

## EURIS update - week commencing 01.04.19

### Next EURIS Members Meeting

- **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 10.30am – 2.30pm** at the British Plastics Federation: [BPF House, 6 Bath Place, Rivington Street, London, EC2A 3JE](#)
- Please complete **the Doodle Poll link** to help set the date for the June/July EURIS meeting: <https://doodle.com/poll/8kbzzsgg4ywhv4sc>
- **Foreign Secretary article in the Washington Post**  
[Writing in the Washington Post](#) last week, the Foreign Secretary outlined that Britain will retain all the capabilities of a global power after Brexit.
- **Citizens' rights as part of the Withdrawal Agreement**  
Secretary of State Steve Barclay and European Chief Negotiator Michel Barnier have [exchanged letters](#) on ring-fencing the citizens' rights part of the Withdrawal Agreement whatever the outcome of negotiations.
- **Brexit Today**  
Today is set to see another round of indicative votes about how to proceed on Brexit in the House of Commons. At around 3.30pm (or later if there are any Urgent Questions or Statements), MPs have to approve the business motion to set the rules for the day. After a vote on that business motion, the debate on the Brexit motions will continue until 8pm, at which point there will be half an hour for MPs to use ballot papers issued to vote on whichever motions Speaker John Bercow decides to put to the vote.

**As of this morning, there are eight motions that have been tabled as follows:**

#### ***A) Unilateral right of exit from the backstop***

Proposed by John Baron and Conservative colleagues, this would allow the UK to leave the EU on 22nd May 2019 with the Withdrawal Agreement amended to allow the UK unilaterally to exit the Northern Ireland backstop.

(Not selected to be voted on last week)

#### ***B) No deal in the absence of a Withdrawal Agreement***

Also proposed by John Baron and Conservative colleagues, this calls for a no-deal Brexit on 12th April if no Withdrawal Agreement can be agreed by the Commons.

(Not selected to be voted on last week)

#### ***C) Customs union***

Proposed by Ken Clarke with support from some Labour backbenchers and a few Tory Remainers, this demands that any Brexit deal should include, as a minimum, a commitment to negotiate a "permanent and comprehensive UK-wide customs union with the EU".

(Rejected last week by 272 votes to 264)

#### ***D) "Common market 2.0"***

Proposed by a cross-party group led by Conservative Nick Boles and Labour's Stephen Kinnock with support from the SNP's Stewart Hosie, this proposes UK membership of the European Free Trade Association and European Economic Area, allowing continued participation in the Single Market and a "comprehensive customs arrangement" (including a UK say on future EU trade deals) with the EU after Brexit, which would remain in place until the agreement of a wider trade deal which guarantees frictionless movement of goods and an open border in Ireland.

(Rejected last week by 283 votes to 188)

#### ***E) Confirmatory public vote (a.k.a. second referendum)***

Proposed by Labour MPs Peter Kyle and Phil Wilson with support from numerous Labour backbenchers, some Tory Remainers, the Lib Dems, Independent Group, SNP and Plaid Cymru, this requires a public vote to confirm any Brexit deal passed by Parliament before its ratification.

(Rejected last week by 295 votes to 268)

***F) Public vote to prevent no deal***

Proposed by Labour's Graham Jones and Tory Remainder Dominic Grieve, this would require a referendum, if necessary, to prevent the UK leaving the EU without a deal.

***G) Parliamentary supremacy***

Proposed by the SNP's Joanna Cherry along with Dominic Grieve with support from numerous Labour backbenchers, the Lib Dems, Independent Group and Plaid Cymru, they plan to seek an extension to the Brexit process, and if this is not possible then Parliament would have to choose between either No Deal or revoking Article 50, followed by an inquiry to assess the future relationship likely to be acceptable to Brussels and have majority support in the UK.

***H) EFTA and EEA***

Proposed by former minister George Eustice, this would see the UK rejoining the European Free Trade Association at the "earliest opportunity", agreeing a short extension to the UK's membership of the EU to conclude accession to EFTA and negotiating with the EU additional protocols relating to the Northern Ireland border and agri-food trade.

(A similar, but not identical, motion was rejected last week by 377 voted to 65)

The results of the votes will be announced by the Speaker in the Commons chamber once they have been counted.

**Key Brexit Government links:**

- **HMRC [Partnership Pack](#)**: preparing for changes at the UK border after a no deal EU exit
- [Guidance for the electronics, machinery and parts sector and preparing for EU Exit](#) (with reference to EURIS)
- [Technical sector specific notices](#) on how to prepare if the UK leaves the EU with no deal
- **HMRC information on the [two grants businesses can apply for to help them complete customs declarations](#)**, in preparation for the UK leaving the EU.
- [HSE Government no deal guidance](#) – information on how information on how chemicals regimes will be affected.
- **Data law protection:** [Amendments to UK data protection law in the event the UK leaves the EU without a deal on 29 March 2019](#)
- [Government business readiness tool](#) to prepare businesses for the UK leaving the EU
- Government's [Prepare for EU Exit portal](#)
- [No-deal guidance](#) from the European Commission