

Manchester Exchange - how the Brexit is changing Europe

For months, all of us were scared of our travel to Manchester, worrying that we won't be able to return back to Germany as the Britains wanted to leave the EU on our last day in Britain.

Now, fortunately, it seems like they will decide to wait 3 more months longer until conducting the Brexit and we're completely ready for an interesting, funny and grateful trip.

Although, the Brexit is still a big theme for Europeans as much as for British people themselves. But who exactly had the idea of separating Britain from the EU of course why does the country want to do this step and do we really have to be scared of economic deficits ...?



<https://www.zdf.de/assets/brexit->

1. What "Brexit" means?

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

2. 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.

3. Reasons for the Brexit

So why should the Britains want to leave the EU?

The reason: they want to be independent, but as a part of the EU, decisions often have to be discussed and made with the other lands of it. Another reason is that the Britains never felt like a real part of the European Union as you see by their money, they don't have the euro.

4. 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.

¹ garantieren

² Außenpolitik

³ Geheimdienste

⁴ Mutterschutz

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 community¹ after the Brexit which would cause border fences and customs examinations², 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 union³ with the EU and Northern Ireland stays in the home market⁴ 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.

5. And now?

On the 12th of March, the British House of Commons⁵ is going to vote about May's EU-Exit Agreement again. If it doesn't get a majority, the deputies ballot about an uncontrolled Brexit the next day. If this is also rejected, the Parliament is going to vote about a deferral of the date of separation from company on the 14th of March. At the moment, nobody knows what will happen in a few days.

What we know is:

an uncontrolled Brexit would mean:
the economy suffers
the air traffic falls out
the Britains could lose their trade agreements

¹ EU-Außengrenze

² Zollkontrollen

³ Zollunion

⁴ Binnenmarkt

⁵ Britisches Unterhaus

All together would Great Britain fall behind in development.