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# Brexit in 15 Minutes

NESAAG, 19 September 2018



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## **Present Timetable**

### Final steps to Brexit

November 2018	Draft Withdrawal Agreement
Nov 18 – Mar 19	Legislative approval by: UK Parliament European Parliament EU Member States
30 March 2019	Transition period begins
31 December 2020	Transition period ends



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# **Withdrawal Agreement**

## **Draft as of June 2018**

Operational agreement on:

- Citizen's Rights
- Goods placed on the market

Policy agreement on

- Border in Ireland
- State aid

No agreement on

- Judicial and administrative procedures
- Police & judicial co-operation
- Geographical indications



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## **UK Government Position**

### **‘Chequers’ agreement**

- Common rulebook for all goods including agri-food
- Regulatory flexibility for services
- Common state aid rules
- Maintain high regulatory standards for the environment, climate change, social, employment and consumer protection
- Joint institutional framework between EU and UK
- Facilitated customs agreement
- Leave CAP and CFP
- Independent trade policy
- End free movement



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## European Commission Position

### Mandate from Member States

- As close as possible a partnership with the UK in the future
- Customs Union/Single Market option
- Need to maintain integrity of Single Market
- No terms more advantageous than being a Member State
- Four freedoms are indivisible
- EU to retain autonomy in decision making
- Free trade agreement
- Backstop proposal for Irish border



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## **Main Differences**

### **Barriers to an agreement**

- Role of EU institutions, especially Court of Justice vs UK Parliament sovereignty
- Separate rules for goods and services
- Customs arrangements
- Irish border



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## **‘No Deal’ Scenario Implications**

- Legal uncertainty for citizens and businesses
- Logistics and supply chains
- Destabilising effect
- Rapid change to economic model
- Potentially extension to status quo
- Contingency planning



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## Post-Brexit Funding

### UK Domestic Funds

- UK treasury guaranteed funding up until end 2020
- Some programmes (e.g. LEADER) in Scotland due to end earlier
- Single farm payments guaranteed up until 2022, followed by 'transition period'
- UK/Scottish Government powers unclear
- Budget unclear
- 'Shared Prosperity Fund'





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## **Post-Brexit Trade**

### Potential changes

- Customs partnership
- Likely to be increased paperwork
- Possibility of new trade arrangements outside EU
- Alignment with EU rules limits scope
- Unclear if existing arrangements available through EU will continue
- Possible localization or internationalization



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## Conclusions

- Both sides want a deal
- Politics vs. pragmatism
- Sovereignty vs. trade opportunities
- Uncertainty to continue for some time
- Contingency planning prudent



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# Thank you

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