



BRIEFING PAPER

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The UK-EU future relationship negotiations: summary of positions

By Library specialists

1. UK and EU negotiating positions

The EU and UK agreed a [Political Declaration \(PD\)](#) setting out the framework for the future EU-UK relationship, alongside the [Withdrawal Agreement \(WA\)](#), on 17 October 2019. The October PD and WA revised the earlier PD and WA texts agreed by Theresa May's Government and the EU in November 2018. The PD was a non-binding document but set out an initial set of joint commitments on the shape of the future EU-UK partnership. See Commons Library briefing paper CBP8714 [Revisions to the Political Declaration on the framework for future EU-UK relations](#).

The EU's negotiating position was set out in the [directives adopted by the Council of the EU](#) on the 25 February. This was based largely on the [proposed directives](#) presented by the European Commission on 3 February, although there were some amendments following consideration by the Member States. The EU's position on certain key principles for the negotiations was also clear from earlier statements by the President of the European Commission, [Ursula von der Leyen](#), and chief negotiator [Michel Barnier](#). Slides published by the Commission in January 2020, and materials [published by the Commission](#) to accompany the draft directives on 3 February, also provided more detail.

The UK Government published a [command paper](#) setting out its approach on 27 February. This elaborated on positions previously set out in a House of Commons [written statement](#) by the Prime Minister on 3 February. Statements from the [Prime Minister](#), Cabinet Office Minister [Michael Gove](#), the UK chief negotiator [David Frost](#) and [select committee evidence](#) from [Mr Gove](#) and [Mr Frost](#) have also provided more detail on the Government's position.

The UK and EU positions going into the negotiations were summarised in the Library briefing paper CBP8834, [The UK-EU future relationship negotiations: process and issues](#). Reports from the first three round of negotiations and statements from both the UK and EU since the negotiations began are summarised in Library briefing paper CBP8923 [The UK-EU future relationship: the March 2020 EU draft treaty and negotiations update](#). More library analysis of the two sides' positions in particular policy areas can be found [here](#).

The European Commission published a [draft future relationship treaty](#) on 18 March which provides more clarity and detail on its position (analysed in [CBP8923](#)). The UK published [ten draft treaty texts](#) covering the suite of agreements it is proposing on 19 May.

The positions of the UK and EU in the negotiations, based on their proposed treaty texts and other publicly available statements, are summarised in the following tables.

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UK and EU negotiating positions		
Topic	UK Negotiating Position	EU Negotiating Position
Level Playing Field	<p>The UK will not agree to measures beyond those typically included in a comprehensive free trade agreement. The UK and EU should recognise their respective commitments to maintaining high standards in these areas; confirm that they will uphold their international obligations; and agree to avoid using measures in these areas to distort trade.</p> <p>The UK has proposed FTA chapters on environmental and labour standards with reciprocal commitments not to weaken protections, and on subsidies (reciprocal commitments to transparency), competition policy (commitments to maintain effective competition laws) and tax policy (commitments to good tax governance). In line with precedents in other EU FTAs all provisions should not be subject to the FTA's dispute resolution mechanism.</p> <p>Climate change (see below) would be covered by a separate agreement on energy.</p>	<p>The EU will not agree zero tariffs, zero quotas FTA without strong LPF guarantees, viewed as necessary due to geographic proximity, volume of trade and economic interconnectedness. The EU is seeking legally binding commitment to uphold corresponding high standards over time, with EU standards as a reference point. This would involve continued application of current and future EU rules (dynamic alignment) on state aid and non-regression on aspects of tax, labour and social protection, environment and climate change and health and sanitary quality in the agriculture and food sector.</p> <p>Non-regression would mean that the level of protection in these areas should not be reduced from common standards applicable within the EU and UK at the end of the transition period. In addition, the EU proposes giving the governing body powers to modify the commitments to reflect evolving standards in most areas of LPF. Commitments would be subject to strong enforcement mechanisms domestically and dispute settlement within the treaty governance framework.</p>
<i>Subsidies/ state aid</i>	<p>UK draft CFTA defines subsidies as set out in the WTO agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, without referring to EU state aid rules. Both sides would notify each other bi-annually of their subsidies. A party concerned about a subsidy adversely affecting its interests may request consultation. The other party will give "full and sympathetic consideration" to that request and will use "best endeavours" to address the adverse effects. The provisions are not subject to dispute settlement procedures. This chapter resembles the chapter on subsidies in CETA.</p>	<p>The EU draft text on state aid requires the UK to give effect to EU state aid law, as amended or replaced over time (dynamic alignment). There is an exemption for UK support to agriculture. The agreement requires the UK to establish an "operationally independent authority" to oversee and enforce. The European Commission and the UK authority would be able to consult each other on draft decisions. State aid rules would be enforceable in UK courts, which would refer questions of EU state aid law to the CJEU. In case of a disagreement, a consultation mechanism would be available before the general dispute settlement mechanism would apply. The EU would be able to take unilateral interim measures against the UK in certain cases.</p>
<i>Labour</i>	<p>The provisions on labour standards mirror (sometimes word-for-word) the provisions in CETA. The parties would be prohibited from waiving or failing to enforce their labour standards in order to gain a trade advantage. But the parties only "recognise it is inappropriate" to lower standards. Disputes would be addressed before a Panel of Experts whose report would be non-enforceable.</p>	<p>The draft text on labour and social protection states that the parties would be prohibited from lowering their standards below common levels (EU law) applying between them at the end of the transition period. If both parties raise labour protections after the end of transition they cannot lower them below the new common raised level (ratchet clause). Disputes would be addressed through the general dispute settlement mechanisms in the treaty and breaches could result in sanctions.</p>
<i>Environment</i>	<p>On the environment, the draft CFTA proposes that the Parties should recognise it as "inappropriate to encourage trade or investment by weakening or reducing the levels of protection afforded in their environmental law." It would establish the right of each Party to set its environmental priorities, to establish its levels of environmental protection, and to adopt or modify its laws and policies in a manner consistent with international agreements. There would be a consultation process to resolve issues between the two Parties. Disputes would be settled before a Panel of Experts.</p>	<p>The draft text includes non-regression provisions with regard to common standards on environmental protection and health applicable at the end of the transition period, as well as any common targets agreed at that point. Where both parties have increased their level of environmental protection, after the end of transition, neither can subsequently reduce it below that common increased level (ratchet clause). There would be independent domestic enforcement and the agreement's dispute settlement provisions would apply.</p>
<i>Competition Taxation</i>	<p>Regarding competition, the draft CFTA proposes that both parties 'take appropriate measures to proscribe anti-competitive business conduct' and facilitate co-operation between their competition authorities. On taxation, both sides would reaffirm their commitments to good tax governance. Both competition and taxation would not be subject to any dispute resolution mechanism.</p>	<p>The draft text on competition proposes to prohibit anti-competitive practices by undertakings as far as those affect trade between the UK and the EU. There is no reference to EU competition law. Regarding taxation, both parties would reaffirm their commitments to good tax governance. In addition, the draft text requires non-regression on certain aspects of taxation (namely, standards set on exchange of information, anti-avoidance legislation, and public country-by-country reporting by credit institutions and investment firms). In both areas, the general dispute settlement mechanisms would not apply.</p>

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Topic	UK Negotiating Position	EU Negotiating Position
Trade in Goods	<p>The UK seeks a comprehensive free trade agreement (CFTA), covering substantially all trade, similar to those it has negotiated with other trade partners, such as Canada, but the UK-EU FTA would involve zero tariffs, no charges or quantitative restriction. UK Government has indicated willingness to discuss an agreement involving some tariffs if the EU dropped some of its demands (such as on the level playing field). The agreement should enable customs and trade facilitation. The UK is seeking regulatory autonomy from the EU allowing it to set its own regulatory standards. It prefers broad mutual recognition of conformity assessment which would allow UK-based notified bodies to certify products to EU standards.</p>	<p>The EU is offering a “zero tariffs, zero quotas, zero dumping” FTA (provided UK agrees to level playing field guarantees and a fisheries agreement). Customs formalities will apply between the UK and the EU and access to the EU market will be subject to certification and market authorisation and supervision activities. The EU’s standard approach to rules of origin will apply. There will be no harmonisation or mutual recognition of rules. EU aims to negotiate on trade remedies, customs facilitation, technical barriers to trade, and sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) rules, making reference to WTO rules in all these areas.</p>
	<p>UK proposing modern (bespoke) rules of origin (ROOs). These determine the “economic nationality” of a good and whether it is eligible for tariff reductions under the FTA. UK draft text viewed by commentators as going beyond EU agreements with other countries on ROOs, EU has reportedly responded negatively.</p>	<p>In response to the UK suggestion that the zero tariff aim be dropped, EU has said negotiating every tariff line would be a lengthy process and LPF guarantees would still be required whether agreement was 98% tariff free or 100%.</p>
Trade in Services	<p>UK seeks an FTA on trade in services and investment at least as good as existing EU FTAs. Envisages regulatory cooperation across a wide range of services sectors. Trade liberalisation could go further in areas like professional and business services. UK priorities include digital trade, temporary business travel for natural persons (Mode 4), and mutual recognition of professional qualifications. Various elements of the draft CFTA text resemble provisions in CETA and other EU FTAs. Some provisions on business visitors offer commitments which in aspects, such as the entry and stay of intra-corporate transferees (specialists and senior personnel) and investors, go further than the UKs historical position. The text outlines a framework for the mutual recognition of qualifications and proposes national treatment to the two sides’ service providers who have obtained their professional qualifications in the other side’s institutions. The draft CFTA includes provisions on delivery services, audio-visual services and telecommunications, including cooperation on mobile roaming. There is a chapter on digital trade.</p>	<p>EU seeks an FTA that goes beyond its WTO commitments on services and investment on a par with its recent FTAs. It proposes regulatory cooperation to promote transparency, efficiency and compatibility of rules. EU priorities include digital trade, temporary business travel for natural persons (Mode 4), and mutual recognition of professional qualifications where this is in the EU’s interest. The EU draft text on the recognition of professional qualifications proposes to ask relevant professional bodies to develop joint UK and EU recommendations, based on the economic value of an arrangement in a particular area, and the compatibility of the respective regimes. Such recommendations could lead to a framework for recognition at a later stage. Excludes audio-visual services altogether and does not include provisions for mobile roaming under telecommunications. Contains a chapter on digital trade.</p>
Financial Services	<p>Market access for financial services will be based on unilateral equivalence decisions that allow mutual recognition of specific activities and types of financial services. The UK proposes that the agreement should promote financial stability, market integrity, and investor and consumer protection for financial services. The UK also seeks enhanced provision for regulatory and supervisory cooperation, and a “structured processes for the withdrawal of equivalence findings”, involving consultation and warnings if decisions were going to change. In the draft CFTA, the UK proposes reciprocal most-favoured nation access for financial services, with no restrictions or limitations. It extends this to “new” financial services, subject to regulator authorisation. It also proposes the establishment of a joint Financial Services Committee to oversee implementation of the new arrangements and to resolve disputes. The enhanced proposals go beyond arrangements in the EU’s agreements with Japan and Canada.</p>	<p>Market access for financial services will be based on unilateral equivalence decisions with regard to specific activities and types of financial services. The EU emphasises the unilateral nature of its equivalence decisions, while noting that transparency and appropriate consultation with the UK is important. The EU has highlighted the importance of UK financial services regulation remaining closely aligned with the EU in order for equivalence to be maintained.</p>

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Fisheries	<p>The UK position has consistently been that fisheries and trade should not be linked during the negotiations. There should be a separate fisheries agreement that would provide a framework for fishing opportunities and access to waters to be negotiated annually. Future fishing opportunities should be based on the principle of zonal attachment, similar to the EU's fisheries agreement with Norway. Trade in fisheries products would be covered by the free trade agreement, but the agreement on fisheries would be separate to the free trade agreement. The short draft text published by the UK reflects this. It proposes annual fisheries negotiations with the EU, co-ordinated with negotiations with other neighbour states, with quota based on each species zonal attachment. In the case of dispute, the agreement could be suspended by either party with three month's notice.</p>	<p>The EU wants any agreement to "uphold continued reciprocal access" to fishing waters and "uphold stable quota shares". The EU position is that it will not agree a wider free trade agreement without an agreement on fisheries. The sections in the EU draft agreement covering fisheries reflects this. Overall, they present a position that would result in a continuation of fisheries management in the UK along the principles of the Commons Fisheries Policy (CFP). The proposals cover 97 different stocks of fish which are shared between the UK and EU. Any quota shares would only be amended with agreement of both parties and any disagreement could lead to imposition of tariffs by either party.</p>
Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures	<p>UK seeks measures that build on the WTO SPS agreement. Each party should have autonomy over its own SPS regime. It calls for FTA equivalence mechanisms for SPS measures, based on recent EU FTAs such as with Canada or the EU-New Zealand Veterinary Agreement. This would allow agri-food goods to be subject to reduced border checks and possibly simplified certification. The UK's draft CFTA proposes that an SPS measure be accepted as equivalent if the exporting party "objectively demonstrates" that it achieves the importing party's "appropriate level of protection". It also includes an annex setting out "guidelines" on the determination, recognition and maintenance of equivalence.</p>	<p>EU seeks measures that build on and go beyond the WTO SPS Agreement. The future relationship should uphold the use of the precautionary principle in the EU as set out in the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU. Systematic control on food safety standards will "fully apply to imported food, animals and plants without exceptions or equivalency". The EU's draft agreement includes a chapter on SPS issues, as well as proposing non-regression in "health and sanitary safety in the agricultural and food sector" as part of level playing field provisions (see above).</p>
Climate change	<p>The UK does not include climate change within its proposals for a CFTA. Instead climate change and carbon trading are included under a separate proposed agreement on energy (see Energy below). The UK proposes the parties affirm their commitment to effectively implement the Paris Agreement; and that each Party retains the right to establish its own climate change priorities. On carbon pricing, the UK is open to considering a link between any future UK emissions trading system (ETS) and the EU ETS, subject to certain conditions. The legal drafting on carbon pricing has not yet been included in the draft Energy Agreement.</p>	<p>The EU includes the fight against climate change as an "essential element" of the partnership as well as within the EU's LPF provisions. The EU proposes that the parties "respect the Paris Agreement and the process set by the UNFCCC" and refrain from any acts of omissions that would undermine its adherence to or materially defeat the object and purpose of the Paris Agreement. Under the LPF provisions, the EU requires the parties to commit to non-regression of "climate protection" measures including emissions from industrial installations, transport, land use, forestry and agriculture. The EU would require the UK to implement a system of carbon pricing of at least the same scope and effectiveness of, and possibly linked to, the EU ETS.</p>
Public procurement	<p>The UK text does not include public procurement. The relationship would be based on the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement.</p>	<p>The EU is offering to go beyond the commitments on public procurement in the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement. For example, it proposes to include local government procurement, and provisions on transparency, national treatment, environmental, social and labour considerations. This would reduce the gap between the current EU procurement regime and the WTO GPA commitments.</p>

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Social security coordination	<p>The UK's draft social security coordination agreement sets out which state a person moving between the UK and EU is liable to pay contributions to.</p> <p>Arrangements similar to the current rules for calculating State Pension entitlements where an individual has periods of insurance in the UK and EU Member. Provision for State Pensions to be exported and uprated annually.</p> <p>No social security coordination for other benefits. No aggregation of contributions or residence periods for benefits such as sickness or invalidity benefits, survivors' benefits, unemployment benefits or family benefits. No provisions on the export of such benefits.</p> <p>Entitlement to necessary healthcare during short stays only. No provision to reimburse healthcare costs incurred in the country of residence for pensioners in receipt of an exported State Pension.</p>	<p>Existing social security coordination arrangements covering the full range of benefits broadly to continue to apply for people staying temporarily; to researchers, students, trainees and people on youth exchange programmes; and to pensioners. Principles of equal treatment, aggregation of periods of insurance for benefits purposes, and exportability of benefits would continue to apply to the above groups.</p> <p>Existing provisions for calculating State Pension entitlements where an individual has periods of insurance in the UK and EU Member States to continue. Provision for State Pensions to be exported and uprated annually.</p> <p>Entitlement to necessary medical treatment during short stays. People in receipt of an exported State Pension would also be entitled to healthcare in their country of residence, with the state paying the pension responsible for reimbursing the cost of any treatment received.</p>
Mobility	<p>Draft FTA includes standard Mode 4 chapter on temporary entry and stay of natural persons for business purposes. Proposed social security co-ordination arrangements (see above) would support mobility for those moving between UK and EU.</p>	<p>EU draft treaty proposes reciprocal visa conditions to facilitate temporary migration for the purposes of research, study, training and youth exchanges. These would not discriminate among citizens of the EU Member States. Social security co-ordination (see above) would support this mobility.</p>
Geographical Indications	<p>The UK will keep its approach to GIs under review as negotiations with the EU and other trade partners progress. Any agreement on GIs "must respect the rights of both parties to set their own rules on GIs and the future directions of their respective schemes". The draft CFTA states that further text on GIs will be proposed and shall supersede what has been agreed in the Withdrawal Agreement.</p>	<p>The envisaged partnership should provide for protection of intellectual property rights beyond WTO and related rules. Current high levels of protection should be preserved. Protection for existing geographical indications as already covered by the Withdrawal Agreement should be preserved. There should also be a mechanism for the protection of future geographical indications.</p>
Transport	<p>For aviation, the UK has tabled two separate agreements: an Air Transport Agreement and a Civil Aviation Safety Agreement, to include traffic rights for UK and EU airlines to operate passenger, all-cargo and charter services between points in the UK and points in the EU without restrictions on frequency or capacity; and mutual acceptance of safety and other certification processes where possible and to limit the duplication of recertification or retesting assessments.</p> <p>Road transport is covered by the proposed CFTA text. The UK view is UK and EU road transport operators should be entitled to provide services to, from and through each other's territories.</p>	<p>The EU envisages that aviation and road transport are covered by its comprehensive partnership agreement with the UK. For the aviation sector this covers basic point-to-point travel—from the EU to the UK and vice versa—along with providing for "fifth freedom rights" if balanced with "corresponding obligations". Fifth freedom rights include flight stops in the territory of a Member State en-route to another third state. EU's mandate is silent on "cabotage" and "grand cabotage" (the ability to fly within, and between, the territory of Member States).</p> <p>On road haulage, the EU is clear that UK hauliers should not be granted the same level of rights and benefits as those enjoyed by EU hauliers when travelling from one Member State to another, or within the territory of a Member State.</p>
Energy	<p>The UK is open to an agreement with the EU covering energy trading, carbon pricing and international climate change agreements (see climate change above). The draft UK energy text sets out the UK's intentions for some of these areas such as electricity trading. The draft text includes provisions to allow trade over electricity interconnectors over different timeframes. This occurs at present through the EU's Internal Energy Market, but the UK makes new proposals, including establishing an Energy Cooperation Group to implement the agreement, and an arbitration process for dispute resolution.</p>	<p>On electricity and gas trading, the EU negotiating directives state clearly that the UK will leave the internal energy market. The EU negotiating directives and draft treaty suggest a future partnership covering areas such as investment in renewable and energy efficiency technologies, and measures to maintain competitive markets (also mentioned in the UK draft text). The EU draft treaty includes provisions on the efficient use of interconnectors, but the EU has listed the UK position on interconnectors as an area where the UK wants to maintain the benefits of being a Member State without the obligations.</p>

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Civil nuclear co-operation	<p>The UK negotiating directives state the UK and European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) should conclude a Nuclear Cooperation Agreement for cooperation on civil nuclear matters. This should cover compliance with international nuclear safeguards, safety and security standards, and facilitate nuclear trade. The NCA should deliver provisions on safeguards, nuclear transfer, nuclear research, the supply of medical radioisotopes, and information sharing and technical cooperation. The draft UK civil nuclear agreement sets out provisions covering these areas.</p>	<p>The EU seeks wide-ranging cooperation between Euratom and the UK on “peaceful uses of nuclear energy”. In addition to respecting international conventions and treaties, the provision on nuclear cooperation should also facilitate trade in nuclear materials and equipment, research and development, transfer of nuclear technology, and information exchange including in relation to safeguards, safety, radioactivity in the environment, the supply of medical radioisotopes, and facilitating exchanges of skilled workers.</p>
Participation in EU programmes	<p>The UK is ready to consider third country participation in certain EU programmes where in the UK and EU interest, including Horizon Europe, Euratom Research and Training, and Copernicus. The UK will consider options for participation in elements of Erasmus+ “on a time limited basis, provided the terms are in the UK’s interests”. Agreements for participation in EU programmes should contain fair terms for the UK, including a fair and appropriate financial contribution. The UK has not proposed a treaty text on participation in programmes.</p>	<p>Envisaged partnership should establish rules for UK participation in the EU programmes in areas such as science and innovation, youth, culture and education and development and international co-operation. The EU will develop the “general principles, terms and conditions” under which the UK can participate in these programmes now that it is no longer a Member State, subject to the rules set out for third country participation in each programme. Draft EU text provides for UK participation fee and operational financial contribution. Programmes UK will participate in will be listed in currently blank protocol.</p>
Law enforcement and judicial co-operation in criminal matters	<p>The UK proposes separate agreement which “must not constrain the autonomy of the UK’s legal system in any way”, and “should not provide any role for the CJEU in resolving UK-EU disputes” or “specify how the UK or the EU Member States should protect and enforce human rights and the rule of law within their own autonomous legal systems”. The UK draft agreement text covers arrangements that support data exchange for law enforcement purposes; operational cooperation between agencies; and judicial cooperation in criminal matters, including streamlined extradition arrangements. The UK is seeking access to capabilities equivalent to those currently provided by the SIS II database, including real time data exchange, as well as expanded passenger name record data. The UK also proposes streamlined procedures for the transfer of prisoners. The draft agreement would have a separate governance structure consisting of a Joint Committee capable of taking binding decisions and resolving disputes. It does not make any specific commitment to the ECHR, but provides for either Party to terminate the agreement on the basis of human rights concerns.</p> <p>The UK has tabled separate agreement texts on readmission of people residing without authorisation and on transfer of unaccompanied child asylum-seekers. UK is also open to separate agreement on security of information (not tabled).</p>	<p>The EU seeks close law enforcement co-operation as part of comprehensive security partnership. This would involve arrangements for exchange of data on passenger records (PNR) and criminals and suspects (Prüm); and other law enforcement information exchange. It would also cover cooperation through Eurojust and Europol, in line with other third countries; streamlined extradition arrangements; and mutual legal assistance and criminal records information exchange going beyond Council of Europe Conventions. Co-operation would also involve support for international efforts to combat money laundering and terrorist financing.</p> <p>Co-operation on law enforcement and judicial co-operation would be conditional on UK adherence to the ECHR as well as continuing UK domestic law allowing citizens to invoke it in UK courts (i.e. the Human Rights Act 1998). The EU also envisages thematic cooperation on irregular migration, including its causes and consequences.</p>

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Foreign affairs and defence	The UK view is that cooperation on foreign affairs and related issues does not require a joint treaty framework. As such, the UK did not publish any draft treaty text related to foreign policy and defence in May 2020.	The EU wants a security partnership within the overarching treaty framework which also covers foreign affairs and defence co-operation. The EU seeks close co-operation on external actions, including structured co-operation and consultation. This would also involve alignment on the application of sanctions, co-operation in international organisations and on consular protection, and UK involvement in EU international development programmes. The partnership should enable the UK to co-operate with the EU where interests coincide, while preserving the autonomy of EU decision-making. The UK would be invited to participate on a case by case basis in EU defence missions or in EU defence industry projects. Participation in CSDP missions would be in line with existing arrangements for third parties and proportionate to the UK's contribution. Intelligence exchanges should take place on a voluntary basis.
Governance	<p>The UK favours a suite of agreements and has tabled ten treaty texts: a free trade agreement, and separate agreements on fisheries, air transport, civil aviation, social security co-operation, energy, civil nuclear cooperation, law enforcement and judicial co-operation, readmission of people residing without authorisation and transfer of child asylum-seekers. These should all have governance and dispute settlement arrangements "appropriate to a relationship of sovereign equals" and similar to the EU's agreements with other countries. These will reflect the regulatory, judicial and legal autonomy of the UK, with no role for the CJEU in the dispute resolution mechanism.</p> <p>The proposed agreements involve governance through joint committees. The draft FTA has dispute resolution procedure involving reference to an arbitration panel (involving some independent members) but exceptions in certain areas (inc. labour, environment, competition). Legal interpretations in line with international law and Vienna Convention on Law of Treaties. Civil nuclear, energy and air transport agreements also have arbitration for dispute resolution. Other proposed agreements (inc. law enforcement, fisheries) do not have independent arbitration process, with disputes to be resolved in joint committee through consultations. Possible recourse to provisions to suspend agreements (or parts of agreements).</p>	<p>The EU proposes a comprehensive partnership with an overarching institutional framework, covering all areas of future economic and security co-operation. This will involve supervision by a joint EU-UK governing body (the Partnership Council), with specialised sectoral committees. The dispute resolution process applies with some exceptions. This would firstly involve consultations in the joint governing body with possible recourse to an independent arbitration panel.</p> <p>The CJEU would have a role if a concept of EU law has to be interpreted by the arbitration panel but not beyond that. The arbitration panel would be able to make binding decisions. The parties would be able to request financial compensation or suspend obligations within the agreement in the case of non-compliance. The EU seeks safeguard provisions whereby either party can unilaterally disapply parts of the agreement where defined emergencies take place—with provision for the other party to retaliate by disapplying parts of the agreement itself.</p>

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