

Scotland trip - how the Brexit is changing Europe

The Brexit is still a big issue for Europeans as well as for British people themselves. However, the four British countries have different attitudes towards it. The majority of people in Scotland and Ireland voted against the Brexit and for remaining in the EU.



1. How the Britains voted

England

53,3%

46,68%

Northern Ireland

44,24%

55,76%

Schottland

38%

62%

Wales

52,53%

47,47%

*for *against

2. What "Brexit" means?

Brexit is a composite word consisting of "Britain" and "exit", i. e. Great Britain's exit from the European Union (EU).

3. Reasons against the Brexit

The EU enables its member states to cooperate better and ensures¹ special rights for EU citizens. The EU community also has more weight in foreign policy² than any of the Member States alone, and trade prospers on this merger just as much as any individual. Furthermore, the EU grants Britain more security, as British police and intelligence services³ work closely with the institutions of other EU countries and guarantees workers exclusive rights to maternity protection⁴, leave days etc. Millions of jobs and investments in the millions depend on UK and EU trade and for the citizen of Britain and other EU countries, travel and food to and from the UK / to and from the EU is much cheaper thanks to UK's membership in the EU.

4. Reasons for the Brexit

So why should(would) the Britains want to leave the EU?

The reason: they want to be independent, but as a part of the EU. The long procedure of Making decisions and finding compromises with many other European countries has been considered a disadvantage. Another reason is that many British people never felt like a real part of the European Union as can be seen by their currency: they don't have the euro.

5. What Scotland thinks about the Brexit

Of course there are a lot of advantages of being a member of the EU and many Scottish people appreciate that. So of course there are discussions what they can do for remaining in the EU.

Opportunity 1. Get independent from Great Britain. There has already been a vote: 52% were for not being a part of Great Britain any more.

¹ garantieren

² Außenpolitik

³ Geheimdienste

⁴ Mutterschutz

Opportunity 2. Great Britain becomes a federal state⁵

6. Some dates concerning the Brexit

- 23rd of June, 2016: Referendum, 51,9 % of the people voted for the Brexit.
- 13th of July, 2016: Theresa May becomes the new Prime Minister as successor of David Cameron which is a defender of the Brexit.
- 29th of March, 2017: Teresa May submits a written application on the EU-Discharge to the EU Council President Donald Tusk. Now the discharge has to be done in the next two years.
- 19th of June, 2017: At Brussels, the EU-Commission firstly starts with discussions about the discharge, first results follow in December.
- March 2018: The first solution for the Irish frontier problem, the "backstop" is presented. Problem: There will be an external frontier of the community⁶ after the Brexit which would cause border fences and customs examinations⁷, but the Irish peace treaty of 1998 says, that the country's frontier between Ireland and North Ireland isn't allowed to influence the peaceful living together of the islander. "Backstop" means, that Great Britain builds at least two more years (after the Brexit) a tariff union⁸ with the EU and Northern Ireland stays in the home market⁹ of the EU. This rule should stay until it succeeds to negotiate a new action agreement.
- 06th of July, 2018: Dispute in the British Parliament
Theresa May finally introduces a concrete exit concept, but meanwhile, the British government is becoming more and more divided. Many do not agree with the "backstop" and call for new negotiations. The EU Commission is also irritated and criticizes that Britain has still not set clear targets nine months before the planned exit.
- 25th of November, 2018: Brexit agreement signed by all 27 member states of the EU, UK parliament now has to approve this agreement.
- 12th of December, 2018: Vote of no confidence against May by Brexit opponents, receiving 117 votes against a total of 317 politicians, May stays Prime Minister.
- 15th of January, 2019: British Parliament votes against the deal, Mays contract receives only 202 yes votes from a total of 634 Members of Parliament.
- 16th of January, 2019: May survives another vote of no confidence.

7. And now?

What we know is:

an uncontrolled Brexit would mean:

- the economy suffers
- the air traffic falls out
- the Britains could lose their trade agreements

All together would Great Britain fall behind in development.

⁵ Föderalstaat

⁶ EU-Außengrenzen

⁷ Zollkontrollen

⁸ Zollunion

⁹ Binnenmarkt