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Brexit: what happens now....

Prospect 26 November 2018

Jill Rutter



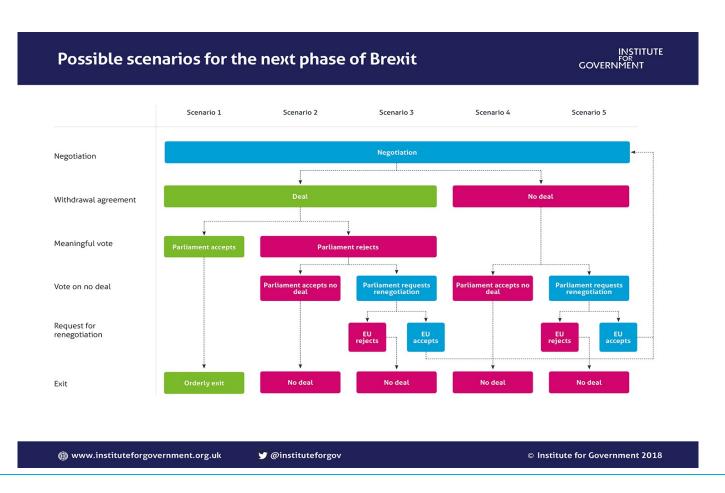
We have just managed to conclude the withdrawal agreement





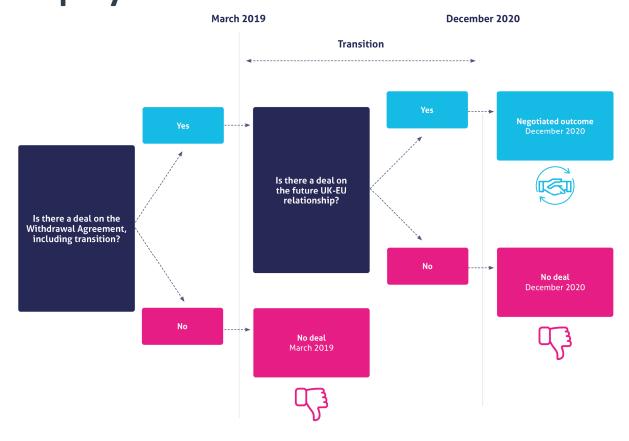
But she now has to get that through Parliament

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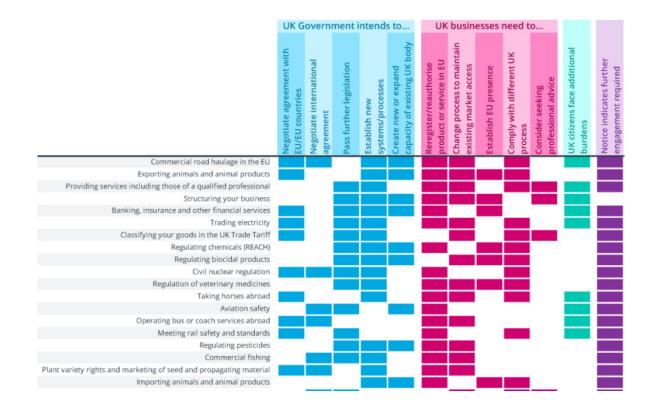
The lack of certainty on that means many scenarios are still in play

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No deal preparations are still taking place.. And critical deadlines ahead

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The notices raise more questions than they answer

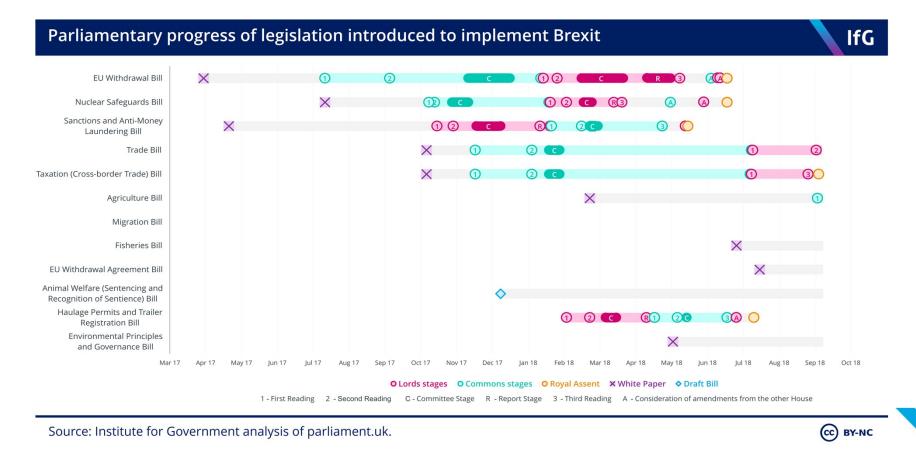


- 105 preparedness notices All but one need further action by government, business or individuals
- 55 new government processes
- 25 new IT systems
- 10 suggest business seek professional advice
- 50 propose UK recognises EU standards (no parallel guarantees from EU)
- For information not action at this stage
- Nothing on citizens...



There is a massive legislative task



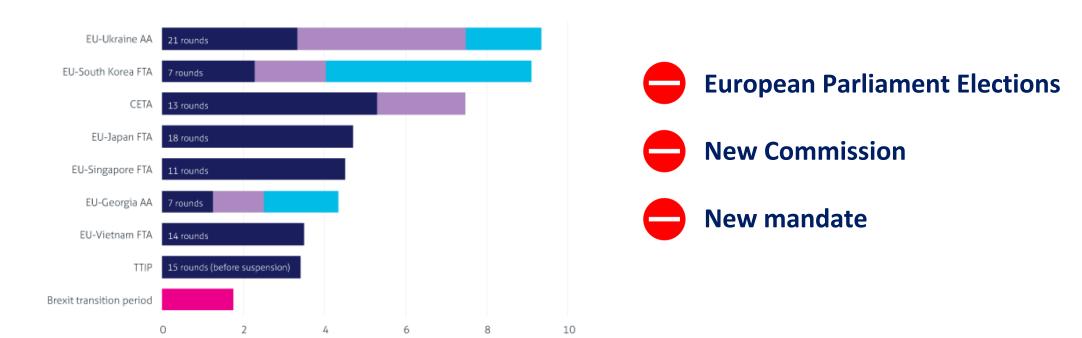


We want an FTA to be ready by December 2020 – and haven't started yet...

■ Negotiation period

■ Time before provisional application

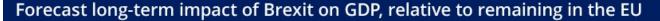




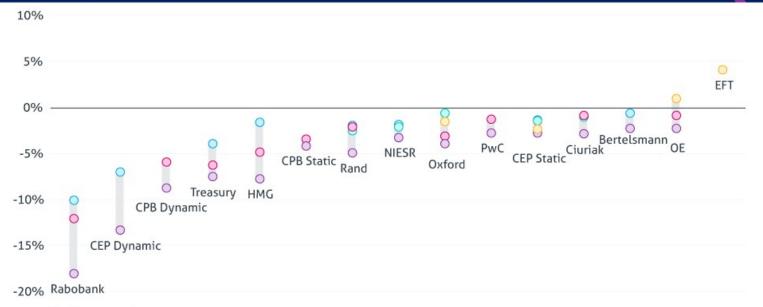
■ Time before full application

Where we end up has significant economic impacts





IfG



Trading scenario

○ European Economic Area ○ Swiss bilaterals ○ Free Trade Agreement ○ World Trade Organization ○ Unilateral Free Trade

CEP - Centre for Economic Performance, CPB - Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis, EFT - Economists for Free Trade, HMG - HM Government, NIESR - National Institute of Economic and Social Research, OE - Open Europe, Oxford - Oxford Economics

Source: Institute for Government analysis





There is a huge task to get ready – which departments are already doing



Big impacts on:

- Defra, HMRC, Home Office new customs, regulatory and migration systems
- ALBs some old (HSE, ONR, CMA) some new Trade Remedies Authority,
 Independent Monitoring Authority, Environmental Watchdog but scale still unknown (CAA-EASA) taking over EU powers
- Supporting trade and security negotiations much more complex than phase one
- "Coming third" developing UK's new status

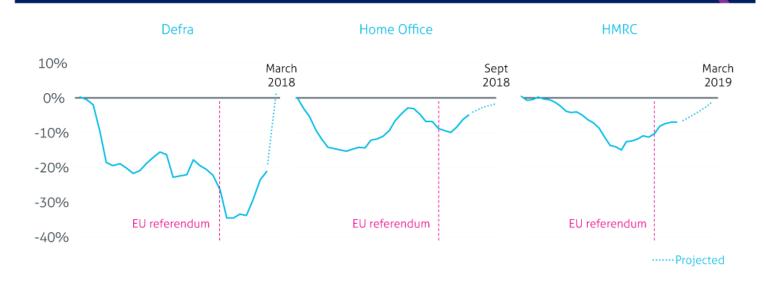


There have been big increases in staff numbers in key depts since referendum

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Percentage change in staff numbers (full-time equivalent) since September 2010, at three of the departments most affected by Brexit

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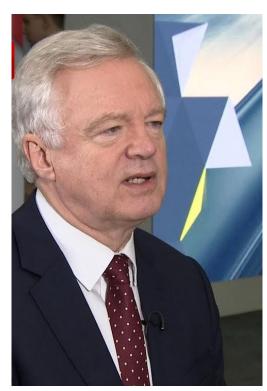


Source: Institute for Government analysis of Office for National Statistics Public Sector Employment data, and public statements of planned staff increases.



Brexit has strained politician/civil service relations





"...you see you've got a whole system here. If you added up all the Permanent Secretaries who voted to leave the European Union I suspect the answer would be zero and the whole of Whitehall has a particular perspective and I think, as I've said already, they misread Europe, they misread the way the negotiations should be played. They also misread what was an acceptable outcome for the British people."

David Davis, September 2018



Brexit has strained politician/civil service relations





"anonymous sourcesshould be ashamed of themselves, especially in a week when another senior civil servant reported having been threatened about comments about Brexit implementation. This has to stop"

Sir Mark Sedwill, October 2018

And there may be an unpleasant blame game to come

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At a macro level, the thing that keeps me awake at night is the fact that we cannot know until we have gone through this process what we will find. Working to a fixed deadline and the huge scale and complexity of the projects mean we are carrying high risk. Even with all our resources focused on making sure that we can catch problems early and fix them, I cannot guarantee that there will not be something that gets through. Clare Moriarty, Defra, 15 October 2018

What I meant by "suboptimal" was the questions I was being asked there. Suboptimal for me really means two things. First of all, that there may be time delays or queues. Time equals money, so that is one aspect. The second is there is additional administrative burdens on business of leaving the customs union and trading on WTO terms. If you want me to set out what I think the estimate of that cost is, then I would do. It would be suboptimal in that sense.

Jon Thompson, HMRC, 17 October 2018



There is a tough road ahead to navigate



- Brexit on top of business as usual
- Political stasis/stalemate
- Spending reductions eg Defra still in baseline
- Economic hit vs Brexit dividend
- Austerity "over" but swallowed up by NHS commitments

Not addressing underlying drivers of Brexit



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Thank you!

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