



## DEBATE PACK

Number 0025 | 31 January 2019

# E-petition 224908 relating to leaving the European Union

Westminster Hall

Monday 4 February 2019 at 4.30pm

Paul Scully MP will open the debate

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The House of Commons Library prepares a briefing in hard copy and/or online for most non-legislative debates in the Chamber and Westminster Hall other than half-hour debates. Debate Packs are produced quickly after the announcement of parliamentary business. They are intended to provide a summary or overview of the issue being debated and identify relevant briefings and useful documents, including press and parliamentary material. More detailed briefing can be prepared for Members on request to the Library.

# 1. Background

## 1.1 Summary

Article 50 of the Treaty on European Union provides that any Member State may decide to withdraw from the EU in accordance with its own constitutional arrangements. It also provides that the EU and the withdrawing state shall negotiate an agreement setting out arrangements for its withdrawal. The withdrawing Member State will cease to be a member of the EU when the withdrawal agreement comes into force, or failing that, two years after notifying the EU of its intention to leave.<sup>1</sup>

In the UK's case, the notice to withdraw from the EU was issued on 29 March 2017. The UK will therefore leave the EU on 29 March 2019, unless a withdrawal agreement with the EU provides for another exit day or the UK Government withdraws the Article 50 notice or there is agreement with the EU to extend the Article 50 notice period.

The Prime Minister has been clear that she intends to deliver on the 2016 referendum result in taking the UK out of the EU, and that the Government will not revoke Article 50. She has also spoken [against](#) the possibility of extending Article 50. She has also [repeatedly](#) stated that the UK will leave the EU on 29 March 2019. The House of Commons voted to reject amendments that would have enabled an extension of Article 50 following the debate on the Government statement on the Brexit negotiations on 29 January 2019.

A Withdrawal Agreement (WA) was approved by the UK Government and EU leaders at the European Council on 25 November 2018. This provides for the UK to leave the EU on 29 March 2019, and will come into force provided it is first approved by both the UK (meaning approval by the House of Commons) and EU (requiring approval by both European Parliament and Council of the EU).

In the vote on the WA in the House of Commons on 15 January, it was defeated by 432 votes to 202. Following the debate and vote on the Government's [next steps](#) in the Brexit process on 29 January, the Prime Minister [set out](#) her intention to seek further negotiations with the EU on the WA, in order to obtain legally binding changes to the most contentious element of the WA, the Northern Ireland/Ireland [backstop](#), that would be acceptable to a majority in the House of Commons. The EU has indicated it is unwilling to re-open negotiations on the WA.

If the Government is unable to reach agreement with the EU on changes to the WA or on other assurances that are acceptable to the House of Commons, then the UK will leave the EU without a deal on 29 March 2019 unless there is a change in the Government position on extending or revoking Article 50.

Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt [indicated](#) on 31 January 2019 that an extension of Article 50 could be requested if the WA is approved shortly before 29 March, in order to provide for extra Parliamentary time to pass legislation to prepare for Brexit.

## 1.2 The Withdrawal Agreement and Next Steps

The Withdrawal Agreement adopted by the UK Government and EU leaders at the European Council on 25 November 2018 does not set the terms of the future UK-EU relationship and is concerned mainly with provisions to separate the UK from the EU, arrangements for a transition period while negotiations take place on a future relationship, and the Northern Ireland/Ireland protocol providing for a backstop arrangement if no new arrangements are in place at the end of the transition that would prevent a hard border emerging on the island of Ireland.<sup>2</sup>

The Northern Ireland/Ireland protocol is the most contentious element of the WA as it would keep the UK in a single customs territory with the EU after the envisaged transition period until alternative arrangements can be agreed that would prevent a hard border in Ireland.<sup>3</sup>

In a speech to the European Parliament on 16 January 2019 (the day after the Commons' rejection of the WA), the EU's chief Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier insisted that the negotiated WA represented the "best possible compromise" and its ratification remained "necessary". He also said that "the backstop which we have agreed with the United Kingdom must remain a backstop and it must remain credible".<sup>4</sup>

On 29 January 2019, the House of Commons debated the Government's next steps on the Brexit negotiations, and voted in favour of the amendment by Graham Brady MP which indicated that the support of the House for the WA would be contingent upon "replacing" the backstop with "alternative arrangements."

In responding to the vote, the Prime Minister said:

*We will now take this mandate forward and seek to obtain legally binding changes to the withdrawal agreement that deal with*

<sup>2</sup> See House of Commons Library Briefing Paper CBP8453, [The UK's EU Withdrawal Agreement](#), 1 December 2018.

<sup>3</sup> For further details on what the backstop entails see House of Commons Library Insight, [The backstop explained](#), 12 December 2018

<sup>4</sup> Michel Barnier, [speech to EP](#), 16 January 2019. Opening statements available at [https://multimedia.europarl.europa.eu/en/opening-statements\\_1166570\\_03-V\\_rv](https://multimedia.europarl.europa.eu/en/opening-statements_1166570_03-V_rv).

*concerns on the backstop while guaranteeing no return to a hard border between Northern Ireland and Ireland.*<sup>5</sup>

The President of the European Council Donald Tusk [responded](#) on 30 January 2019:

The EU position is clear and consistent. The Withdrawal Agreement is not open for renegotiation. Yesterday, we found out what the UK doesn't want. But we still don't know what the UK does want.

### 1.3 Options for the Future Relationship

Alongside the WA, on 25 November the UK and EU also agreed a Political Declaration (PD) setting out the framework for the future relationship between the EU and the UK. This outlined a set of commitments on a proposed future agreement on the UK-EU relationship and provided some parameters for the future negotiations.<sup>6</sup> However, the political declaration is non-binding and the UK and EU could move beyond these parameters in a future agreement.

Following the Commons' rejection of the WA on 15 January 2019, Michel Barnier said that if the UK chose "to change its red lines, and to be more ambitious and go beyond a simple free trade deal in our future relationship, then the EU would be ready to immediately support this evolution and respond favourably". It was up to the UK Government to clarify how it wished to proceed on organising an "orderly withdrawal" and how "it wants to build an ambitious and long-lasting partnership".<sup>7</sup>

Among the [amendments](#) voted upon in relation to the Government motion on the Brexit process in the House of Commons on 29 January 2019 was one from Dominic Grieve MP to set aside specific days in the House of Commons to debate different options on Brexit and the future relationship with the EU.<sup>8</sup> This was envisaged as a way of reaching a consensus in Parliament on the way forward and possibly enable a revised agreement with the EU. However, this amendment was defeated by 321 votes to 301.

### 1.4 Extension of Article 50

Among the other [amendments](#) voted up in relation to the Government motion on the Brexit process in the House of Commons on 29 January 2019 was one from Yvette Cooper MP which would guarantee parliamentary time for her [Private Member's Bill](#) which in turn would give the Commons the opportunity to insist that the Prime Minister seeks an extension of Article 50 until the end of 2019 if the House of Commons had not approved a withdrawal agreement by 26 February 2019. This amendment was defeated by 321 votes to 298.

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<sup>5</sup> See House of Commons Library Insight, [A 'Plan B' considered and two instructions given: Where next for Parliament and Brexit?](#), 30 January 2019

<sup>6</sup> See House of Commons Library Briefing Paper CBP8454, [The Political Declaration on the Framework for Future EU-UK Relations](#), 3 December 2018

<sup>7</sup> Michel Barnier, [speech to EP](#), 16 January 2019.

<sup>8</sup> For an outline of different options for the future relationship being proposed, see House of Commons Library Briefing Paper CBP8483, [Brexit: Proposals for the future UK-EU relationship](#), 25 January 2019.

An amendment tabled by Rachel Reeves MP to seek a two-year extension of article 50 if there is not a deal in place by 26 February was also defeated, by 322 votes to 32.

During the debate on the Government motion, Labour party leader Jeremy Corbyn MP said that it is “now inevitable” that the Government will have to extend Article 50 “in any scenario”, given that it is “not even close to being prepared” if it serious about keeping the possibility of “no deal” on the table. Mr Corbyn [said](#)

And even if the Prime Minister’s deal were to somehow achieve a majority in this House next month there is no chance that the necessary legislation, primary legislation and an extensive catalogue of secondary legislation – I believe 600 statutory instruments – could clear this place between now and the 29 March.

An extension to Article 50 would also be required under the Labour party’s favoured scenario of holding a general election, while a longer extension would be required if the option favoured by the Liberal Democrats and cross-party campaigners of another referendum (with an option to remain) was adopted.<sup>9</sup>

Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt [indicated](#) on 31 January 2019 that an extension of Article 50 could be requested if the WA is approved shortly before 29 March, in order to provide for extra Parliamentary time to pass legislation to prepare for Brexit. If the WA is approved by Parliament, legislation providing for domestic implementation of the agreement will need to be approved by Parliament.

A report by the Institute for Government<sup>10</sup> published on 31 January 2019 said it was increasingly unlikely that the Prime Minister will be able to get the six outstanding Brexit bills through Parliament in time if there is a no deal Brexit on 29 March. These are the Trade Bill, Agriculture Bill, Fisheries Bill, Immigration Bill, Healthcare (International Agreements) Bill and the Financial Services Bill.

In addition, only around 100 of the 600 [statutory instruments](#) required to prepare the statute book for exit day have made their way through Parliament. These are being laid primarily using powers in the EU (Withdrawal) Act 2018.

## 1.5 Government view on revoking Article 50

Given the silence of Article 50 on what happens if a Member State changes its mind and decides it wants to withdraw its notification to leave the EU, there was considerable legal and academic debate on whether the UK would be able to revoke Article 50 without the agreement of the EU, if it wished to do so. This was resolved by a ruling of the Court of Justice of the EU (CJEU) on 10 December 2018.

<sup>9</sup> For further discussion of these options and possible complications see section 5 of House of Commons Library Briefing Paper CBP8474, [EU assurances to the UK on Brexit](#), 15 January 2019.

<sup>10</sup> Institute for Government, [Brexit: two months to go](#), 31 January 2019.

This came following a request for a ruling from the Court of Session in Edinburgh after a case bring a ruling was brought by a cross-party group of politicians. The CJEU ruled that a Member State that had issued a notification to leave the EU under Article 50 can revoke the notification unilaterally as long as a withdrawal agreement has not come into force, and the two year period (or any extended period) following the Article 50 notification has not expired. The judgment was summarised in the CJEU's Press Release as follows:

When a Member State has notified the European Council to withdraw from the European Union, as the UK has done, that Member State is free to revoke unilaterally that notification.

That possibility exists for as long as a withdrawal agreement concluded between the EU and that Member State has not entered into force or, if no such agreement has been concluded, for as long as the two-year period from the date of the notification of the intention to withdraw from the EU, and possibly any extension, has not expired.

The revocation must be decided following a democratic process in accordance with national constitutional requirements. This unequivocal and unconditional decision must be communicated in writing to the European Council.

Such a revocation confirms the EU membership of the Member State concerned under terms that are unchanged as regards its status as a Member State and brings the withdrawal procedure to an end.

The ruling also refers to an "unequivocal and unconditional" decision made by the Member State. This means that the goal of revocation must be to actually stay in the EU, not to alter the shape of negotiations. Hence, Article 50 cannot be revoked simply to buy time or to continue negotiations on a new membership arrangement, with the possibility of issuing another notification to leave in the near future if the Member State doesn't get what it wants.<sup>11</sup>

In response to the judgement, the Brexit Secretary Steve Barclay gave a [statement](#) to the House of Commons on 10 December 2018. He said the Government noted the judgement but that this did not change the Government approach in that it has no intention of revoking Article 50 and that it intends to honour the 2016 referendum result. He said:

This judgement clarifies the law. The judgement does not in any way change our policy. That the Government knows this course is possible, just as many undesirable actions are possible, does not change the fact that such an approach is hypothetical and the Government has no intention of doing it.

The Government's firm and long-held policy is that we will not revoke the Article 50 notice. This position has not changed. To do this, or indeed to hold a second referendum, would be to undermine the result of the 2016 referendum and the professed will of this House to give effect to that result.

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<sup>11</sup> For further analysis see House of Commons Library Briefing Paper CBP8461 [Brexit: Article 50 TEU at the CJEU](#), 10 December 2018.

This House voted to hold the referendum and promised to deliver it. 544 members of this House voted to give the British public their say, with just 53 opposed. Almost three quarters of the electorate then took part in the 2016 referendum, resulting in 17.4 million votes to leave the European Union. This is the highest number of votes cast for anything in UK electoral history, making this referendum the biggest democratic exercise in our history.

This House then voted again to empower the Prime Minister to notify under Article 50 and voted yet again to repeal the European Communities Act.

The Government remains focused on its task and its mandate, and delivering a deal which honours the 2016 referendum result. We will be leaving the EU on the 29th of March next year.

## 1.6 Leaving with No Deal

If a withdrawal agreement does not come into force by 29 March 2019, and Article 50 is neither extended nor revoked, the UK will leave the EU without an agreement on that day. A no-deal Brexit will lead to new barriers to trade with the EU, involving tariffs, customs and regulatory checks. Trade between the UK and EU will revert to [WTO rules](#) (requiring a common set of tariffs unless there is a free trade agreement) and other co-operation arrangements will also [cease](#) to apply.

Where the UK's relationships with third countries are regulated via EU international agreements (e.g. the EU's numerous free trade agreements with third countries), these will also cease to apply (and trade will revert to WTO rules) unless the UK can get replacement deals in place with these countries.

A "no deal" scenario is predicted by the [Government](#) and [others](#) to result in significant disruption, at least in the short term, and have a negative economic impact in the long term. But it is also viewed as providing for a clean break from the EU.<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> See section 7 of House of Commons Library Briefing Paper CBP8483, [Brexit: Proposals for the future UK-EU relationship](#), 25 January 2019; and House of Commons Library Briefing Paper CBP8397, [What if there's no Brexit deal?](#) (updated 28 December 2018).

## 2. E-petition

[E-petition 224908](#)

### **Brexit re article 50 it must not be suspended/stopped under any circumstances.**

The full details are well known to everyone the media has covered it fully, the British people MUST be given the Brexit they voted for anything else is not acceptable to the British public ARTICLE 50 must not under any circumstances be hindered/suspended/stopped for any reason whatsoever the time is here to take action as there has been excessive feet dragging/delaying tactics by those opposed to Brexit.

### **Government responded**

The Government's policy is not to revoke the Article 50 notice. The British people gave a clear instruction to leave and we are delivering on that instruction.

In 2016, almost three quarters of the electorate took part in the referendum and 17.4 million people voted to leave the European Union. This is the highest number of votes cast for anything in UK electoral history and the biggest democratic mandate for a course of action ever directed at any UK Government.

In 2017's General Election, over 80% of people then also voted for parties committing to respect the result of the referendum - it was the stated policy of both major parties that the decision of the people would be respected. The Government is clear that it is now its duty to implement the will expressed by the electorate in the referendum.

The British people must be able to trust in its Government both to effect their will, and to deliver the best outcome for them. As the Prime Minister has said: "This is about more than the decision to leave the EU; it is about whether the public can trust their politicians to put in place the decision they took." We recognise that to do otherwise would be to undermine the decision of the British people, and to disrespect the powerful democratic values of this country and this Government.

To revoke the Article 50 notice would go against the referendum result and is not a course of action the Government feels we should take. The Government continues to be committed to delivering on the instruction given to us by the British people; working to overcome the challenges and seize the opportunities this brings to deliver an outcome which betters the lives of British people - whether they voted to Leave or to Remain.

In doing so, we will honour the mandate of the British people and leave the European Union in a way which benefits every part of our United Kingdom and every citizen of our country.

Whilst we note the judgment in the recent Wightman litigation, the Government's policy is not to revoke the Article 50 notice.

Department for Exiting the European Union



### 3. Press articles

The following is a selection of news and media articles relevant to this debate.

Please note: the Library is not responsible for either the views or the accuracy of external content.

**[Brexit could be delayed because government is not ready, Jeremy Hunt suggests](#)**

Independent  
Lizzy Buchan  
31 January 2019

**[PM immediately rebuffed by EU leaders in Brexit renegotiation effort](#)**

Sky News  
Greg Heffer  
30 January 2019

**[Coveney warns Brexit deal bid is 'running out of road'](#)**

BBC News  
30 January 2019

**[Amendment to stop no-deal Brexit in March fails to receive MPs' backing](#)**

Independent  
Ashley Cowburn  
30 January 2019

**[How can Article 50 be extended?](#)**

BBC News  
Chris Morris  
29 January 2019

**[Theresa May wins out on \(most of\) her Brexit plan B](#)**

Financial Times  
Henry Mance  
29 January 2019

**[UK cannot simply trade on WTO terms after no-deal Brexit, say experts](#)**

Guardian  
Amelia Hill  
27 January 2019

**[How MPs are trying to stop no-deal Brexit](#)**

The Times  
Oliver Wright  
21 January 2019

**May suffers heaviest parliamentary defeat of a British PM in the democratic era**

Guardian  
Heather Stewart  
16 January 2019

**MEPs consider nightmare scenario of Brexit delay**

Politico  
Maïa de la Baume  
14 January 2019

**British parliament cannot stop Brexit: junior minister**

Reuters  
Kate Holton and Kylie MacLellan  
9 January 2019

**No-deal Brexit: Can Parliament stop it?**

BBC News  
Chris Morris  
8 January 2019

**Far from stopping a no deal Brexit, Remainers have set it up to be much more chaotic**

Daily Telegraph  
8 January 2019

**World Bank warns of wider no-deal Brexit fallout**

Guardian  
Phillip Inman  
8 January 2019

**Brexit: 20 Tory rebels inflict no-deal defeat on government**

BBC News  
8 January 2019

**Final Say: Theresa May admits Brexit can be stopped by new referendum as cabinet back draft deal**

Independent  
Joe Watts  
15 November 2018

**Brussels prepares to adopt delayed no deal Brexit contingency plan**

Financial Times  
Mehreen Khan  
13 November 2018

**Reality Check: What are EU countries doing to prepare for a no-deal Brexit?**

BBC News  
06 November 2018

## 4. Press releases

### [PM's statement at Downing Street](#)

Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street  
16 January 2019

This evening the Government has won the confidence of Parliament.

This now gives us all the opportunity to focus on finding a way forward on Brexit.

I understand that to people getting on with their lives, away from Westminster, the events of the past 24 hours will have been unsettling.

Overwhelmingly, the British people want us to get on with delivering Brexit, and also address the other important issues they care about.

But the deal which I have worked to agree with the European Union was rejected by MPs, and by a large margin.

I believe it is my duty to deliver on the British people's instruction to leave the European Union. And I intend to do so.

So now MPs have made clear what they don't want, we must all work constructively together to set out what Parliament does want.

That's why I am inviting MPs from all parties to come together to find a way forward.

One that both delivers on the referendum and can command the support of Parliament.

This is now the time to put self-interest aside.

I have just held constructive meetings with the leader of the Liberal Democrats, and the Westminster leaders of the SNP and Plaid Cymru.

From tomorrow, meetings will be taking place between senior Government representatives, including myself, and groups of MPs who represent the widest possible range of views from across Parliament – including our confidence and supply partners the Democratic Unionist Party.

[Political content removed]

It will not be an easy task, but MPs know they have a duty to act in the national interest, reach a consensus and get this done.

In a historic vote in 2016 the country decided to leave the EU.

In 2017 80% of people voted for Parties that stood on manifestos promising to respect that result.

Now, over two and a half years later, it's time for us to come together, put the national interest first - and deliver on the referendum.

## 5. PQs

### [Brexit](#)

**28 Jan 2019 | 210722**

**Asked by: Paul Sweeney**

To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, what recent discussions he has had with his EU counterpart on extending Article 50.

**Answering member: Kwasi Kwarteng | Department: Department for Exiting the European Union**

As the Prime Minister said in her statement to the House on Monday 21st January, the Government is opposed to extending Article 50 and we are committed to leaving the EU on 29 March 2019. In any case, the EU are very unlikely simply to agree to extend Article 50 without a plan for how we are going to approve a deal.

### [Brexit: Negotiations](#)

**24 Jan 2019 | 795 cc803-5**

**Asked by: Lord Pearson of Rannoch**

To ask Her Majesty's Government, following the decision of the Court of Justice of the European Union that the United Kingdom can unilaterally withdraw from clauses 2 to 5 of Article 50 of the Treaty on European Union, whether they will cease Brexit negotiations through the European Commission and offer European Union citizens through the Council of Ministers continuing (1) free trade under the World Trade Organization, (2) reciprocal residence for a period to be agreed, and (3) security co-operation, before they agree any financial settlement on the United Kingdom's departure from the European Union.

**Answered by: Lord Callanan | Department: Department for Exiting the European Union**

My Lords, the CJEU in the case of Wightman held that a member state can unilaterally revoke its notice to withdraw under Article 50. Such a revocation must be unequivocal and unconditional. However, let me be clear that, regardless, the Government's policy has not changed, and we will not revoke the Article 50 notice. A clear majority of the electorate voted to leave the EU, and we have to respect that result.

### [Brexit](#)

**24 Jan 2019 | 210721**

**Asked by: Paul Sweeney**

To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, what recent discussions he has had with the Chancellor of the Exchequer on contingency planning for the UK leaving the EU without a deal.

**Answering member: Chris Heaton-Harris | Department: Department for Exiting the European Union**

The Government continues to plan for all eventualities. The Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary of State remain in regular contact and, along with the rest of Cabinet, agreed to progress with the next phase of our no deal plans. The Chancellor remains committed, allocating £1.5billion for EU Exit preparations in all scenarios in 2018/19 and 2019/20; this was subsequently increased by £0.5bn for 2019/20 in the 2018 Budget, meaning the government will have invested over £4 billion in preparing for EU exit since 2016.

**[Brexit: Referendums](#)**

**13 Dec 2018 | HL11861**

**Asked by: Lord Myners**

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they support a second referendum on Brexit.

**Answering member: Lord Callanan | Department: Department for Exiting the European Union**

After a period of sustained public debate, a clear majority of the electorate voted to leave the EU in June 2016 with the highest number of votes cast for anything in UK electoral history. We must respect both the will of the British people, and the democratic process which delivered this result. As such, it is a matter of Government policy that there will not be a second referendum on our exit from the EU.

**[Brexit](#)**

**10 Dec 2018 | 198170**

**Asked by: Jim Cunningham**

To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, what contingency plans his Department has made in the event that the (a) EU withdrawal agreement and (b) Political Declaration are not approved by Parliament.

**Answering member: Chris Heaton-Harris | Department: Department for Exiting the European Union**

The government has successfully reached a deal with the EU and delivering the deal is its top priority.

The final deal that Parliament will be voting on means that we will leave the EU in a smooth and orderly way on 29 March 2019. It sets the framework for a future relationship that delivers in our national interest. It takes back control of our borders, laws and money, it protects jobs, security and the integrity of the United Kingdom, and it delivers in ways that many said could simply not be done.

Anything other than straightforward approval of the deal will bring with it huge uncertainty for business, consumers and citizens.

However, as a responsible government we have undertaken extensive work over the past two years to prepare for a potential no deal scenario.

We have published 106 technical notices to help businesses and citizens to prepare for March 2019 in the unlikely event that we leave the EU without a deal. In addition to these technical notices, we have already successfully passed critical legislation, signed international agreements, recruited additional staff and guaranteed certain EU funding in preparation for a no deal scenario.

## 6. Other Parliamentary material

### 6.1 Debates

[European Union \(Withdrawal\) Act 2018](#)

29 Jan 2019 | House of Commons | 653 cc789-791

[Brexit: Parliamentary Approval of the Outcome of Negotiations with the European Union](#)

28 Jan 2019 | House of Lords | 795 cc916-982

[Brexit: Further Referendum](#)

17 Jan 2019 | House of Lords | 795 cc2109-151

[European Union \(Withdrawal\) Act](#)

15 Jan 2019 | House of Commons | 652 cc1019-1130

[Brexit: Withdrawal Agreement and Political Declaration](#)

14 Jan 2019 | House of Lords | 795 cc11-55

[Brexit: Withdrawal Agreement and Political Declaration](#)

14 Jan 2019 | House of Lords | 795 cc66-118

[European Union \(Withdrawal\) Act](#)

14 Jan 2019 | House of Commons | 652 cc861-979

[European Union \(Withdrawal\) Act](#)

11 Jan 2019 | House of Commons | 652 cc697-778

[Brexit: Withdrawal Agreement and Political Declaration](#)

10 Jan 2019 | House of Lords | 794 cc2319-2370

[European Union \(Withdrawal\) Act](#)

10 Jan 2019 | Debates | House of Commons | 652 cc567-687

[Brexit: Withdrawal Agreement and Political Declaration](#)

09 Jan 2019 | House of Lords | 794 cc2220-294

[European Union \(Withdrawal\) Act](#)

09 Jan 2019 | House of Commons | 652 cc385-508

[Leaving the EU: No Deal](#)

19 Dec 2018 | House of Commons | 651 cc861-906

[EU Withdrawal Agreement](#)

18 Dec 2018 | House of Commons | 651 cc674-725

[Exiting the European Union: Meaningful Vote](#)

11 Dec 2018 | House of Commons | 651 cc171-226

[Brexit: Withdrawal Agreement and Political Declaration](#)

06 Dec 2018 | House of Lords | 794 cc1118-1198

[European Union \(Withdrawal\) Act](#)

06 Dec 2018 | House of Commons | 650 cc1080-1212

[Brexit: Withdrawal Agreement and Political Declaration](#)

05 Dec 2018 | House of Lords | 794 cc1023-1108

[Brexit: Withdrawal Agreement and Political Declaration](#)

05 Dec 2018 | House of Lords | 794 cc977-1013

[European Union \(Withdrawal\) Act](#)

05 Dec 2018 | House of Commons | 650 cc898-1024

[European Union \(Withdrawal\) Act](#)

04 Dec 2018 | House of Commons | 650 cc745-861

[Brexit: Negotiations](#)

20 Nov 2018 | House of Lords | 794 cc158-230

[EU Withdrawal Agreement: Legal Advice](#)

13 Nov 2018 | House of Commons | 649 cc189-236

[Legislating for the Withdrawal Agreement](#)

10 Sep 2018 | House of Commons | 646 cc491-564

[Vote Leave Campaign: Electoral Law](#)

10 Sep 2018 | House of Commons | 646 cc205-224WH

[Leaving the EU: Negotiations](#)

10 Jul 2018 | House of Commons | 644 cc880-931

[Leaving the EU: Parliamentary Vote](#)

11 Jun 2018 | House of Commons | 642 cc245-278WH

## 6.2 Early Day Motions

[Voting on choices for the UK leaving the EU](#)

EDM 1937

17 December 2018

Frank Field

That this House believes the public has a right to know how Members would vote on the different choices facing the country regarding the UK leaving the EU; believes that Members should have an opportunity as soon as possible to register their vote on a range of options including a reformed Northern Irish backstop, leaving the European Union with no deal, extending Article 50, entering into a future Norway-style relationship with the European Union, entering into a future Canada-style relationship with the European Union, and holding a new referendum; notes that this course of action could act as a powerful guide to the Government during its ongoing discussions with the European Union; and calls for sufficient time to be granted for this course of action to take place.



## 6.3 Statements

[Leaving the EU](#)

21 Jan 2019 | 653 cc24-67

[Leaving the EU](#)

14 Jan 2019 | 652 cc823-855

[Exiting the European Union](#)

10 Dec 2018 | 651 cc23-70

[EU Exit: Article 50](#)

10 Dec 2018 | 651 cc89-104

[EU Exit](#)

06 Dec 2018 | HCWS1152

[Leaving the EU](#)

26 Nov 2018 | 650 cc23-67

[Exiting the European Union](#)

26 Nov 2018 | HCWS1110

[Progress on EU Negotiations](#)

22 Nov 2018 | 649 cc1095-1138

## 7. Further reading

### Government Policy Papers

#### [Withdrawal Agreement and Political Declaration](#)

Department for Exiting the European Union  
25 November 2018

#### [Progress on the UK's exit from, and future relationship with, the European Union](#)

Department for Exiting the European Union  
14 November 2018

### Library Insight articles

#### [A 'Plan B' considered and two instructions given: Where next for Parliament and Brexit?](#)

30 January 2019

#### [The 'Malthouse Compromise': What is 'Plan C'?](#)

29 January 2019

#### [What are the 'other' Brexit options?](#)

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