



Delivering Sanitary and Phytosanitary Controls in uncertain times

Borders, what borders?

Robert J Huey
CVO for Northern Ireland

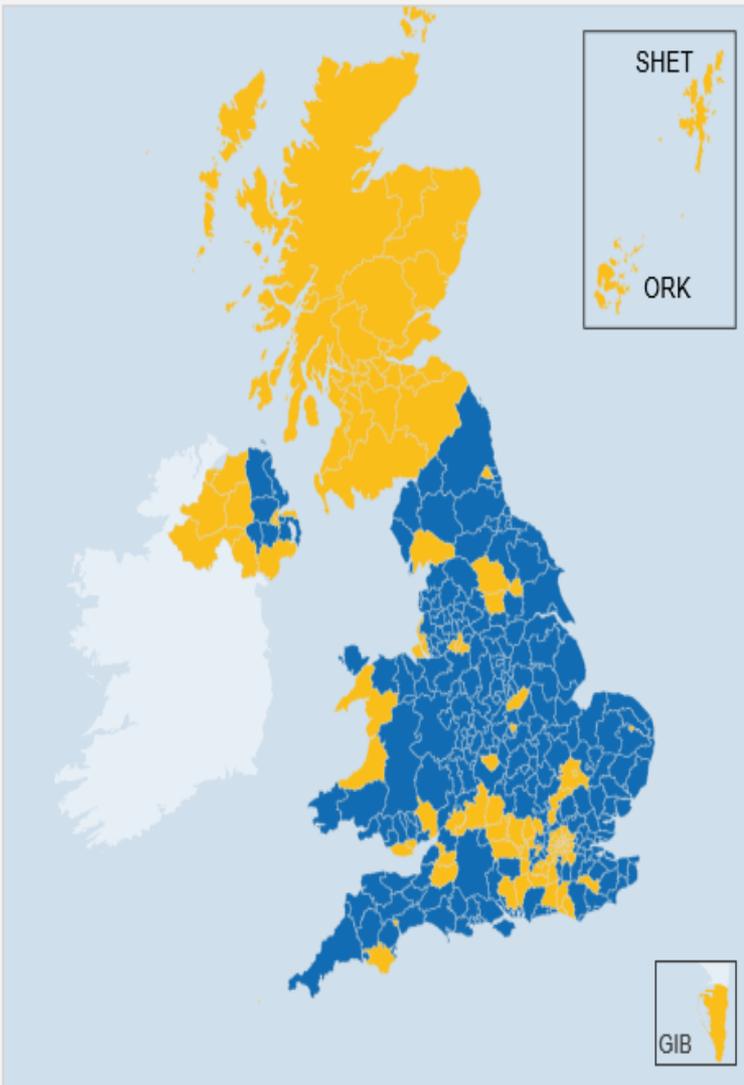
The timeline

- 23rd June 2016 – the referendum



Find local results

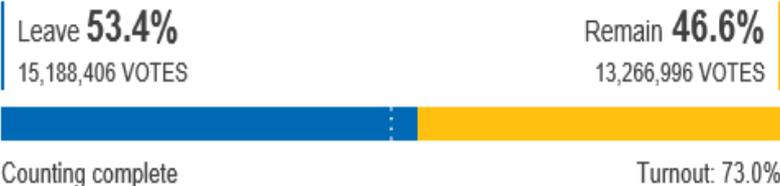
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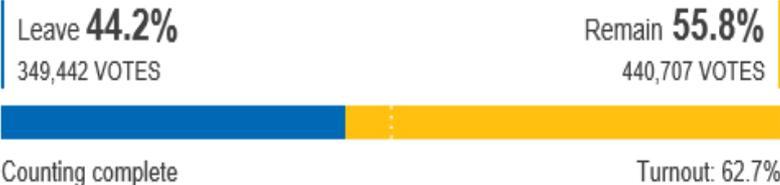
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Nation results

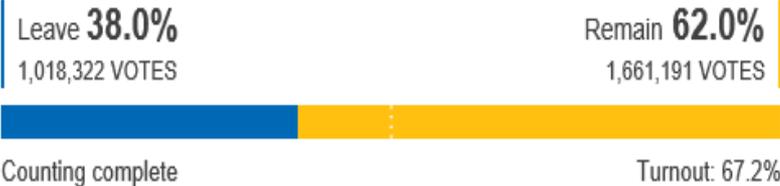
England



Northern Ireland



Scotland



Wales



Understanding agriculture in Northern Ireland



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

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Agri-food external sales – live animals

2017 (£m)	GB	ROI	ROW	External sales	Export sales
Cattle	10.8	9.1	4.9	24.8	14
Sheep	3.3	36.8	0.3	40.4	37.1
Pigs	3.5	2.0	-	5.5	2.0
Poultry/ Hatching Eggs	22.5	10.9	10.9	44.3	21.8
Total	40.1	58.8	16.1	115	74.9

Agri-food trade issues

- ❑ Over 25% of NI milk production is exported to ROI for processing, £116.7m in 2016
- ❑ Over 36% of pigs processed in NI are imported from ROI, £60.7m in 2017
- ❑ Nearly 45% of NI clean sheep are exported to ROI for processing, £36.8m in 2017

Agri-food sales – processed food and drink

2015 (£m)	NI	GB	ROI	Other EU	Rest of World	Total sales	External sales	Export sales
Animal By-Products	*	*	*	*	*	56.7	*	*
Bakeries	155.9	53.2	73.1	0.4	2.4	284.9	129.1	75.8
Beef & Sheepmeat	206.9	813.3	83.8	126.9	24.6	1,255.60	1,048.70	235.4
Drinks	170.4	41.8	135.2	11.4	18.3	377	206.6	164.8
Eggs	46.3	91	*	*	0	151.8	105.5	14.5
Fish	12.8	33.9	6.1	21.9	2.3	77	64.2	30.3
Fruit & Vegetables	108.1	153.3	50.3	1	0.8	313.5	205.4	52.1
Milk & Milk Products	259.9	262.9	102.9	220.7	56.9	903.3	643.5	380.5
Pigmeat	121.4	101.5	65.4	*	*	302.1	180.7	79.2
Poultrymeat	*	*	89.7	*	*	700.9	*	*
Total	1,147.3	2,098.4	624.8	415.5	136.9	4,422.9	3,275.5	1,117.1

* Information suppressed to avoid disclosure

Main export markets – food & drink processing

- ❑ GB is the main market for the NI food and drink processing sector, accounting for 47 per cent of total sales in 2015 (£2,098m).
- ❑ ROI is the next single largest external market, accounting for 14 per cent of total sales in 2015 (£625m).
- ❑ The food and drinks sector accounted for 21% of Northern Ireland's total manufacturing export sales in 2015.

Growth markets

- ❑ The NI food and drinks processing sector grew by 74 per cent between 2005 and 2015, from £2.5bn to £4.4bn. In real terms a 42 per cent increase.
- ❑ This growth was fuelled by a two-fold increase in sales to GB, from £1.0bn in 2005 to £2.1bn in 2015.
- ❑ Export sales grew by 96%, from £600m in 2005 to £1,177m in 2015.

Trade in Meat and Dairy products to Non-EU

- ❑ Using EHC data, it indicated that NI firms sold 48 different meat and dairy products to 93 non-EU countries in 2015.
- ❑ For 63 (of the 93) countries the trade is on WTO MFN basis. This was an estimated £140m, or 77 per cent of total non-EU trade in meat and dairy products.
- ❑ For the remaining 30 countries, the trade takes place under EU FTAs. In the case of 16 of these countries, the EU tariffs that apply to the trade are the same rate as WTO MFN rules.

Trade in Meat and Dairy products to Non-EU

- ❑ Therefore of the 93 countries, it is trade with 14 that would be subject to higher tariffs as a result of losing access to current EU FTAs.
- ❑ 13,335 tonnes of the 106,914 tonnes of NI meat and dairy product certified for export to non-EU countries in 2015 would face a tariff increase. This trade is was worth an estimated £21.9m.
- ❑ The cost of the extra tariff imposed is estimated to be between £2.32m to £2.37m.
- ❑ Dairy products would be most impacted, some pigmeat and poultry exports would also be affected. Beef and sheepmeat would be unaffected.

Migrant labour use in the processing sector

- ❑ Over 40 per cent of the workforce in the NI food and drinks processing are other EU workers (non-UK and non-ROI).
- ❑ Largest use of other EU migrant labour is in subsectors: Piguemeat (51%), Fruit & Vegetables (51%), Beef & Sheepmeat (48%) and Poultry (46%)
- ❑ Under 4% of workers are non-EU.
- ❑ Seasonal workers are 5% of the total workforce in the food and drinks processing sector. An estimated 75% are other EU workers and 7% non-EU.

UK Internal Market

- ❑ GB is the most important market for the NI Agri-food trade
- ❑ NI and Ireland are more than self sufficient in the main agricultural products of beef, sheep and milk
- ❑ Need to maintain unfettered access to GB market
- ❑ Need to ensure the operation of the UK Internal Market consistent with the principles of devolution

Understanding the border



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Brexit Flashpoint: The Irish Border

Key facts about the border in Ireland



Length of border

499 km (310 mi)



Number of crossing points on the EU's Eastern border

137

Number of crossing points on the Irish border

275

Number open during the Troubles

20

Crossings per month

Trucks
177,000



Vans
208,000



Cars
1.85m



Annual trade

Manufactured goods north to south €1.83bn ↙

Manufactured goods south to north €1.57bn ↗

AGREEMENT

BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF

THE UNITED KINGDOM OF

GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

AND

THE GOVERNMENT

OF IRELAND

The British and Irish Governments:

Welcoming the strong commitment to the Agreement reached on 10th April 1998 by themselves and other participants in the multi-party talks and set out in Annex 1 to this Agreement (hereinafter "the Multi-Party Agreement");

Considering that the Multi-Party Agreement offers an opportunity for a new beginning in relationships within Northern Ireland, within the island of Ireland and between the peoples of these islands;

Wishing to develop still further the unique relationship between their peoples and the close co-operation between their countries as friendly neighbours and as partners in the European Union;

Reaffirming their total commitment to the principles of democracy and non-violence which have been fundamental to the multi-party talks;

Reaffirming their commitment to the principles of partnership, equality and mutual respect and to the protection of civil, political, social, economic and cultural rights in their respective jurisdictions;

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

I. TEXT OF ARTICLE XX AND INTERPRETATIVE NOTE AD ARTICLE XX

Article XX

General Exceptions

Subject to the requirement that such measures are not applied in a manner which would constitute a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination between countries where the same conditions prevail, or a disguised restriction on international trade, nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to prevent the adoption or enforcement by any contracting party of measures:

- (a) necessary to protect public morals;
- (b) necessary to protect human, animal or plant life or health;
- (c) relating to the importations or exportations of gold or silver;
- (d) necessary to secure compliance with laws or regulations which are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Agreement, including those relating to customs enforcement, the enforcement of monopolies operated under paragraph 4 of Article II and Article XVII, the protection of patents, trade marks and copyrights, and the prevention of deceptive practices;
- (e) relating to the products of prison labour;
- (f) imposed for the protection of national treasures of artistic, historic or archaeological value;
- (g) relating to the conservation of exhaustible natural resources if such measures are made effective in conjunction with restrictions on domestic production or consumption;
- (h) undertaken in pursuance of obligations under any intergovernmental commodity agreement which conforms to criteria submitted to the CONTRACTING PARTIES and not disapproved by them or which is itself so submitted and not so disapproved;*
- (i) involving restrictions on exports of domestic materials necessary to ensure essential quantities of such materials to a domestic processing industry during periods when the domestic price of such materials is held below the world price as part of a governmental stabilization plan; *Provided* that such restrictions shall not operate to increase the exports of or the protection afforded to such domestic industry, and shall not depart from the provisions of this Agreement relating to non-discrimination;
- (j) essential to the acquisition or distribution of products in general or local short supply; *Provided* that any such measures shall be consistent with the principle that all contracting parties are entitled to an equitable share of the international supply of such products, and that any such measures, which are inconsistent with the other provisions of the Agreement shall be discontinued as soon as the conditions giving rise to them have ceased to exist. The CONTRACTING PARTIES shall review the need for this sub-paragraph not later than 30 June 1960.

Interpretative Note *Ad* Article XX from Annex I*Sub-paragraph (h)*

The exception provided for in this sub-paragraph extends to any commodity agreement which conforms to the principles approved by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 30 (IV) of 28 March 1947.

GATT General exceptions

Subject to the requirement that such measures are not applied in a manner which constitute an arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination between countries where the same conditions pertain, or a disguised restriction on international trade, nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to prevent the adoption or enforcement by any contracting party of measures:

- a)
- b) necessary to protect human, animal or plant life or health
- c)

Sanitary and phytosanitary agreement (SPS)

- Emerged from the Uruguay round of the General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade – entered into force 1995
- Aims at the protection of human, animal or plant health from certain risks.
- Standards set by Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex), World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)
- Closely related to the Agreement of Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), attempts to avoid discrimination

EU SPS

- Regulation 882/2004, soon to be replaced by 625/2017
- Requires Multi Annual National Control Plan
- Import checks to be carried out at Border Inspection Points located in the immediate vicinity of the point of entry
- Checks at a risk based frequency, no agreement means 100% physical checks

The timeline

- 23rd June 2016 – the referendum
- 2nd October 2016, PM May 2016 announced that she would trigger article 50 before the end of March 2017



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Article 50

1. Any Member State may decide to withdraw from the Union in accordance with its own constitutional requirements.  
2. A Member State which decides to withdraw shall notify the European Council of its intention. In the light of the guidelines provided by the European Council, the Union shall negotiate and conclude an agreement with that State, setting out the arrangements for its withdrawal, taking account of the framework for its future relationship with the Union. That agreement shall be negotiated in accordance with Article 218(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. It shall be concluded on behalf of the Union by the Council, acting by a qualified majority, after obtaining the consent of the European Parliament.
3. The Treaties shall cease to apply to the State in question from the date of entry into force of the withdrawal agreement or, failing that, two years after the notification referred to in paragraph 2, unless the European Council, in agreement with the Member State concerned, unanimously decides to extend this period.
4. For the purposes of paragraphs 2 and 3, the member of the European Council or of the Council representing the withdrawing Member State shall not participate in the discussions of the European Council or Council or in decisions concerning it.

A qualified majority shall be defined in accordance with Article 238(3)(b) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.
5. If a State which has withdrawn from the Union asks to rejoin, its request shall be subject to the procedure referred to in Article 49.

The timeline

- 23rd June 2016 – the referendum
- 2nd October 2016, PM May 2016 announced that she would trigger article 50 before the end of March 2017
- General election 8th June 2017, PM May lost her majority in parliament

The Negotiation



Phase 1:

- protecting the rights of Union citizens in the UK and UK citizens in the Union;
- the framework for addressing the unique circumstances in Northern Ireland; and
- the financial settlement

Deadline October 2017

Northern Ireland position paper published on the 16th August 2017



HM Government

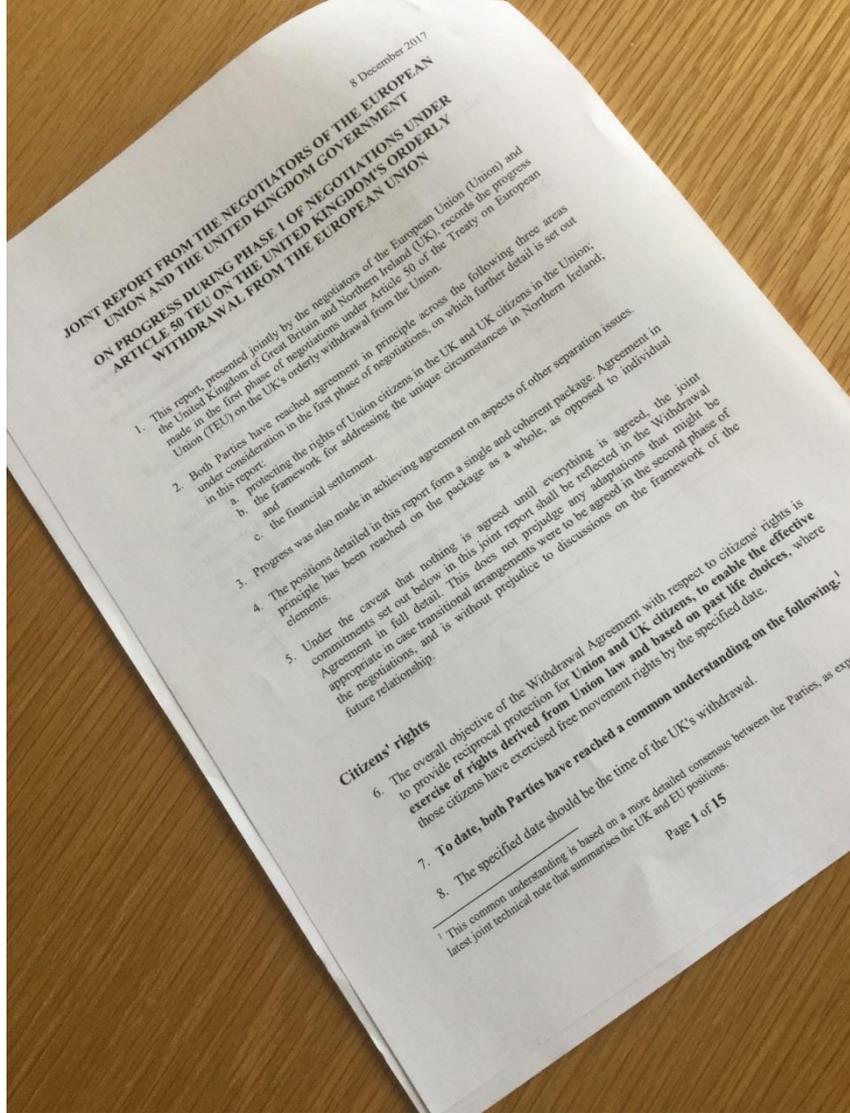
Northern Ireland and Ireland

POSITION PAPER

73. The structures of the SEM include arrangements for generators to contract with a Single Electricity Market Operator (SEMO), which is overseen by the Single Electricity Market Committee, and the UK believes this should continue following UK exit from the EU. Negotiations with the EU will need to cover how best to avoid market distortions within a single electricity market following UK exit, and ensure that future legal and operational frameworks do not undermine the effective operation of an integrated market. Agreeing the principles set out above will be without prejudice to the wider UK-EU energy relationship, though the UK and EU will clearly need to consider the linkages with supporting efficient trading over the inter-connectors between the Single Electricity Market and Great Britain. The nature of this issue and its link to the wider UK-EU relationship provide another example of the importance of moving swiftly to negotiations on our future relationship.

Next steps on the Northern Ireland and Ireland dialogue

74. The UK proposes that it should work intensively with the EU over the coming months to address the issues set out in this paper. Our view is that the UK and the EU start this process with complete alignment on our high level objectives and our strong support for the peace process in Northern Ireland.
75. The themes set out in this paper will require focused engagement throughout the course of the UK's exit negotiations and not simply in the initial phases of discussions. Given the strong links to the future relationship it would not make sense to seek to use October as a cut-off point for work on the unique issues relating to Northern Ireland and Ireland. Nonetheless, the UK supports making as much progress as we can on these issues in the coming months and believes that the UK and EU could aim by October to have:
- agreed that the Common Travel Area and associated rights should be preserved and acknowledged in the Withdrawal Agreement;
 - reached agreement on the scope of the issues arising from the Belfast ('Good Friday') Agreement, and specifically agreed to affirm our continued support for the Agreement, upholding the identity and citizenship rights of the people of Northern Ireland, and considered the key principles for the continuation of the PEACE IV programme and a potential future PEACE programme;
 - considered, and if possible, agreed to the principle of a time-limited interim period linked to the speed at which the implementation of new arrangements could take place, including considerations relating to the unique circumstances of Northern Ireland and Ireland, as set out in *Future Customs Arrangements: a future partnership paper*;
 - considered the key principles and criteria for avoiding a hard border for the movement of goods; and
 - discussed the preservation of the North-South and East-West cooperation envisaged in the Belfast ('Good Friday') Agreement, and if possible agreed specifically on key principles for the energy market in Northern Ireland and Ireland.



8th December 2017

Joint Report of the
outcome of the
negotiation



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

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governance, other separation issues or any possible transitional arrangements, nor discussions on the future relationship.

Ireland and Northern Ireland

42. Both Parties affirm that the achievements, benefits and commitments of the peace process will remain of paramount importance to peace, stability and reconciliation. They agree that the Good Friday or Belfast Agreement reached on 10 April 1998 by the United Kingdom Government, the Irish Government and the other participants in the multi-party negotiations (the '1998 Agreement') must be protected in all its parts, and that this extends to the practical application of the 1998 Agreement on the island of Ireland and to the totality of the relationships set out in the Agreement.

43. The United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union presents a significant and unique challenge in relation to the island of Ireland. The United Kingdom recalls its commitment to protecting the operation of the 1998 Agreement, including its subsequent implementation agreements and arrangements, and to the effective operation of each of the institutions and bodies established under them. The United Kingdom also recalls its commitment to the avoidance of a hard border, including any physical infrastructure or related checks and controls.

44. Both Parties recognise the need to respect the provisions of the 1998 Agreement regarding the constitutional status of Northern Ireland and the principle of consent. The commitments set out in this joint report are and must remain fully consistent with these provisions. The United Kingdom continues to respect and support fully Northern Ireland's position as an integral part of the United Kingdom, consistent with the principle of consent.

45. The United Kingdom respects Ireland's ongoing membership of the European Union and all of the corresponding rights and obligations that entails, in particular Ireland's place in the Internal Market and the Customs Union. The United Kingdom also recalls its commitment to preserving the integrity of its internal market and Northern Ireland's place within it, as the United Kingdom leaves the European Union's Internal Market and Customs Union.

46. The commitments and principles outlined in this joint report will not pre-determine the outcome of wider discussions on the future relationship between the European Union and the United Kingdom and are, as necessary, specific to the unique circumstances on the island of Ireland. They are made and must be upheld in all circumstances, irrespective of the nature of any future agreement between the European Union and the United Kingdom.

47. Cooperation between Ireland and Northern Ireland is a central part of the 1998 Agreement and is essential for achieving reconciliation and the normalisation of relationships on the island of Ireland. In this regard, both Parties recall the roles, functions and safeguards of the Northern Ireland Executive, the Northern Ireland Assembly, and the North-South Ministerial Council (including its cross-community provisions) as set out in the 1998 Agreement. The two Parties have carried out a

mapping exercise, which shows that North-South cooperation relies to a significant extent on a common European Union legal and policy framework. Therefore, the United Kingdom's departure from the European Union gives rise to substantial challenges to the maintenance and development of North-South cooperation.

48. The United Kingdom remains committed to protecting and supporting continued North-South and East-West cooperation across the full range of political, economic, security, societal and agricultural contexts and frameworks of cooperation, including the continued operation of the North-South implementation bodies.

49. The United Kingdom remains committed to protecting North-South cooperation and to its guarantee of avoiding a hard border. Any future arrangements must be compatible with these overarching requirements. The United Kingdom's intention is to achieve these objectives through the overall EU-UK relationship. Should this not be possible, the United Kingdom will propose specific solutions to address the unique circumstances of the island of Ireland. In the absence of agreed solutions, the United Kingdom will maintain full alignment with those rules of the Internal Market and the Customs Union which, now or in the future, support North-South cooperation, the island economy and the protection of the 1998 Agreement.

50. In the absence of agreed solutions, as set out in the previous paragraph, the United Kingdom will ensure that no new regulatory barriers develop between Northern Ireland and the rest of the United Kingdom, unless, consistent with the Agreement, the Northern Ireland Executive and Assembly agree that arrangements are appropriate for Northern Ireland. In all circumstances, the United Kingdom will continue to ensure the same unfettered access for Northern businesses to the whole of the United Kingdom internal market.

51. Both Parties will establish mechanisms to ensure the implementation of any specific arrangement to safeguard the integrity of the EU Internal Market and Customs Union.

52. Both Parties acknowledge that the 1998 Agreement recognises the rights of Northern Ireland to choose to be Irish or British citizens, and that people of Northern Ireland who are Irish citizens are entitled to the rights and opportunities of Irish citizens. The people of Northern Ireland who are British citizens are entitled to the rights and opportunities of British citizens. Both Parties therefore agree that the Withdrawal Agreement should provide for the rights, opportunities and identity of people of Northern Ireland to be preserved, and that the Withdrawal Agreement should provide for such people and, in the next phase of negotiations, arrangements required to give effect to the ongoing implementation of EU rights, opportunities and benefits.

53. The 1998 Agreement also includes important provisions relating to the Equality of Opportunity for which EU law provides a framework in Northern Ireland and across the rest of the European Union, including in the area of employment. The United Kingdom is committed to ensuring that no diminution of the rights and opportunities enshrined in EU law. The United Kingdom will ensure that the institutions and bodies, established under the 1998 Agreement, maintain rights and equality standards.

48. The United Kingdom remains committed to protecting and supporting continued North-South and East-West cooperation across the full range of political, economic, security, societal and agricultural contexts and frameworks of cooperation, including the continued operation of the North-South implementation bodies.
49. The United Kingdom remains committed to protecting North-South cooperation and to its guarantee of avoiding a hard border. Any future arrangements must be compatible with these overarching requirements. The United Kingdom's intention is to achieve these objectives through the overall EU-UK relationship. Should this not be possible, the United Kingdom will propose specific solutions to address the unique circumstances of the island of Ireland. In the absence of agreed solutions, the United Kingdom will maintain full alignment with those rules of the Internal Market and the Customs Union which, now or in the future, support North-South cooperation, the all-island economy and the protection of the 1998 Agreement.
50. In the absence of agreed solutions, as set out in the previous paragraph, the United Kingdom will ensure that no new regulatory barriers develop between Northern Ireland and the rest of the United Kingdom, unless, consistent with the 1998 Agreement, the Northern Ireland Executive and Assembly agree that distinct arrangements are appropriate for Northern Ireland. In all circumstances, the United Kingdom will continue to ensure the same unfettered access for Northern Ireland's businesses to the whole of the United Kingdom internal market.
51. Both Parties will establish mechanisms to ensure the implementation and oversight of any specific arrangement to safeguard the integrity of the EU Internal Market and the Customs Union.
52. Both Parties acknowledge that the 1998 Agreement recognises the historic right of all

The three options of December agreement

- A. Full comprehensive trade agreement which negates any need for either customs or SPS checks
- B. A solution proposed by the UK which negates the need for any customs or SPS checks
- C. If neither of the above work out, the UK will maintain full regulatory alignment

The border conundrum



- The UK is leaving the Customs Union and the Single market
- The EU, Ireland, London and Belfast all want a frictionless border with no hard infrastructure
- EU law requires Border Inspection posts for SPS checks in the immediate vicinity of the border
- Current arrangements for movement of goods from NI to Great Britain must not be compromised

The timeline

- 23rd June 2016 – the referendum
- 2nd October 2016, PM May 2016 announced that she would trigger article 50 before the end of March 2017
- General election 8th June 2017, PM May lost her majority in parliament
- Withdrawal agreement concluded 25th November 2018, rejected by the Westminster Parliament, 15th January 2019 (432/202), 12th March 2019 (391/242) and 29th March 2019 (344/286)

The legal text of the withdrawal agreement – 28th February 2018

28 February 2018

TF50 (2018) 33 – Commission to EU 27

Subject:

European Commission Draft Withdrawal Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community.

Origin:

European Commission, Task Force for the Preparation and Conduct of the Negotiations with the United Kingdom under Article 50 TEU.

Objective:

To be presented by Michel Barnier, Chief Negotiator to the CRP Art.50 and to the EP Brexit Steering Group on 28 February 2018. To be published on the TF50 website on 28 February 2018.

Remarks:

This Draft Withdrawal Agreement

58

PROTOCOLS

Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland

The Union and the United Kingdom,

HAVING REGARD to the historic ties and enduring nature of the bilateral relationship between Ireland and the United Kingdom;

RECALLING that the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the Union presents a significant and unique challenge to the island of Ireland, and reaffirming that the achievements, benefits and commitments of the peace process will remain of paramount importance to peace, stability and reconciliation there;

RECOGNISING that it is necessary to address the unique circumstances on the island of Ireland in order to ensure the orderly withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the Union;

AFFIRMING that the Good Friday or Belfast Agreement of 10 April 1998 between the Government of the United Kingdom, the Government of Ireland and the other participants in the multi-party negotiations (the "1998 Agreement"), which is annexed to the British-Irish Agreement of the same date (the "British-Irish Agreement"), including its subsequent implementation agreements and arrangements, should be protected in all its parts;

RECALLING the commitment of the United Kingdom to protect North-South cooperation and its guarantee of avoiding a hard border, including any physical infrastructure or related checks and controls, and bearing in mind that any future arrangements must be compatible with these

- Common Travel Area*
1. The United Kingdom and Ireland may continue to make arrangements between themselves relating to the movement of persons between their territories (the "Common Travel Area"), while fully respecting the rights of natural persons conferred by Union law.
 2. The United Kingdom shall ensure that the Common Travel Area and associated rights and privileges can continue to operate without affecting the obligations of Ireland under Union law, in particular with respect to free movement for Union citizens and their family members, irrespective of their nationality, to, from and within Ireland.

Chapter III Common regulatory area

Article 3

Establishment of a common regulatory area

A common regulatory area comprising the Union and the United Kingdom in respect of Northern Ireland is hereby established. The common regulatory area shall constitute an area without internal borders in which the free movement of goods is ensured and North-South cooperation protected in accordance with this Chapter.

Article 4

Free movement of goods

1. The provisions of Union law on goods listed in Annex 2.1 to this Protocol shall apply to and in the United Kingdom in respect of Northern Ireland.

As fixed in point (2) of Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 952/2013 of the

9th February 2018

First meeting of the second phase

In particular, the EU and UK focused on three issues:

- transition period
- Ireland, especially on solutions to avoid a hard border
- governance of the withdrawal agreement

Phase 2

UK wants to talk about

- Transition: how long?
- and a comprehensive trade deal

The timeline

- 23rd June 2016 – the referendum
- 2nd October 2016, PM May 2016 announced that she would trigger article 50 before the end of March 2017
- General election 8th June 2017, PM May lost her majority in parliament
- Withdrawal agreement concluded 25th November 2018, rejected by the Westminster Parliament, 15th January 2019 (432/202), 12th March 2019 (391/242) and 29th March 2019 (344/286)
- Extension to 12th April 2019 and then 31st October 2019
- Mr Johnson becomes PM on 24th July 2019

The border conundrum



- The UK is leaving the Customs Union and the Single market
- The EU, Ireland, London and Belfast all want a frictionless border with no hard infrastructure
- EU law requires Border Inspection posts for SPS checks in the immediate vicinity of the border
- Current arrangements for movement of goods from NI to Great Britain must not be compromised

Numbers of export health certificates required

Category/Sector	Weekly total	Annual Total
Retail - Composite Products	30,275	1,574,300
Fish	2,348	122,122
Live Animals	84	4,368
Horses	769	40,000
POAO (inc dairy)	3,695	192140
ABP	237	12,324
TOTAL	37,409	1, 945,254



Smart Border

Co-ordinated
Border
Management
Schemes

Trusted Trader

Trusted traveller

Clearance
away from
border

Release
before
clearance

Deferred duty
payments

Automatic
number plate
recognition

Drivers
licence
barcode
scanning

Smartphone
apps



Statement by the European Commission following today's meeting between Michel Barnier, the European Commission's Chief Negotiator, and Steve Barclay, the UK Secretary of State for Exiting the EU.

Brussels, 20 September 2019

Michel Barnier met Steve Barclay in Brussels today where they had a discussion on the state of play of the ongoing Brexit talks, both in relation to the backstop to avoid a hard border on the island of Ireland and the Political Declaration on the Future Relationship.

Michel Barnier and Steve Barclay agreed that technical talks will continue. These talks deal with a first set of concepts, principles and ideas that the United Kingdom has put forward in talks with TF50.

It is essential that there is a fully workable and legally operational solution included in the Withdrawal Agreement. We remain willing and open to examine any such proposals that meet all the objectives of the backstop.

Michel Barnier and his team will keep the European Parliament and the Council informed.

Where now?

European Council, 17th October 2019



Another extension?

A deal and transition period?

No deal, uncertainty

The veterinary professional role

- Great increase in understanding within government of the role of government veterinarians
- The veterinary profession are perceived as playing a key role in any solution
- Circumstances have emphasised the important role played by the profession in enabling trade, commercial viability of the agri-food industry