European Union: how does the withdrawal procedure work?

The British people voted on 23 June 2016 to leave the EU.







On 29 March 2017, the United Kingdom (UK) informed the European Council of its intention to leave the EU on the basis of Article 50 of the EU Treaty.





The EU negotiates a withdrawal agreement with the UK. The UK initially remains a full member during the negotiations.

3

It is likely that the future relationship between the UK and the EU will also be discussed during the withdrawal process.

7 EU UK

When a withdrawal agreement enters into force, or following the expiry of the deadline, the EU treaties cease to apply to the UK.

Article 50 of the EU Treaty provides for a period of up to two years for the withdrawal negotiations.

This deadline can be extended by a unanimous decision of the Council in agreement with the UK.



The agreement is subject to approval by the European Parliament.



6



