit relations with the UK.
-
- 26 March 2018 The Prime Minister gives a statement to Parliament on the previous week's [European Council](#) meeting and Brexit negotiations.
-
- 29 March 2018 To mark one year to go until Brexit, Theresa May visits each nation of the UK, outlining her determination to deliver a Brexit deal that works for every community and protects the integrity of the UK.
-

4 April 2018	The House of Commons Committee on Exiting the European Union publishes its report on The future UK-EU relationship .
16-18 April 2018	Further UK-EU Article 50 negotiations.
25 April 2018	<p>David Davis gives further evidence to the Exiting the EU Committee, for its inquiry into the progress of the UK's negotiations on EU withdrawal.</p> <p>Ministers hold a Brexit roundtable with senior representatives from the UK aviation industry, to discuss post-Brexit priorities and to offer reassurance that aviation access will remain the same during the implementation period.</p>
1 May 2018	David Davis gives further evidence to the Lords EU Committee for its inquiry on scrutiny of the Brexit negotiations.
16 May 2018	The <i>European Union (Withdrawal) Bill</i> finishes its House of Lords stages and goes into parliamentary ping pong.
17 May 2018	<p>In a trilateral meeting at the Western Balkans Summit in Sofia, Theresa May discusses the progress of the Brexit negotiations with President Juncker and President Tusk.</p> <p>The Prime Minister also meets with Irish Taoiseach Leo Varadkar and agree on their shared commitment to avoid a hard border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.</p>
22-24 May 2018	Further UK-EU Article 50 negotiations.
5 June 2018	At the latest Joint Ministerial Council (Gibraltar EU Negotiations) in London, the UK and Gibraltar confirm their commitment to continue to work together to achieve a Brexit deal that fully recognises the priorities of the Gibraltar.
5-8 June 2018	Further UK-EU Article 50 negotiations.
6 June 2018	<p>David Davis delivers a speech to RUSI on Brexit and Security.</p> <p>In his speech, the Brexit Secretary accused the EU of “shooting itself in the foot to see if the gun works”, in planning to weaken security ties with the UK after Brexit.</p>

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19 June 2018	The UK and the European Commission publish a joint statement outlining the progress achieved on the draft Withdrawal Agreement since its publication three months earlier.
19-20 June 2018	Further UK-EU Article 50 negotiations.
21 June 2018	Caroline Noakes, the Minister for Immigration, gives a statement to the House of Commons on the new settlement scheme for resident EU citizens and their family members.
25 June 2018	<p>Theresa May meets with European Council President https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-meeting-with-donald-tusk-25-june-2018 Donald Tusk in Downing St, ahead of the upcoming European Council meeting in Brussels.</p> <p>Northern Ireland Secretary Karen Bradley holds a series of meetings in Brussels. She meets with Michel Barnier to reinforce the government's commitment to upholding Northern Ireland's interests and to help secure a deal that works for the whole of the UK.</p>
26 June 2018	The <i>European Union (Withdrawal) Bill</i> receives Royal Assent and becomes an Act of Parliament: the European Union (Withdrawal) Act .

5. *EU (Withdrawal) Act* becomes law – present (November 2018)

Key events

26 June 2018: The European Union (Withdrawal) Bill receives Royal Assent and becomes an Act of Parliament: the European Union (Withdrawal) Act.

6 July 2018: The Cabinet meets at Chequers to agree a collective position for the future Brexit negotiations with the EU.

9 July 2018: David Davis resigns as Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union and is replaced by Dominic Raab.

24 July 2018: Government publishes White Paper on future UK-EU relations.

23 August 2018: The government publishes the first collection of technical notices providing guidance on how to prepare for a no-deal Brexit.

19-20 September 2018: EU leaders hold an informal summit in Salzburg.

29 October 2018: Budget Day, the last Budget before the UK leaves the EU.

26 June 2018 The *European Union (Withdrawal) Bill* receives Royal Assent and becomes an Act of Parliament: the [European Union \(Withdrawal\) Act](#).

28-29 June 2018 European Council meeting. On the final day, EU leaders discuss Brexit in an EU27 format.
The [Conclusions](#) adopted by the European Council are published.

2 July 2018 The Prime Minister gives a [Statement to the House of Commons](#) on the European Council.

6 July 2018 The Cabinet meets at Chequers to agree a collective position for the future Brexit negotiations with the EU. The proposals will be published as a White Paper the following week.

9 July 2018 David Davis resigns as Brexit Secretary, [telling the BBC](#) he felt the UK was “giving away too much and too easily” to the EU in the Brexit negotiations.

Dominic Raab is appointed as the new Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union.

Theresa May gives a [statement to the House of Commons](#) on leaving the EU. She outlines the Cabinet agreement made at Chequers, a proposal that forms a basis for progressing

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negotiations with the EU towards a new relationship after the UK leaves the EU on 29 March 2019.

12 July 2018	<p>Dominic Raab gives a Statement to the House of Commons on the UK's future relationship with the EU, tying in with the publication of the Government's White Paper on the subject.</p> <p>Scottish Secretary David Mundell hosts an EU exit roundtable with business in Edinburgh, updating them on the UK Government's proposals for exiting the EU.</p>
16-19 July 2018	Further UK-EU Article 50 negotiations.
18 July 2018	Theresa May delivers a speech in Belfast , emphasising her personal commitment to the strength of the UK's four nations and addressing Northern Ireland's unique circumstances. This includes remarks on the Belfast Agreement, power-sharing devolution and the border issue.
20 July 2018	<p>The European Council (EU27 format) and the EU negotiator Michel Barnier assess the state of Brexit negotiations.</p> <p>Ministers discuss the work to finalise the withdrawal agreement, including a solution to the Irish border issue, as well as future EU-UK relations.</p>
24 July 2018	Dominic Raab gives a Statement to the House of Commons on the publication of the White Paper on Legislating for the Withdrawal Agreement between the United Kingdom and the European Union .
24-26 July 2018	Further UK-EU Article 50 negotiations.
14-16 August 2018	Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt visits Finland, Latvia, Denmark and the Netherlands to continue talks with European partners ahead of the UK's withdrawal from the EU. Mr Hunt meets his counterparts in all four countries.
16-17 August 2018	Further UK-EU Article 50 negotiations.
21-22 August 2018	Further UK-EU Article 50 negotiations.

23 August 2018	<p>The government publishes the first collection of technical notices providing guidance on how to prepare for a no-deal Brexit.</p> <p>In conjunction with this, Brexit Secretary Dominic Raab gives a speech on no-deal planning.</p>
29-31 August 2018	<p>Further UK-EU Article 50 negotiations.</p>
4 September 2018	<p>Dominic Raab makes a Statement to the House of Commons on Brexit negotiations and no deal contingency planning.</p>
5-6 September 2018	<p>Further UK-EU Article 50 negotiations.</p>
13 September 2018	<p>The government publishes a further 28 technical notices, providing guidance on how to prepare for a no-deal Brexit.</p>
19-20 September 2018	<p>EU leaders hold an informal summit in Salzburg. On the evening of the first day, Theresa May presents a 10-minute Brexit speech over dinner, insisting there could be no deal that splits the UK into two customs territories.</p>
21 September 2018	<p>Theresa May gives an update on the state of the Brexit negotiations following the mixed response to her Chequers plan by EU leaders in Salzburg.</p>
24 September 2018	<p>The Prime Minister holds a meeting with Guy Verhofstadt MEP in Downing St for an update on the Brexit negotiations and to discuss the two key outstanding issues in the negotiations: the future economic partnership and the Northern Ireland backstop.</p> <p>The government publishes a further 24 technical notices, providing guidance on how to prepare for a no-deal Brexit.</p>
25 September 2018	<p>Home Secretary Sajid Javid delivers a speech in Madrid on the future security relationship between the UK and the EU</p>
26 September 2018	<p>Dominic Raab meets Gibraltar's Chief Minister Fabian Picardo to discuss how they will work together during the Brexit negotiations.</p>

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9 October 2018	The Secretary of State for Exiting the EU gives a Statement to the House of Commons , updating Members on progress in the negotiations to leave the EU and the Government's planning for no-deal.
12 October 2018	The government publishes a further 29 technical notices, providing guidance on how to prepare for a no-deal Brexit.
15 October 2018	<p>Theresa May gives a Statement to the House of Commons on EU Exit negotiations.</p> <p>Later, the Prime Minister meets Scotland's First Minister Nicola Sturgeon to discuss the final stage of negotiations with the EU.</p> <p>A further meeting is held between Theresa May and Sinn Féin leaders to discuss issues relating to the backstop and wider border concerns.</p>
16 October 2018	<p>Michel Barnier updates the European Council (EU27 format) on the most recent talks with the UK.</p> <p>During the meeting, Michel Barnier explains that despite intense negotiating efforts, some key issues remain open, in particular the backstop to avoid a hard border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.</p>
17 October 2018	<p>The European Council meets in an EU27 (Article 50) format to discuss Brexit.</p> <p>Ahead of the meeting, Theresa May updates leaders on the UK perspective of negotiations.</p> <p>EU27 leaders reaffirm their full confidence in Michel Barnier and note that not enough progress has been achieved in the negotiations.</p>
19 October 2018	The Prime Minister addresses over 130 business leaders on progress in the Brexit negotiations, outlining her government's intention to preserve the UK's and EU's frictionless access to each other's markets for goods.
22 October 2018	<p>The Secretary of State for Exiting the EU delivers a statement on a Meaningful Vote.</p> <p>Theresa May gives a Statement to the House of Commons to update Members on the October European Council meeting.</p>

29 October 2018 UK Budget Day. In the last Budget before the UK leaves the EU, Chancellor Philip Hammond announces £500m for no-deal Brexit preparations.

6. Future timetable

Key events

29 March 2019: the UK is expected to leave the European Union.

There is some uncertainty about the timing of events in this section and some are indicative only.

12 November 2018 The Council, meeting in EU27 format, receives an update by the Commission's Brexit Negotiator, Michel Barnier, on the ongoing Brexit negotiations with the UK.

Ministers discuss the state-of-play on both the completion of work on withdrawal issues and discussions on the framework for future relations with the UK.

Mid-November 2018 EU leaders may hold a 'no-deal' Brexit summit to deal with the potential consequences of the UK leaving the bloc without a deal.

22-23 November Possible EU-UK agreement of final draft text of withdrawal agreement which is then laid before Parliament.

13-14 December 2018 European Council meeting. This meeting is widely seen as the last practical date for a Brexit deal to be agreed by the UK and the EU.

November 2018 – January 2019 Agreement in principle in the Council and request for European Parliament consent.

The House of Commons debates and votes on a resolution – the 'meaningful vote' – on both the Withdrawal Agreement and the Political Declaration on the Framework for the Future Relationship (possibly 26 27 November).

The House of Lords then votes on a motion on both agreements.

European Parliament's Constitutional Affairs Committee scrutinises the withdrawal agreement.

December 2018 – February 2019 The *EU (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill* is introduced in the House of Commons. It amends the *EU (Withdrawal) Act 2018* to save the effect of the *European Communities Act 1972* during the transition/ implementation

period; it implements other elements of the Withdrawal Agreement in UK law (the vote on second reading is a *de facto* second 'meaningful vote').

21 January 2019	If no agreement has been reached on the withdrawal agreement and/or political declaration, a Minister of the Crown must make a written statement within 5 calendar days. The motion must then be moved within a further 5 sitting days, meaning Parliament would be asked to debate the Government's intended course of action no later than Monday 4 February.
4 February 2018	
February-March 2019?	European Parliament votes in plenary on the Withdrawal Agreement. Withdrawal Agreement is concluded by Council acting by a super qualified majority (20 of EU27, comprising 65% of EU27 population).
March 2019	<i>EU (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill</i> is passed (Bill must be passed before exit to provide the necessary legal framework for transition/implementation period). Withdrawal Agreement is ratified by UK in accordance with the <i>Constitutional Reform and Governance Act 2010</i> .
21-22 March 2019	European Council meeting.
29 March 2019	The UK is expected to leave the EU. A special summit of the EU27 is expected soon after the UK formally leaves the EU.
30 March 2019	Transition/implementation period begins. Trade and future relations talks between the UK and EU.
23-26 May 2019	European Parliament elections. The UK will not be represented in the EP.
31 December 2020	The transition period ends (unless somehow extended past 2020).
31 December 2021	UK government expects 'Irish backstop' to end, in the hope that alternative measures to any temporary customs arrangements will be in place.

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