

Brexit: a Bright future for Britain or the end of the European Union?

The United Kingdom became a member of the European Economic Community on 1 January 1973 [4]. On February 7, 1992 the leaders of 12 countries (Belgium, Italy, Luxembourg, France, Netherlands, West Germany, Denmark, Ireland, United Kingdom, Greece, Portugal and Spain) signed the Maastricht Treaty [3]. Thus the United Kingdom has become a member of the European Union.

However, the UK has always tried to be independent in important economic and political issues. In November 2002 the British Prime Minister Tony Blair said: "We should have more self-confidence because we are a leading European power, always have been and always will be." [9] In particular, the country has not joined the most important projects. For example, the United Kingdom has not signed the Schengen agreement and has not agreed to abolish internal border controls within the Schengen area [8]. The European Currency (euro) hasn't become the UK's national currency. Moreover, in March 2012, London at the EU summit refused to sign a fiscal treaty to enforce budget discipline. [2]

Since January 2013, and the announcement by British Prime Minister David Cameron of his plan to hold a referendum on continued UK membership of the European Union, there has been much speculation about the possible effects of a so-called 'Brexit'. (It is a word that is used as a shorthand way of saying the UK leaving the EU - merging the words Britain and exit to get Brexit) However, this may be nothing more than speculation, because no EU member state has ever left the club without a trace. [6]

On June 23, 2016 the Brexit referendum initiated by David Cameron took place. The voters had a single question: "Should the United Kingdom remain a member of the European Union or leave the European Union?" The results showed that about 52% of the British were for leaving the European Union and 48% wanted to remain its members [7].

On June 24, 2016, British Prime Minister David Cameron announced his resignation following the results of the referendum on the country's membership in the European Union. Cameron, who opposed Brexit, was going to keep his post, regardless of the results of the vote, but changed his decision and announced his resignation. On July 13, 2016 Theresa May became Prime Minister.

However, two questions were left unanswered. Why did the UK decide to leave the EU? When will it happen?

As stated earlier, the UK has always wanted to remain free, so the reasons could be: re-establishing and strengthening the UK legal system; the improvement of the British economy and the employment creation; control of the national borders; the make independent stronger trade agreements with other countries and ect.

Thus, the British voted for Brexit because of the restrictions that the EU used against the development of the country's business. Huge membership fees that the United Kingdom paid annually to the EU were questionable. Moreover, the migration crisis that began in the European Union in 2015 became a key issue in relation to Brexit. The UK hopes to make full control over its borders and stop the flow of refugees and migrants into the country.

The former Brexit secretary David Davis in his interview to the BBC gave a very specific answer to the question when the country will officially leave the European Union. This will happen in March 2019.[1]

The 50th article of the Lisbon Treaty specifies the process of the country's exit from the EU. [5] Thus, after the launch of this article by the national government, the process of negotiations for a period of two years begins. It is possible to extend this process only by the unanimous decision of all member countries of the EU. Thus, the launch of Brexit was in the hands of the British government, but the date of the end of the negotiations depended on the other European countries. [10]

Recently it has become known that Brexit should be held on Friday 29 March 2019, when the transition period will begin and will last 21 months. During this time, the UK stays in the single European market and the EU Customs Union. However, if countries fail to agree, the transition period will be extended. [10]

Undoubtedly, a new time and an economic revolution will come, which will be reflected in all countries. When the UK leaves the EU, It will have to conclude a new trade agreement with the remaining 27 countries in the European Union, so that British companies can continue to sell their goods in the European market, without facing increased tariffs and other restrictions.

The decision of the British to support Brexit was a hard to the European Union. No country left the European Union before. The European countries are likely to have the most difficult period of their relations during the "cohabitation".

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