



HM Government

**UK LEAVES
THE EU** 29.03.19

Prepare your business for leaving the EU



What your business needs to know

This information will help you understand how leaving the EU may affect your business. Visit [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) for full guidance to help you to prepare.

If you import or export

There may be changes to UK-EU trade at the UK border including on customs, tariffs and VAT. Take the first step to prepare now.

☑ [Apply for a UK Economic Operator Registration and Identification number](#) to continue to trade with the EU

☑ [Check your responsibilities for making customs declarations](#)

If you transfer personal data into the UK

There may be changes to how you send or receive personal data from international partners, including in the EEA.

☑ Find out more about [using personal data after Brexit](#)

☑ Follow the [Information Commissioner's Office's '6 steps to take'](#)

If you provide services or operate in the EU

There may be new rules you need to comply with if you operate in EU/EEA countries. This could affect your business if:

- you have a branch(es) in the EU
- you operate in a service sector within the EU
- you're planning a merger with an EU company
- you or your employees travel to EU/EEA countries for business

☑ [Check the regulations for the EU/EEA countries you operate in](#), including visa requirements, to understand how changes could affect your business

If you sell manufactured goods

Your business may need to:

☑ [Check regulatory requirements for UK and EU markets](#), including labelling, approvals and testing

If you employ EU citizens

As an employer you will still be able to employ EU citizens as you do now and continue to conduct the same right to work checks. EU citizens should apply to the European Settlement Scheme by 31 December 2020 to continue working in the UK.

- ✓ Read the [Employer Toolkit](#) for further details on employing EU citizens

If you receive European funding

The government has guaranteed any funding secured through EU programmes until the end of 2020.

- ✓ [Find out more about a specific fund](#)

If you hold intellectual property

There may be changes that affect copyright, patents, designs and trade marks.

- ✓ Read [IP and Brexit: The Facts](#) for full information from the Intellectual Property Office

The **EU Exit tool** will help you to make detailed plans based on the profile of your business

Step 1 [Access the tool](#)

Step 2 Answer some simple questions about your business

Step 3 Read the actions to take that are relevant to your business and sign up for email alerts to stay updated

Visit [Prepare your Business for EU Exit](#) for more information and to sign up for regular updates

Additional help and support

As we leave the EU, there's a wide range of support available that can help your business thrive and grow. [Find out more.](#)



Further Support

UK Trade Associations

For industry specific information on leaving the EU.

Business Representative Organisations

For support including information hubs and checklists.

Support in your area

If you are based anywhere in the UK and want to find out where to get help and support for your business, go to the **GOV.UK** Business Support page.



Help to Export

The Exporting is GREAT campaign

For support if you're a small business interested in or currently selling overseas, connecting you to marketplaces and more.

UK Export Finance

For help with export finance and insurance.



Help to Grow

British Business Bank Finance Hub

For help understanding the finance options available to grow your business. Take a look at their Business Finance Guide.

Local Growth Hubs

For free and impartial support and advice if you're operating in England.

Be The Business

For inspiration, practical tools and resources to boost your business's productivity



Help to innovate

Innovate UK

For help getting your innovative idea off the ground.

Innovate UK's Knowledge Transfer Network

For connecting you to the expertise, finance and markets to commercialise your innovation.