

Guarantee EU citizens' rights in the event of a no-deal Brexit

Write to your MP and elected representatives

The government is pushing the UK headlong towards a damaging no-deal Brexit which would have serious implications for EU citizens as well as our colleges and universities.

Please take the time to write to your local MP and ask for their help in pushing the government to guarantee the rights of EU citizens in the event of a no-deal Brexit.

We have provided some template text below for your email, but please personalise it before sending as the email system used by MPs may block duplicate emails. Highlighted areas should be amended as appropriate.

Remember to add your name and address at the end of the letter so your MP will know that you are one of their constituents.

If you live in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland, you can also adapt this text and ask your MSP/AM/MLA and ask for their intervention too.

You can find email addresses for your MP/devolved representative by entering your postcode here: <https://www.writetothem.com>

Dear XXX,

I am writing to ask for your help in seeking guarantees for the rights of EU citizens in the event of a no-deal Brexit.

The Home Secretary recently announced that the government hopes to end freedom of movement immediately should the UK leave the EU with no deal on 31 October. However, the Home Office's media factsheet claims that EU citizens in the UK will not be affected by such a move in a no-deal scenario. These apparently contradictory statements have caused significant confusion about the impact of no-deal on EU citizens' rights.

Many EU citizens are now concerned that if they travel abroad and try to return after the exit date they will be denied re-entry. They are also concerned about travelling abroad after the UK has left the EU in case they are not allowed to come back, especially if they are among the millions who have not yet been granted settled

status through the EU Settlement Scheme. This level of uncertainty is totally unacceptable.

As someone who works in post-16 education, I am deeply concerned that restricting the right of EU citizens to work and study in the UK will damage the world-leading research and teaching in our institutions. It will also intensify the “hostile environment” that the government has already been responsible for fostering and make it harder to attract EU academics to work in, and with, our universities.

Our education sector needs to be more, not less, open to immigration from all parts of the world. It is already disproportionately expensive for non-UK nationals to live and work here. It is unacceptable and morally reprehensible that their security is now further threatened by this government’s headlong pursuit of a no-deal Brexit.

As your constituent, I would therefore be grateful if you could please use your good offices to:

- Seek urgent assurances from the Prime Minister that the government will protect the rights of EU citizens from 31 October onwards, whether or not a deal is agreed with the EU.
- Write to the Secretary of State for Education to raise your concerns about the impact of a no-deal Brexit on post-16 education.
- Urge the government to avoid a no-deal Brexit and work to find a solution which protects the rights of workers and EU citizens.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

XXX