

BREXIT CHECKLIST FOR GOODS & SERVICES EXPORTERS

Brexit is fast approaching. As of January 1, 2021, new procedures and conditions for trade will be put in place.

Great Britain remains a neighboring market of 66 million inhabitants with a long history in trading with European countries. However, practical questions and technical challenges remain to be raised.

Hub.brussels suggests this checklist in order to better prepare your business on time for these challenges and thus avoid as much as possible the expected impacts in 2021.

Here are some general links:

<https://economie.fgov.be/en/brexit>

https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/brexit_files/info_site/na0220590enn_002.pdf

<https://madb.europa.eu/madb/indexPubli.htm>

<https://www.gov.uk/transition>

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CUSTOMS

Field	Context	To Do	Link
Customs obligations	Trade in goods with the UK will be considered as « export » with all the obligations required by this consideration	<p>Do I have an experience exporting out of the EU? Otherwise :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do the Brexit scan - Get an EORI number 	<p>https://economie.fgov.be/fr/themes/entreprises/brexit/preparez-votre-entreprise</p> <p>https://finances.belgium.be/fr/douanes_accises/entreprises/finances-eori/eori</p>
Customs control	Since the UK will be considered as a third country, a customs declaration will be required for any trade with this country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Learn about customs formalities, especially if I have no experience outside the EU - Hire an external customs representative if you are not familiar with formalities outside the EU - Install specialized customs software if necessary 	<p>https://finances.belgium.be/fr/douanes_accises/entreprises/brexit/douane-accises/douane/exportation</p> <p>https://finances.belgium.be/fr/douanes_accises/entreprises/applications-da/enregistrement-et-configuration</p>
Possible delay at borders	Despite the measures and preparations taken by the customs authorities on both sides of the Channel, delays are expected at borders and in therefore in the supply chain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that my supply chain is well prepared for these possible delays due to customs formalities and control - The more prepared we are, the more time we save 	<p>https://economie.fgov.be/fr/themes/entreprises/brexit/faq/entreprises/douane-questions-frequent</p>

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Customs duties	In the event of no-deal, customs tariffs will be applied on products imported from the EU countries	Check the UK website for the applicable rate based on your commodity code	https://www.gov.uk/check-tariffs-1-january-2021
Rules of origin	Exporters will have to demonstrate the origin of the exported goods in order to benefit from a preferential tariff in the event of a possible EU-UK agreement	Familiarise yourself with the procedures to obtain a certificate of origin	https://www.export.org.uk/news/435383/Rules-of-Origin--what-you-need-to-know.htm https://www.beci.be/formalites/obtenir-un-certificat-d-origine/
Standards, marking and labelling	The certificates required for certain products, issued by European organizations will no longer be accepted by the British authorities. Likewise, the European marking and labelling rules will no longer apply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Learn about the certification procedures applied in the UK by the local regulator or via the importer - Ensure that labelling complies with British rules - For goods requiring special procedures, we refer you to the websites of the federations / specialised institutions 	https://www.gov.uk/guidance/import-licences-and-certificates-from-1-january-2021?step-by-step-nav=1ddb4c89-1fe9-4ad0-b561-c1b0158e6bc5 https://www.gov.uk/guidance/labelling-and-marketing-standards-from-1-january-2021?step-by-step-nav=1ddb4c89-1fe9-4ad0-b561-c1b0158e6bc5 https://www.bsigroup.com/en-GB/about-bsi/uk-national-standards-body/standards-and-eu-exit/

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FINANCIAL ASPECTS

Field	Context	To Do	Link
VAT and Excise	VAT and excise will be applied on products imported into the UK from the EU	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Become acquainted with the VAT application procedures- Take into account these additional costs when estimating the consumer price	<p>https://www.gov.uk/vat-rates</p> <p>https://europa.eu/youreurope/business/taxation/excise-duties-eu/paying-excise-duties/index_fr.htm</p>
Exchange rate fluctuations	Brexit may create turmoil in EUR/GBP exchange rates. Additional costs can then impact your final price	Take into consideration these fluctuations in the contract (eg: forward contract, agreement with your bank, hedging against exchange risks, use of fixed rate transfers, etc.)	<p>https://www.xe.com/</p> <p>https://www.oanda.com/</p>

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASPECTS

Field	Context	To Do	Link
Commercial contract	Brexit will lead to changes on various points such as territory, protection, costs, deadlines ...	Review the terms of your commercial contract, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Territory (UK will no longer be included in EU)- Applicable law in the event of disputes- Costs (taxes, VAT, customs duties, etc.)- Brexit clause for current contracts	<a href="https://www.agoria.be/fr/Brexit-Friday-<u>quid-de-vos-contrats-actuels-et-futurs</u>">https://www.agoria.be/fr/Brexit-Friday-<u>quid-de-vos-contrats-actuels-et-futurs</u>
Intellectual property	EUIPO, which manages intellectual property issues at the EU level, will no longer be competent for the UK	Ideally, request simultaneously intellectual property protection (brand, model, copyright, design, etc.) from the British authorities	https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/intellectual-property-office

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STAFF

Field	Context	To Do	Link
Movement of people/immigration	The registration and residence rules for EU nationals will change in the UK	If you employ an EU nationals on British territory, you will need to consult the government website to regularise their residence status	https://www.gov.uk/guidance/visiting-the-uk-after-brexit https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-immigration-system-what-you-need-to-know
Detachment	A points system will be introduced (Australian model). Under this system, candidates must be qualified at RQF level 6 (diploma level) and subject to a minimum wage threshold different from that of the main qualified workers	Check the conditions related to the entry and residence of staff and their families, qualification, employment contract, declarations, taxation, recourse in the event of a dispute ...	https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/eu-settlement-scheme-employer-toolkit
Recruitment	Residence and recruitment rules may change	Check the conditions related to the residence of staff and their families, the employment contract, etc.	https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/eu-settlement-scheme-employer-toolkit
Qualification	The exercise of certain professions will be subject to prior recognition of professional qualification	Check qualification before detachment or recruitment	https://cpq.naric.org.uk/EU%20citizens/Default

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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