

How Has Unite Judged the Deal?



At our conference in June Unite members voted to support a series of tests against which any Brexit deal would be judged. Our union will only support a Brexit Deal which meets these tests.

1) Will it deliver the 'exact same benefits' as the Single Market and the Customs Union?

No. 80% of the economy would not be covered by this deal and there are no guarantees that frictionless trade between the UK and Europe will continue.

FAIL

2) Does it protect working rights, social and environmental protections which are currently based in EU law?

No. The Tories' Withdrawal Bill granted them Henry VIII powers allowing them to take the axe to working rights behind the scenes.

FAIL

3) Does it respect the Good Friday Agreement or the economic integrity of the island of Ireland and avoid a hard border?

The backstop solution proposed by the EU would ensure no hard border. However this is not a permanent solution. Many questions still remain over the ability to access services on both sides of the border

FAIL

4) Does it grant the immediate and guaranteed right to remain for European citizens in the UK and their dependents?

No. The Government have offered 'settled status' for European citizens in the UK, but have not properly consulted unions or migrant rights specialists about how this will work or how a second 'Windrush Scandal' will be avoided.

FAIL

5) Does it protect the integrity of Gibraltar and the right for Gibraltarians to decide their own future?

No. The deal offers no long term guarantees to defend the integrity of Gibraltar.

FAIL

6) Does it retain membership of beneficial European-level institutions or regulatory bodies which are vital to our industrial sectors such as the European Aviation Safety Agency or Euratom?

The proposed deal does not guarantee UK access and involvement in these key institutions and regulatory bodies nor proposes how they should be replaced.

FAIL

Don't be fobbed off by...

MRS MAY'S BREXIT FUDGE



- 80% of the economy not included
- No guarantees for Northern Ireland or Gibraltar

- Zero protection for your rights at work
- No guarantees for Europeans in the UK



Made in Chequers / May Contain Nuts

Warning: Does not comply with EU Standards



Dear colleague,
From the off Unite recognised the Brexit vote – and the truth that no one voted to hand the Tories a blank cheque. No one voted to lose their job or lose hard won rights.

How Brexit happens is the most vital question.

The message from Unite members has always been clear. As we leave the EU we

must leave with a deal and that deal must protect jobs, defend and advance our rights and support the radical political and economic programme we are campaigning for.

That means a Brexit which does not threaten the gains our members fight for and defend at work. It means a Brexit which does not leave us worse off as a country.

Unite has not stood idly by. For the last two years we have analysed how Brexit will impact every one of our sectors, we have held reps conferences to canvass the views of members from Belfast to Bristol, from Glasgow to Gibraltar.

We have stood by frontline reps who have called out bosses seeking to use the uncertainty of Brexit in pay talks or to deny our members their rights.

We have been a guiding hand to the Labour Party, making sure their approach to Brexit answers the real needs of working people.

I believe we should all be proud of the way in which Unite has tried to tackle these issues.

Now we are approaching the crunch time. What does the Tory Brexit deal look like? Can we support it?

The deal is based on the shambolic Chequers Agreement. It's a mess. It's one and only aim is to keep the Tory party together with no thought for the serious issues a deal needs to prevent.

Our members in services will ask: how can the deal protect jobs if it doesn't cover 80% of the economy?

Our members in road haulage will ask: how can it prevent chaos at border ports without a customs deal?

Our members in Ireland and Gibraltar will ask: how does it protect our livelihoods when it comes with no guarantees about the border?

The truth is that a shambolic negotiation has resulted in a shambolic deal. Our union is built and run by seasoned negotiators and we can all recognise a fudge deal when we see one. This is a fudge.

It's too vague to offer the cast-iron protections our members need. It utterly fails to deliver on the promises of the 2016 referendum.

This leaflet outlines the tests which Unite members agreed to judge a deal. Bluntly, this Brexit fudge fails on all counts. Based on these tests I call on all MPs to reject it when it is put to a vote in Parliament.

Politically and industrially our movement must speak with a single voice. We must leave no option off the table to defeat it. That means a General Election or if necessary a vote of the people.

We deserve better than this fudge deal. We can do better.

Len McCluskey

Len McCluskey,
Unite General Secretary,

October 2018

Unite's Brexit Work



Brexit conferences were organised for reps in every Unite region – from Belfast to Gibraltar



Political: We have used our political clout to make our members' concerns heard in Westminster, Brussels and in the devolved parliaments.

Brexit In Your Workplace

Unite will be launching a new 'Brexit Check' website to monitor the impact of Brexit and provide the resources you need.

Let us know what impact Brexit is having in your workplace. Contact: brexit.check@unitetheunion.org or visit www.unitebrexitcheck.org