

BREXIT

Brexit: Facts

The United Kingdom ceased to be a member of the European Union on 31 January 2020.

Withdrawal Agreement – Key Immigration Points

Transition



The transition period began on 31 January 2020 and will last until 31 December 2020.



The UK needs to abide by all EU rules, but have lost membership of its institution



UK Government has ruled out any extension in law. On 12 June 2020 the UK has confirmed to the EU that it will not extend the Brexit transition period.



Future relationship between the UK and EU are being negotiated. There is still a risk of no deal at the end of the transition period.

Citizen's rights



Freemovement rights of EU citizens in the UK and UK citizens in EU will continue during the transition period.



All existing rights of British citizens and their close family members (including non-EU citizens) currently living in the EU, or who move there during the transition period will be preserved after the transition period ends. They may need to apply for residence status in the country they are residing to retain their rights.



All existing rights of EU citizens and their close family members (including non-EU citizens) currently living in the UK or who move to the UK during the transition period, will be preserved after the transition period ends. They should apply to the EU Settlement Scheme to retain their rights.



The rights of EU citizens in the UK and UK citizens in EU will be protected even if there is no deal agreed between the UK and EU at the end of the transition period.

EU citizens in the UK

- Those who arrive before 31 December 2020.**

Their rights to work, live and study will be protected. They will have until 30 June 2021 to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme.

EU Settlement Scheme	
Pre-settled Status	Settled Status
Granted to EU nationals and their family members, who have lived in the UK for less than 5 years.	Granted to EU nationals and their family members, who have lived in the UK continuously for at least 5 years.
Issued for a period of 5 years and can be changed to settled status after that.	There is no time limit on EU national stay in the UK.
Family members in a relationship with the EU citizen, which existed before 31 December 2020 will be able to join them in the UK at any point in the future.	Family members in a relationship with the EU citizen, which existed before 31 December 2020 will be able to join them in the UK at any point in the future.
Family members in a relationship with Swiss national, which existed before 31 December 2025 will be able to join them in the UK until 31 December 2025.	Family members in a relationship with Swiss national, which existed before 31 December 2025 will be able to join them in the UK until 31 December 2025.

- Those who arrive after 31 December 2020.**

Will be required to meet UK immigration regulations as other non – EU citizens in order to work in the UK.

UK citizens in EU

- Those who arrive before 31 December 2020.**

Their rights to work, live and study will be protected. They may be required to apply for a new residence status document before 30 June 2021. Those who resided in the EU country for 5 years will be allowed to apply for permanent residence. The terms and procedures for applications vary between EU countries.

The table below provides information that is available at the moment:

Country	Application process for UK citizens
Austria	No information on the application scheme has been published yet.
Belgium	UK citizens and their family members will receive a letter asking them to go to the municipality where they reside to apply for their new residence card. They will be issued by Mid-2021 at the latest.
Bulgaria	UK citizens and their family members legally residing in Bulgaria at the date of Brexit or have a valid residence permit will retain residence rights in Bulgaria and they can use their permit up to 1 year after the end of the transition period or up to the expiry of the validity of the document – whichever comes first. To continue residing, they will need to submit an application for the renewal of their residence permit or for the issuance of a new residence permit. Application should be submitted in person to the Migration Directorate or the relevant Migration Office at the Regional Directorate of the Ministry of Interior.

Country	Application process for UK citizens
Croatia	No information on the application scheme has been published yet. British citizens and their family members residing in Croatia are strongly recommended to register their residence/apply for a residence card as a family member in line with EU Regulations.
Cyprus	Current Residence documents will be valid and can be voluntarily replaced with the new residence document under the Withdrawal Agreement. Applications under a new system will be accepted starting from 1 January 2021.
Czech Republic	No information on the application scheme has been published yet, it is expected around October/November. At this point it is recommended that British citizens and their family members secure an EU permit, which is the only type of residence permit they can be granted at this point.
Denmark	Application for a new residence status document to the Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration (SIRI) will be required. Applications may be submitted throughout 2021.
Estonia	British citizens and their family members who reside in Estonia or arrive in Estonia before the end of the transition period do not need to take any additional steps or additional registration. They should ensure that their place of residence in the registries should be up to date and it is important they renew their ID card if it expires. There are plans to start issuing a new document certifying the right of residence in Estonia due to the withdrawal agreement from the beginning of 2021.
Finland	UK citizens and their family members with a registered EU right of residence will need to apply to exchange the previous registration based on the right of residence in the EU for a new right of residence. The scheme for applications is not open yet. It is expected that the scheme will be open for applications between 1 October 2020 and 30 June 2021. Those with permanent EU residence rights may apply to change their status to the new permanent right of residence. The application is not mandatory, but recommended.
France	<p>British nationals and members of their family already settled in France or wishing to settle there before 31 December 2020 will retain their acquired rights as European citizens and will not be required to hold a residence permit. Under this agreement, these nationals will be required to apply for the issuance of residence permits marked "Withdrawal Agreement". However, they will have a long period of time to submit this application, as they will not be required to hold a residence permit until 1 July 2021.</p> <p>The online application system will be implemented from October 2020.</p>
Germany	No information on the application scheme has been published yet.
Greece	<p>UK citizens arriving in Greece by end of December shall make sure to complete their registration with the local EU, tax and social security authorities (there is no specific Brexit system; the regular path is followed). This will allow them to submit afterwards an application for a residence permit as NON-EU nationals.</p> <p>For those who already live in Greece and are registered with the local authorities, it is recommended that they proceed with registering as permanent residents, if they are eligible.</p>
Hungary	No action required. Rights of British citizens who currently work and in Hungary with EU residence card will remain unchanged for 3 years after 31 December 2020.
Iceland	UK citizens should register their domicile with Registers Iceland as residents in Iceland before the end of the transition period.
Italy	UK citizens should apply for a new 'attestazione' document at the relevant municipality. Although it is said to be declaratory, it is recommended it is obtained. There is no time limit within which this should be obtained.

Country	Application process for UK citizens
Latvia	British citizens and their family members must submit, before 30 June 2021, an application to the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs (OCMA) and obtain a new residence permit. They will be sent a letter, to their declared place of residence, to inform about the time when submission of applications will start and the procedure for obtaining a new residence permit.
Lithuania	No information on the application scheme has been published yet. British citizens and their family members should continue to apply for a document confirming their right to reside in accordance to EU Regulations.
Luxembourg	Current residence document will be replaced by a new residence document valid from the end of the transition period. No information on the application scheme has been published yet.
Malta	All UK nationals resident in Malta and already in possession of an EU Residents Certificate will receive information from Identity Malta in the coming weeks to exchange their documents to one reflecting the new status. The application process will be staggered and there will be no processing fees. Applicants will be required to personally submit their application by calling at Identity Malta's Expatriates Unit in Valley Road, Msida on the dates indicated in the letter they will be receiving. Applicants residing in Gozo would need to apply at the eResidence Unit, St. Francis Square, Victoria, Gozo. A residence document valid for a period of 10 years will be issued and will be automatically renewed on application, provided that the relative conditions remain satisfied. The existing document shall continue to remain valid until the new residence document is issued. UK nationals settling in Malta during the transition period may apply for their new residence status after 3 months of their arrival in Malta and before 30th June 2021.
Netherlands	UK citizens will be sent an invitation to submit an application either for a temporary residence permit (after lawful residence for less than 5 years) or for permanent residence (after lawful residence for a period of 5 years). The employer will not need to sponsor these types of residence permits. In order to receive the invitation letter, UK citizens need to make sure that they are registered correctly in the BRP (municipality's register).
Norway	At the moment British citizens living and working in Norway need to register at the Police/The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI) to obtain a valid registration before 31 December 2020. The Norwegian government is working on a new solution. There is no indication on when it will be introduced.
Poland	UK citizen will be able to apply for a new residence permit document (issued in accordance with the Agreement on the withdrawal) at the voivodship office after the end of the transition period. No further details have been published. For now they should continue to apply for the EU registration document.
Portugal	Current EU registration documents will be exchanged for a new residence permit. It is important that all British citizens living in Portugal obtain the "European Citizenship Certificate" before 31st December 2020. This is the official residency document in Portugal for all EU citizens to ensure a smooth transition to the Brexit procedures. No further information on the new process has been published yet.
Romania	EU citizens should continue to register as Romanian residents and obtain a certificate from the General Inspectorate for Immigration (Inspectoratul Roman pentru Imigrari).
Slovakia	British citizens will need to contact the Foreigners Police to obtain a new Five-Year Residence Permit Card before 30 June 2021.
Slovenia	No information on the application scheme has been published yet. Permits held by British citizens and their family members now are expected to have the same validity after the 1st of January 2021.

Country	Application process for UK citizens
Spain	<p>The current registration certificates and family citizen cards of the EU available to British citizens and their family members residing in Spain are valid documents to prove legal residence in Spain, after the UK's withdrawal from the EU and benefit from the provisions of the Withdrawal Agreement. However as of 6th of July 2020, British citizens and their family members residing in Spain can request a uniform format residence document (TIE), which will prove the condition of their beneficiary carrier of the rights contemplated in the Withdrawal Agreement.</p> <p>To apply, they must go to the immigration office of the province where they intend to reside or to the corresponding police station.</p>
Sweden	No information on the application scheme has been published yet.
Switzerland	Registration at a local office of resident services before 31 December 2020.

- **Those who arrive after 31 December 2020.**

Will be treated as non – EU citizen and will be required to meet regulations of respective countries in order to work in EU.

UK and Ireland

Rights of UK citizens in Ireland and Irish citizens in the UK will remain unchanged and there will be no obligation to apply for a residence document. Non-Irish or non-British family members will be required to apply.

Visas for short trips from 1 January 2021

- **UK citizens** will be allowed to visit EU countries as tourists visa free for up to 90 days in every 180 days.
- **EU, EEA and Swiss citizens** will continue to be able to travel to the UK for holidays or short trips without needing a visa.



This article was authored by Andrea Fascetti, Global Director Immigration Services. If you have questions regarding this article or would like to find out more about our other services, please contact Andrea Fascetti at afascetti@crowww.com or visit our website at www.crownworldmobility.com.