



DEBATE PACK

CDP-0034 (2019) | 13 February 2019

Debate on a Motion relating to the UK's withdrawal from the EU

Main Chamber

Thursday 14 February 2019

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.

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1. Background

1.1 Summary

The Government's resolution seeking approval for the Withdrawal Agreement (WA) and the Political Declaration (PD) on future UK-EU relations agreed by the European Council in November 2018 was defeated in the House of Commons on 15 January 2019 by 432 votes to 202.

The Prime Minister has subsequently set out her intention to seek further negotiations with the EU on the WA, in order to obtain 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. EU leaders have however stated repeatedly that they are unwilling to re-open renegotiations on the WA, but would consider making changes to the PD.

In a meeting with the Prime Minister on 7 February 2019, the President of the European Commission reiterated that the EU is not willing to reopen the WA but expressed openness to adding wording to the PD in order to be more ambitious in terms of content with regards to the future UK-EU relationship. The Prime Minister and the Commission President will meet again before the end of February to take stock of discussions.

If the Government is unable to reach agreement with the EU on changes to the WA or PD that command majority support in the House of Commons then there is a heightened prospect of the UK leaving the EU without a deal on 29 March 2019, unless the Article 50 period is extended or sufficient MPs change their minds and vote for the existing texts.

The Leader of the Opposition, Jeremy Corbyn wrote to the Prime Minister on 6 February and suggested the Labour party could support the WA if changes to the PD, including a commitment to a permanent UK-EU customs union, were enshrined in law. The Government has however rejected the proposal for a customs union as it would prevent the UK from pursuing an independent trade policy.

The Prime Minister has stated her opposition to extending Article 50. The Leader of the Opposition has however suggested that an Article 50 extension is now inevitable given the legislation that needs to be passed prior to exit day and the preparations required if the UK is to leave without a deal. EU leaders have indicated a willingness to extend Article 50 for a specific purpose and time limited period, but not to re-open negotiations on the WA.

1.2 The Withdrawal Agreement and EU assurances on the backstop and future negotiations

Following the endorsement by the European Council on 25 November 2018 of the Withdrawal Agreement (WA) and the Political Declaration (PD) setting out the framework for the future EU-UK relationship, the House of Commons vote to approve both the WA and PD was originally scheduled for 11 December 2018.¹ This was postponed by the Prime Minister in recognition of the widespread opposition to the WA in the House of Commons. The Prime Minister [said](#) that she would be seeking additional assurances from the EU on the most contentious aspect of the WA, the Northern Ireland/Ireland backstop.²

Following further talks between the UK Government and EU leaders, the [Conclusions](#) adopted by the EU27 leaders at the European Council meeting on 13 December stated with regard to the WA: “The Union stands by this agreement and intends to proceed with its ratification. It is not open for renegotiation”. However, the EU27 leaders sought to reassure the UK of the intended temporary nature of the backstop should it need to come into force and that the EU would “use its best endeavours to negotiate and conclude expeditiously a subsequent agreement that would replace the backstop”.

In an exchange of letters between Prime Minister Theresa May and the Presidents of the European Council (Donald Tusk) and European Commission (Jean-Claude Juncker) on 14 January 2019, the EU sought to provide further assurances to the UK. The EU letter confirmed a “shared commitment” with the UK to not seeing the backstop enter into force, since “it would represent a suboptimal trading arrangement for both sides”. It also confirmed that the Commission “is determined” to prioritise in its work programme discussion of proposals “that might replace the backstop with alternative arrangements”, possibly using “facilitative arrangements and technologies”.³

1.3 Commons Rejection of WA

In the rescheduled House of Commons vote on 15 January 2019, the WA was rejected by 432 votes to 202, a majority of 230.

In her statement on 15 January following the vote, the Prime Minister [said](#) she would hold a series of meetings with colleagues, the DUP and “senior parliamentarians” in an attempt to find a deal that could gain

¹ The “meaningful vote”, as required under [Section 13](#) of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018,

² For further details on what the backstop entails see House of Commons Library Insight, [The backstop explained](#), 12 December 2018. See also House of Commons Library Briefing Paper CBP8453, [The UK’s EU Withdrawal Agreement](#), 1 December 2018.

³ See [Letter](#) from the President of the European Council and President of the European Commission to the Prime Minister, 14 January 2019. See also the House of Commons Library Briefing Paper CBP8474, [EU assurances to the UK on Brexit](#), 15 January 2019.

the support of Parliament.⁴ On 16 January Theresa May survived a vote of confidence in her government and renewed her [invitation](#) to colleagues and senior MPs from across the House to meet her for talks on reaching consensus on a Brexit 'Plan B'. Labour leader, Jeremy Corbyn, called on Labour MPs not to engage in talks with the Government, although some did.

In a [statement](#) on 15 January following the House of Commons vote rejecting the WA, Commission President Juncker maintained that the WA was a "fair compromise and the best possible deal" and "the only way to ensure an orderly withdrawal". In a speech to the European Parliament the following day, the EU's chief Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier also 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".

With regard to the future relationship, Mr 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".⁵

1.4 Government statement on Brexit and votes on motion, 29 January 2019

On Monday 21 January 2019 Theresa May made a [statement](#) in the Commons (in accordance with the *European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018*) setting out how the Government "intends to proceed" in relation to the Article 50 negotiations⁶ and tabled an amendable neutral motion saying that Parliament had considered the statement. The motion was debated and voted upon on 29 January.

Several amendments were tabled to the motion. These included amendments which would give Parliament more time to debate more options; to give Parliament the opportunity to hold indicative votes on the various options; to prevent a no-deal Brexit; and to change constitutional practice by giving Parliament powers to control Commons business and take control of the UK's next Brexit moves.

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

⁴ See BBC cross-party talks timeline, [Brexit: Which MPs have had talks in Westminster?](#) 17 January 2019.

⁵ Michel Barnier, [speech to EP](#), 16 January 2019. Opening statements available at https://multimedia.europarl.europa.eu/en/opening-statements_1166570_03-V_rv.

⁶ Written Statement is at <https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2019-01-21/HCWS1258/>.

relationship with the EU.⁷ 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.

Another defeated amendment, tabled by Yvette Cooper MP, would have guaranteed 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. The Cooper amendment was defeated by 321 votes to 298. 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.

The House of Commons did vote in favour of the amendment by Graham Brady MP, also supported by the Government, which indicated that the support of the House for the WA would be contingent upon "replacing" the backstop with "alternative arrangements."

An amendment tabled by Caroline Spelman MP, rejecting the possibility of the UK leaving the EU without a ratified withdrawal agreement and agreed framework for the future relationship, was also approved by 318 votes to 310. However, this amendment has no direct legal effect⁸.

In responding to the approval of the Brady amendment, 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 concerns on the backstop while guaranteeing no return to a hard border between Northern Ireland and Ireland.

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.

In responding to the Prime Minister's statement following the debate, Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn, said that as the House had "emphatically voted to reject the no-deal option" he would now be prepared to enter talks with the Prime Minister to discuss where progress might be made to reach a deal which Labour is prepared to support. These [talks](#) took place the next day.

⁷ 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.

⁸ See House of Commons Library Insight, [A 'Plan B' considered and two instructions given: Where next for Parliament and Brexit?](#), 30 January 2019

1.5 Proposals for Alternative arrangements to Backstop

On 30 January 2019 the Prime Minister's spokesman [told reporters](#) that Mrs May was considering "three possible alternative arrangements to the so-called Irish backstop". The [BBC reported](#) on 4 February that the alternatives to the backstop that the Prime Minister wants to discuss with EU leaders include: a "trusted trader" scheme to avoid physical checks on goods flowing through the border; "mutual recognition" of rules with the EU; and "technological" solutions.

In an [article](#) in *The Telegraph* (2 February) Theresa May wrote that the government was pursuing a three-pronged approach in seeking changes to the backstop. Firstly, it would explore "alternative arrangements" to the backstop, secondly, a time-limit to the backstop, and thirdly, a unilateral break clause. Brexit Secretary Stephen Barclay will lead on the first option, while Attorney-General Geoffrey Cox is looking at how to persuade the EU that the other two options are viable.

Building on the proposals for exploring alternative arrangements backed by Conservative MPs (the Malthouse compromise⁹), the Prime Minister has set up an "Alternative Arrangements Working Group", made up of Conservative MPs from the "leave" and "remain" camps. The group met for the first time on 4 February.

Statements by Tusk, Juncker and Varadkar, 6 February

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker and the Irish Prime Minister Leo Varadkar met on 6 February, and issued a joint [statement](#), reaffirming that the "Withdrawal Agreement is the best and only deal possible" and "is not open for renegotiation". Furthermore, they said:

The backstop is an integral part of the Withdrawal Agreement. While we hope the backstop will not need to be used, it is a necessary legal guarantee to protect peace and to ensure there will be no return to a hard border on the island of Ireland, while protecting the integrity of our Single Market and the Customs Union.

In their joint [press conference](#) Juncker said that he "cannot accept the idea, which is circulating around, that the withdrawal agreement could be re-opened" and that we "cannot re-open the discussion on the backstop". Juncker said this is the position of the EU27 and also of the Commission. Mr Juncker added:

So-called alternative arrangements can never replace the backstop. We need the backstop. We need the withdrawal agreement. And, when it comes to future relations, we can have a look into alternative arrangements. But they can never replace the backstop. There is no way to have unilateral jumping out of the

⁹ See House of Commons Library Insight, [The 'Malthouse Compromise': What is 'Plan C'?](#), 19 January 2019, which looks at the initiative in more detail.

backstop because the backstop is needed as a guarantee. A safety net is not a safety net if it can be destroyed by the unilateral action of one of the parties.

Mr Varadkar said:

I do have a concern about this idea around alternative arrangements. We need to bear in mind that this majority that did exist in the House of Commons for "alternative arrangements" probably only existed because "alternative arrangements" can mean whatever you want whatever you want them to mean. I don't believe that would have passed if people actually had to get into the detail of what alternatives might mean or might not mean.¹⁰

In a separate joint [press conference](#) with Mr Varadkar, President of the European Council Donald Tusk reiterated that the EU27 had decided at the December European Council that the Withdrawal Agreement was "not open for renegotiation", and said he looked forward to hearing from Prime Minister May "a realistic suggestion on how to end the impasse".

Mr Tusk said that the Irish border issue and the need to preserve the peace process remained the EU's "top priority". Mr Tusk said that the "EU is first and foremost a peace project", that it would "not gamble with peace or put a sell-by date on reconciliation" and this "is why we insist on the backstop."

Ahead of planned talks with Theresa May the next day, Mr Tusk said the Prime Minister needed to give the EU "a believable guarantee for peace in Northern Ireland" so that "the UK will leave the EU as a trusted friend".

He said that he hoped "the UK Government will present ideas that will both respect this point of view and at the same time command a stable and clear majority in the House of Commons".

Mr Tusk also commented: "I've been wondering what that special place in hell looks like, for those who promoted Brexit, without even a sketch of a plan how to carry it out safely".

Referring to those in the UK who wanted to reverse the decision to leave the EU, Mr Tusk said: "I have always been with you, with all my heart. But the facts are unmistakable. At the moment, the pro-Brexit stance of the UK Prime Minister, and the Leader of the Opposition, rules out this question".

Further UK-EU talks, 7 February

The Prime Minister held further talks with the President of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker and President of the European Council Donald Tusk on 7 February. The Times [reported](#) that Mrs May had suggested three options for changing the backstop: a time limit on

¹⁰ The Northern Ireland Affairs Select Committee concluded its report, [The land border between Northern Ireland and Ireland](#), in March 2018 that there were no visible "technical solutions, anywhere in the world, beyond the aspirational, that would remove the need for physical infrastructure at the border".

its operation (her preferred choice); alternative arrangements, including the use of technology to avoid a hard border in Ireland; and a unilateral exit clause.

Following their meeting, Mrs May and Mr Juncker issued a [joint statement](#) which said:

The prime minister described the context in the UK Parliament, and the motivation behind last week's vote in the House of Commons seeking a legally binding change to the terms of the backstop. She raised various options for dealing with these concerns in the context of the withdrawal agreement in line with her commitments to the Parliament.

President Juncker underlined that the EU27 will not reopen the withdrawal agreement, which represents a carefully balanced compromise between the European Union and the UK, in which both sides have made significant concessions to arrive at a deal. President Juncker however expressed his openness to add wording to the political declaration agreed by the EU27 and the UK in order to be more ambitious in terms of content and speed when it comes to the future relationship between the European Union and the UK. President Juncker drew attention to the fact that any solution would have to be agreed by the European parliament and the EU27.

The discussion was robust but constructive. Despite the challenges, the two leaders agreed that their teams should hold talks as to whether a way through can be found that would gain the broadest possible support in the UK parliament and respect the guidelines agreed by the European council. The prime minister and the president will meet again before the end of February to take stock of these discussions.

1.6 Discussion of Extension of Article 50

The Prime Minister has been clear that she intends to deliver on the 2016 referendum result in taking the UK out of the EU. She has also spoken [against](#) the possibility of extending Article 50 and [repeatedly](#) stated that the UK will leave the EU on 29 March 2019.

Following her meeting with European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker on 7 February, the Prime Minister [said](#):

I'm clear that I'm going to deliver Brexit, I'm going to deliver it on time, that's what I'm going to do for the British public. I'll be negotiating hard in the coming days to do just that.

During the debate on the Government motion on 29 January, Labour party leader Jeremy Corbyn 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.

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.

Section 13 of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 provides that the UK cannot legally ratify the WA until the Commons approves a resolution approving both the negotiated withdrawal agreement and the framework for the future relationship, and Parliament passes the envisaged European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill to implement the WA in domestic law.

A report by the Institute for Government¹¹ 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 142 of the 600 statutory instruments required to prepare the statute book for exit day had made their way through Parliament as of 11 February 2019 (although 401 had been laid). These are being laid primarily using powers in the EU (Withdrawal) Act 2018.¹²

Standing in for the Labour leader at Prime Minister's Questions on 6 February, Shadow Foreign Secretary Emily Thornberry [said](#) that the "sensible, cautious thing to do at this late stage is to seek a temporary extension of Article 50 so we have time to see if the negotiations succeed or, if they do not, to pursue a different plan."

A request by the UK to extend the Article 50 negotiating period would require unanimous agreement by the EU27 leaders in the European Council. The European Commission and Member State representatives have indicated that their response to such a request would depend on the reasons the extension was being requested, and that they would not favour an extension to re-open negotiations on the WA.¹³

¹¹ Institute for Government, [Brexit: two months to go](#), 31 January 2019.

¹² See the Hansard Society's Brexit Statutory Instruments [Dashboard](#). See also Joel Blackwell and Ruth Fox, [Legislating for Brexit: can the government get all the Statutory Instruments it needs through parliament by 29th March?](#), Prospect, 8 February 2019.

¹³ For further discussion of these options and possible complications see House of Commons Library Briefing Paper CBP8496, [Extending Article 50: Could Brexit be delayed?](#), 12 February 2019.

In an interview on the BBC Today [programme](#) on 13 February 2019, Brexit Secretary Stephen Barclay referred to recent talks in Brussels and Strasbourg and said:

What came over was actually that it is not in anyone's interests to have an extension without any clarity. It is actually very disruptive to the European parliament.

They have, obviously, elections for top jobs, they have a Commission that will be formed, the European Parliamentary elections at the end of May, so there is no desire on the European side to see what one described to me as an 'extension in darkness', where there is no clarity as to why we are extending.

Mr Barclay also spoke to [BBC Breakfast news](#) later in the morning, and stressed that an Article 50 extension would not be a unilateral UK decision:

It would require agreement from the Member States, all 27. One doesn't know what conditions would be attached to that if it were sought.

1.7 Labour party proposals and Government response

In a [letter](#) to the Prime Minister on 6 February, Labour party leader Jeremy Corbyn said that the Government would need to enshrine five changes to the Political Declaration in law to secure Labour support for a Withdrawal Agreement. These would include a permanent and comprehensive UK-wide customs union; close alignment with the EU Single Market, underpinned by shared institutions and obligations; and dynamic alignment on rights and protections.

In his meeting with Theresa May on 7 February, European Council President Donald Tusk [reportedly](#) told the Prime Minister that Mr Corbyn's plan offered a "promising way out" of the present Brexit impasse. However, the Prime Minister's [response](#) to Mr Corbyn on 10 February stressed the importance of the UK having an independent trade policy (thus ruling out a customs union) and rejected the idea of automatically following changes of EU rules on workers' rights or environmental protection. She said the Government would however be "prepared to commit to asking Parliament whether it wishes to follow suit whenever the EU changes its standards in these areas".

1.8 Government motions and debates scheduled for 14 February and 27 February

During the debate on 29 January, the Prime Minister said that a revised deal would be brought back to the House for a second meaningful vote "as soon as we possibly can". She said that if a revised deal was not brought back to the House by Wednesday 13 February, the Government would make a statement and, again, table an amendable motion for debate the next day. The Prime Minister made her statement on 12

February and the Government tabled a [motion](#) on the Prime Minister's statement to be debated on 14 February.

In her 12 February [statement](#), the Prime Minister referred to her talks the previous weeks with the President of the European Commission, and talks the previous day between the Brexit secretary and Mr Barnier where the ideas put forward by the Alternative Arrangements Working Group were discussed. She also referred to her forthcoming talks with other EU governments, and between the Government and Opposition, and the further talks planned with the President of the Commission.

Mrs May said:

The talks are at a crucial stage, and we now all need to hold our nerve to get the changes that this House requires and to deliver Brexit on time.

Mrs May said that the Government will make a further statement on 26 February and table an amendable motion relating to the statement to be debated and voted on the next day, if a majority in the House for a withdrawal agreement and a political declaration had not been secured by then.

Yvette Cooper presented a [revised version](#) of her Bill on 12 February 2019 with cross-party support. She [said](#) that if the Prime Minister had not secured Commons support for an agreement by 26 February, then a cross-party amendment would be tabled that week in order to make time for the Bill. The Bill has a new trigger date of 13 March, by which time if a withdrawal agreement has not been approved the Commons will vote either to agree a no-deal Brexit or to require the Prime Minister to seek an extension of Article 50.

2. 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.

[German think tank calls for EU to make Brexit concessions](#)

BBC News
14 February 2019

[We're not 'purist' about changing Brexit deal, says UK minister](#)

Politico
12 February 2019
Ian Geoghegan

[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

[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

3. Press releases

[Joint statement on behalf of the Prime Minister and President Juncker](#)

Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street
7 February 2019

Prime Minister May and President Juncker have met today to review the next steps in the UK's withdrawal from the EU.

The talks were held in a spirit of working together to achieve the UK's orderly withdrawal from the EU, especially in the context of a shared determination to achieve a strong partnership for the future given the global challenges the EU and the UK face together in upholding open and fair trade, cooperation in the fight against climate change and terrorism and defending the rules-based international system.

The Prime Minister described the context in the UK Parliament, and the motivation behind last week's vote in the House of Commons seeking a legally binding change to the terms of the backstop. She raised various options for dealing with these concerns in the context of the Withdrawal Agreement in line with her commitments to the Parliament.

President Juncker underlined that the EU27 will not reopen the Withdrawal Agreement, which represents a carefully balanced compromise between the European Union and the UK, in which both sides have made significant concessions to arrive at a deal. President Juncker however expressed his openness to add wording to the Political Declaration agreed by the EU27 and the UK in order to be more ambitious in terms of content and speed when it comes to the future relationship between the European Union and the UK. President Juncker drew attention to the fact that any solution would have to be agreed by the European Parliament and the EU27.

The discussion was robust but constructive. Despite the challenges, the two leaders agreed that their teams should hold talks as to whether a way through can be found that would gain the broadest possible support in the UK Parliament and respect the guidelines agreed by the European Council. The Prime Minister and the President will meet again before the end of February to take stock of these discussions.

[PM speech in Belfast: 5 February 2019](#)

Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street
5 February 2019

I'm pleased to be back in Belfast today, with under 8 weeks to go until the UK leaves the EU I recognise that this is a crucial time for Northern Ireland. And ensuring that the unique needs of this part of the UK are met has been one of my chief priorities ever since I became Prime Minister.

[...]

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.

4. PQs

[Brexit](#)

13 Feb 2019 | 217644

Asked by: Layla Moran

To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, what estimate he has made of the cost to the public purse of civil servants working full-time for two days on meetings related to a compromise plan for exiting the European Union.

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

Civil servants from across Whitehall are working on a variety of projects and policy areas to support the United Kingdom's exit from the European Union.

The Department does not hold information on the costs borne by other departments and therefore is unable to provide this information.

Further to this, it should be noted that the Department does not record expenditure on specific activities; it records expenditure on a functional basis. It is, therefore, not possible for the Department to attribute staff costs to specific projects or activities.

[European Union \(Withdrawal\) Bill 2017-19](#)

12 Feb 2019 | 218319

Asked by: Stephen Kinnock

To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, when his Department plans to publish the EU withdrawal agreement Bill.

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

As we have always said, we will introduce the Bill as soon as possible once the Withdrawal Agreement has been approved by Parliament.

It would be presumptive to introduce or publish the legislation implementing the Withdrawal Agreement before Parliament has approved the terms of the final deal.

The Government is committed to doing everything it can to ensure that Parliament has the opportunity to scrutinise the Bill in the time available.

[Borders: Northern Ireland](#)

11 Feb 2019 | 217576

Asked by: Bridget Phillipson

To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, what proposals for alternative arrangements for the Irish backstop are being considered.

Answering member: Stephen Barclay | Department for Exiting the European Union

The Political Declaration is clear that the UK and EU should work together and exchange information on facilitative arrangements and technologies. This sits alongside the UK and the EU's existing commitment to developing alternative arrangements to replace the backstop.

The Government plans to continue discussion with members from around the House in the coming days to finalise proposals with which to go back to the EU. While technology could play a part in this, and alternative arrangements are being looked at, these must be ones that can be made to work for the particular circumstances of Northern Ireland.

Borders: Northern Ireland

11 Feb 2019 | 217575

Asked by: Bridget Phillipson

To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, what estimate he has made of the amount of time that the Civil Service has spent on assessing the viability of alternative arrangements for the Irish border for when the UK leaves the EU.

Answering member: Stephen Barclay | Department for Exiting the European Union

There is no specific estimate of time which has been spent on assessing the viability of alternative arrangements for the Irish border to current Government policy. Since the beginning of the process, civil servants have been looking at options, and will continue to support ministers in the development of Government policy.

Brexit: Northern Ireland

11 Feb 2019 | 217573

Asked by: Bridget Phillipson

To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, how much money from the public purse has been spent on assessing the viability of alternative arrangements for the Irish border.

Answering member: Stephen Barclay | Department for Exiting the European Union

Consideration of policy options for the UK's orderly withdrawal from the European Union have been resourced from Departmental budgets and no figures are available as to the cost of consideration of specific options.

[Brexit](#)

08 Feb 2019 | 216980

Asked by: Chris Ruane

To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, how many ongoing workstreams there are throughout central Government on preparations for leaving the EU without a deal.

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

Delivering the deal negotiated with the EU remains the Government's top priority. However, the Government is accelerating no deal preparations to ensure the country is prepared for every eventuality, as this is the responsible thing to do. As part of this, we are monitoring over 300 projects being delivered by departments across Government.

[Brexit](#)

07 Feb 2019 | 215220

Asked by: Patrick Grady

To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, with reference to the oral contribution of the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs of 10 January 2019, Official Report, column 575, whether (a) he and (b) Cabinet colleagues have held meetings with representatives of parties or campaign organisations in other member states that advocate the withdrawal of their countries from the European Union.

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

The UK Government is committed to leaving the European Union with a deal. Government Ministers engage with European Union member states on a regular basis to discuss the Withdrawal Agreement and the UK's future relationship with the European Union.

[Brexit](#)

05 Feb 2019 | HL12976

Asked by: Lord Dykes

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they intend to seek an extension to Article 50; and if so, until what date.

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

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: Government Bills](#)

05 Feb 2019 | HL13055

Asked by: Lord Bassam of Brighton

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answers by Lord Callanan on 22 January (HL12635 and HL12636), how they will prioritise the remaining bills they consider need to be enacted before the UK leaves the EU on 29 March; and whether they will list them in that priority order.

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

The Government has undertaken extensive work to identify the primary legislation essential to deliver our exit from the EU in different scenarios. We are preparing for all potential outcomes and we are committed to legislate as needed to deliver our exit.

Much of this legislation is already in place, for example the Nuclear Safeguards Act and the Haulage Permits and Trailer Registration Act, and a number of important statutory instruments.

The remaining legislation will be prioritised appropriately to ensure the measures needed are in place before the UK leaves the EU. As is always the case, Ministers will need to explain to each House the priority which should be accorded to each Bill as it is considered.

[Borders: Northern Ireland](#)

05 Feb 2019 | HL13027

Asked by: Lord Rogan

To ask Her Majesty's Government what discussions have been held with the EU about the erection of physical infrastructure on the border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland in the event of a no-deal Brexit.

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

The UK Government is clear that, in the event of no deal, we will do everything in our power to prevent a return to a hard border. In such a scenario, we must continue to respect our unique relationship with Ireland, with whom we share a land border and who are co-signatories of the Belfast Agreement.

We recognise that we would need to take forward discussions with the Irish government and the European Commission in the event of a no deal on the best way to achieve this.

[Borders: Northern Ireland](#)

05 Feb 2019 | 215202

Asked by: Kate Hollern

To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, what steps are being taken to avoid a hard border in Ireland in the event that the Prime Minister's withdrawal agreement is rejected by Parliament.

Answering member: Robin Walker | Department for Exiting the European Union

The best way to guarantee no hard border remains delivering a deal with the EU. Both the UK and Ireland have said they will do everything in our power to avoid a hard border in any scenario. But, given that we haven't yet agreed a deal, the Government's continued duty is to prepare for every eventuality, including a no deal scenario.

The UK Government is clear that, in the event of no deal, we will do everything in our power to prevent a return to a hard border. In such a scenario, we must continue to respect our unique relationship with Ireland, with whom we share a land border and who are co-signatories of the Belfast Agreement. The UK Government is also firmly committed to maintaining the Common Travel Area (CTA) and to protecting the rights enjoyed by UK and Irish nationals when in each other's state, regardless of the terms of our withdrawal from the EU.

The Government has published a technical notice on travelling within the CTA, which can be found on gov.uk.

[Department for Exiting the European Union: Brexit](#)

05 Feb 2019 | 213879

Asked by: Tom Brake

To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, pursuant to the Answer of 16 January to Question 205793, Department for Exiting the European Union: Brexit, what his Department's total expenditure on public information programmes is to date.

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

The Department For Exiting the EU is tasked with successfully delivering the UK's exit from the European Union. A key element of this is providing the public with information on all possible scenarios, including leaving the EU without a deal. The paid-for element of the Government's 'Prepare for EU Exit' public information campaign, including advertising, is being led by the Cabinet Office.

[Borders: Northern Ireland](#)

04 Feb 2019 | HL13011

Asked by: Lord Bassam of Brighton

To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans, if any, they have to erect a hard border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland in the event of a no-deal Brexit; and what costs have been incurred so far in preparation for such an outcome.

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

Delivering a deal with the EU remains the best way to guarantee no hard border. The UK Government is clear that, in the event of no deal, we will do everything in our power to prevent a return to a hard border.

The Government recognises that in a no deal scenario it would need to engage constructively with Ireland and the Commission to find the best way to avoid a hard border.

In all scenarios the UK will be unwavering in its commitment to the Belfast Agreement and the people of Northern Ireland.

[Brexit: Northern Ireland](#)

04 Feb 2019 | 214578

Asked by: Jo Stevens

To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, with reference to the Withdrawal Agreement with the European Union, if he will place in the Library copies of his Departmental papers in relation to the viability of placing alternative arrangements at the border on the island of Ireland.

Answering member: Robin Walker | Department for Exiting the European Union

Parliament will of course need to ratify the agreement that the government reaches with the European Union. A majority of members of the House have said they would support a deal with changes to the backstop. As such, the Prime Minister will now take this mandate forward and seek to obtain legally binding changes to the Withdrawal Agreement that deal with concerns on the backstop while guaranteeing no return to a hard border between Northern Ireland and Ireland.

There are a number of ways that we could do this, and the Prime Minister will work constructively with MPs to see how we could take this forward.

[Brexit: Northern Ireland](#)

04 Feb 2019 | 214577

Asked by: Jo Stevens

To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, with reference to the Withdrawal Agreement with the European Union what (a) technologies and (b) methods are included in the term alternative arrangements in relation to the Northern Ireland backstop.

Answering member: Robin Walker | Department for Exiting the European Union

The Withdrawal Agreement sets out a commitment to “alternative arrangements” to avoid a hard border on the island of Ireland and the Political Declaration is clear that the UK and EU should work together and exchange information on facilitative arrangements and technologies. The Government plans to continue discussion with members from around the House in the coming days to finalise proposals with which to go back to the EU.

European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018

04 Feb 2019 | 214481

Asked by: Hilary Benn

To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, pursuant to his oral contribution of 29 January 2019, Official Report, column 755, on the EU (Withdrawal) Act 2018, which experts he proposes to consult on the technical points raised in the proposals of the hon. Member for North West Hampshire; and if he will make a statement on their response.

Answering member: Robin Walker | Department for Exiting the European Union

A number of members of the House have suggested ways to achieve alternative arrangements. This sits alongside the UK and the EU's existing commitment to developing alternative arrangements to replace the backstop. The Political Declaration is also clear that this includes looking at how facilitative arrangements and technologies can avoid a hard border. Such arrangements are also referenced in the text of the Withdrawal Agreement.

The Government plans to continue discussion with members from around the House in the coming days to finalise proposals to go back to the EU.

Department for Exiting the European Union: Brexit

31 Jan 2019 | 213435

Asked by: Anne-Marie Trevelyan

To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, what progress he has made in laying statutory instruments related to EU exit preparedness; and if he will make a statement.

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

The Government has made good progress in laying the up to 600 statutory instruments required by exit day to ensure a functioning statute book. As of 30 January, the Government has laid over 60 per cent of the exit statutory instruments required, and my department has laid 7 of these. All exit related statutory instruments are published on <http://www.legislation.gov.uk> and include 'EU Exit' in their title.

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 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 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 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 £1.5 billion 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 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 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.

5. Other Parliamentary material

5.1 Debates

[Leaving the European Union](#)

4 Feb 2019 | House of Commons | 654 cc1-28WH

[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

5.2 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.

5.3 Statements

[Leaving the EU](#)

12 Feb 2019 | 654 cc731-771

[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

6. 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

[No-deal Brexit and WTO: Article 24 explained](#)

4 February 2019

[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?](#)

28 January 2019

Library Briefing Papers

[What if there's no Brexit deal?](#)

Commons Briefing Paper CBP-8397
8 February 2018

[Brexit: Proposals for the future UK-EU relationship](#)

Commons Briefing Paper CBP-8483
25 January 2019

[EU assurances to the UK on Brexit](#)

Commons Briefing Paper CBP-8474
16 January 2019

[The Political Declaration on the Framework for Future EU-UK Relations](#)

Commons Briefing Paper CBP-8454
21 December 2018

[Could the Withdrawal Agreement be terminated under international law?](#)

Commons Briefing Paper CBP-8463
20 December 2018

[The UK's EU Withdrawal Agreement](#)

Commons Briefing Paper CBP-8453

4 December 2018

Committee inquiry

[The progress of the UK's negotiations on EU withdrawal inquiry](#)

Exiting the European Union Committee

Other

[Response to the vote on the Withdrawal Agreement and Political Declaration: Assessing the Options](#)

HC 1908

Exiting the European Union Committee

January 2019

[Response to the vote on the Withdrawal Agreement and Political Declaration: Options for Parliament](#)

HC 1902

Exiting the European Union Committee

January 2019

[Can Article 50 be extended?](#)

Institute for Government

January 2019

[The progress of the UK's negotiations on EU withdrawal - The Withdrawal Agreement and Political Declaration](#)

HC 1778

Exiting the European Union Committee

December 2018

[Options for deal or no deal](#)

Institute for Government

October 2018

[How to prepare if the UK leaves the EU with no deal](#)

Department for Exiting the European Union

Last updated October 2018

[No deal Brexit preparations](#)

Institute for Government

October 2018

[Cost of no deal revisited](#)

The UK in a Changing Europe

September 2018

[Exiting the European Union: Publications](#)

Department for Exiting the European Union

[Brexit](#) page on GOV.UK

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