

EU Info (Brexit)

https://ec.europa.eu/info/index_en

https://ec.europa.eu/info/brexit-preparedness/brexit-notice-explanation_en

“The European Council (Art. 50) welcomed the agreement reached on parts of the legal text and called for intensified efforts to make progress on the remaining withdrawal issues. The European Council (Art. 50) further stated that nothing was agreed until everything is agreed. This means that a transition period until 31 December 2020 may be agreed, but this is not certain at this stage.”

<https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/XT-20024-2019-REV-2/en/pdf>

On 17 October 2019, the European Council endorsed the amended Withdrawal Agreement and approved the revised text of the Political Declaration.

On 21 October 2019, the Council of the European Union approved the draft Council Decision on the conclusion of the Withdrawal Agreement and forwarded it to the European Parliament in order to obtain its consent.

“The United Kingdom will remain a Member State until the new withdrawal date, with full rights and obligations in accordance with Article 50 TEU, including the obligation to suggest a candidate for appointment as a member of the Commission. It is recalled that the United Kingdom has a right to revoke its notification at any time. The European Council recalls the commitment by the United Kingdom to act in a constructive and responsible manner throughout the extension period in accordance with the duty of sincere cooperation, and expects the United Kingdom to fulfil this commitment and Treaty obligation in a manner that reflects its situation as a withdrawing Member State. To this effect, the United Kingdom shall facilitate the achievement of the Union's tasks and shall refrain from any measure which could jeopardise the attainment of the Union's objectives, in particular when participating in the decision-making processes of the Union.”

“This extension excludes any re-opening of the Withdrawal Agreement. Any unilateral commitment, statement or other act by the United Kingdom should be compatible with the letter and the spirit of the Withdrawal Agreement, and must not hamper its implementation. Such an extension cannot be used to start negotiations on the future relationship.”

Commission Priorities for 2019-2024

https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024_en

“An economy that works for people

Working for social fairness and prosperity

The EU's unique social market economy allows economies to grow and to reduce poverty and inequality.”

“Promoting our European way of life

Protecting our citizens and our values

A Europe that protects must also stand up for justice and for the EU's core values.

The rule of law is central to President von der Leyen's vision for a Union of equality, tolerance and social fairness.

The Commission will launch a comprehensive European Rule of Law Mechanism under which it is to report every year, objectively, on the state-of-play on the rule of law across the Union.”

“A new push for European democracy

Nurturing, protecting and strengthening our democracy

The record-high turnout in the 2019 European elections shows the vibrancy of the European democracy. Yet, Europeans need a stronger role in the decision-making process and a more active role in setting our priorities.

The Commission will engage in consolidating its partnership with the European Parliament, the voice of the people, by ensuring its involvement at all stages of international negotiations, as well as transparency and integrity throughout the legislative process.

A renewed commitment to an EU that delivers on the issues that really matter to people.

To coordinate better regulation in the Commission and ensure every proposal respects the principles of subsidiarity (no EU intervention when an issue can be dealt with effectively by EU countries) and proportionality (EU action must not exceed what is necessary to achieve the objectives), which are at the heart of the Commission's work.

Better regulation is a way of working to ensure:

- transparency throughout the process
- evidence always informs policy and law-making
- citizens and stakeholders are involved

The 3 EU institutions are working together more closely. An agreement between the Commission, Parliament and Council to improve the quality of law-making was signed in April 2016.”