

Date	Action
Current and on-going	UK Government engagement in process of reviewing UK's trading position, e.g. within WTO to ensure UK has in place appropriate commitments in schedules of concessions; on FTAs with countries with whom EU has FTAs; and on FTAs with countries with whom EU does not currently have FTAs.
29 Mar 2017	Article 50 notification to European Council by UK Government of intention to withdraw from the EU.
Mar – Apr 2017	EU27 discuss guidelines on handling UK's withdrawal.
Mar 2017	Great Repeal Bill [White Paper].
Apr – Dec 2017	EU27 want early part of the negotiation to focus on settling claimed outstanding bills and pension liabilities and not future relations [somewhere between €5bn – 60bn]. But, Article 50(2) requires that "framework for its future relationship with the Union" be taken into account.
23 Apr 2017	First round of French Presidential Election.
29 Apr 2017	EU27 due to endorse formal guidelines specifying priorities for the EU27.
May – Jun 2017	EU27 agrees negotiating directives, formally nominating the Commission as lead negotiator, developing confidential directives giving the EU Commission a detailed mandate (to be approved by the EU27).
7 May 2017	Final round of French Presidential Election.
May 2017	Queen's Speech [which will introduce Great Repeal Bill into legislative programme].
End of May/ early Jun	Formal face-to face talks between UK and EU Commission diplomats.
24 Sep 2017	German Federal Election.
December 2017	'Divorce' talks on terms of the UK's exit expected to conclude, and detailed discussions about future relations re trade to commence.
Jan-Dec 2018	<p>UK Government has indicated a desire to be a close friend and partner to the EU27. Key issues will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shape of any trade agreement between UK and EU27 • Acquired rights of EU and UK nationals • EU/CJEU institutional jurisdiction • Pan-EU regulatory issues (aviation, energy, transport, financial services, data protection, life sciences)
March 2018	'Soft' UK deadline for agreeing transitional deal (in order to give companies time to protect their interests)

Date	Action
Oct 2018	EU Commission wants talks to be concluded by this date in order to allow both sides time to ratify the deal.
Oct 2018 - Mar 2019	Process of ratifying the agreement.
Jan - Mar 2019	If transitional arrangements are to be put in place, they are unlikely to be agreed until near the end of the Article 50 negotiation period.
29 Mar 2019	Last date for UK to exit EU (unless period is extended by unanimous decision of the European Council and the UK).
May 2019	European Parliamentary elections: may make it hard to extend the Article 50 deadline without complex consideration of whether UK would/could elect candidates.

Want to know more?



John Cassels
Partner - London

E: john.cassels@fieldfisher.com
T: +44 (0)20 7861 4948
M: +44 7917 040576