



Paul Hardy
BREXIT DIRECTOR

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Paul has over 25 years' experience as a lawyer including five years working in the European Commission in Brussels and eight years as the senior EU Legal Adviser in the UK Parliament. His professional background makes him uniquely placed to navigate clients through the complexities of Brexit.

He remains a door tenant at the specialist EU and administrative law barristers' chambers in London, Francis Taylor Building, where he last practiced.

Paul joined DLA Piper in April 2017, where, working with our sector specialists, he advises businesses, public sector organisations and States on the implications of Brexit, and how best to manage them.

Paul Hardy is DLA Piper's UK Brexit Director. He works in the Litigation and Regulatory group, complementing its existing Government Affairs, Trade and Regulatory capabilities.

RELATED SERVICES

- Litigation, Arbitration and Investigations
- International Trade, Regulatory and Government Affairs

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

English French

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- English
- French

CREDENTIALS

Professional Qualifications

- Barrister in England and Wales, 1992

Prior Experience

- Over eight years in Parliament Paul reviewed every piece of EU legislation and policy produced by the EU, and played a prominent role in advising Parliament on their implications. His advice on the UK's legal liability to pay into the EU budget

after withdrawal was published in a high-profile Lords Select Committee report, the first time the Lords has published internal legal advice.

- In 2014 he was promoted to EU Legal Adviser to the House of Lords, carrying out a similar function for the seven EU Select Committees in the Lords.
- In 2009 he was appointed Counsel for European Legislation in the House of Commons, heading up the team providing EU legal advice to the House and its Select Committees.
- From 2004 to 2008 he was a civil servant (fonctionnaire) in the European Commission, where he was a legal and policy adviser in the Directorate-General for External Relations. His role included negotiating on behalf of the Commission in Council working groups, and negotiating elements of EU trade agreements.

Education

- Inns of Court School of Law (Bar Vocational Course), 1992
- University of North London, CPE (law conversion), 1991
- University of St Andrews M.A., 1989

Memberships

- UK Association of Administrative and European Law
- UK Constitutional and Administrative Law Bar Association
- Working Group on the EU (Withdrawal) Bill and the Rule of Law

INSIGHTS

Publications

Coronavirus Act 2020 enacted in UK

26 March 2020

On Wednesday 25 March 2020, the UK's COVID-19 emergency legislation – the Coronavirus Act 2020 – received Royal Assent. This article provides a summary of the Act in its final form.

Boardroom Brexit: Exit Day

31 January 2020

Boardroom Brexit

Welcome to our latest issue of Boardroom Brexit, marking the UK's departure from the EU tonight, guiding you through the key timelines in the negotiations and recommending action you should consider taking.

Ten key points you need to understand about the Brexit negotiations

23 December 2019

Boardroom Brexit

The UK will leave the European Union (EU) at 11.00 pm on Friday 31 January 2020. The UK Government's 80-seat majority in the House of Commons ("the Commons") means the Withdrawal Agreement Bill ("the Bill"), the legislation necessary to make the Withdrawal Agreement legally effective in the UK, will pass. The days of the Commons being able to overturn Government legislation are now over. The House of Lords will not vote the Bill down because of the parliamentary convention that it does not vote down legislation promised in a manifesto.

Business & Human Rights: Towards a Common Agenda for EU Action – Key takeaways for businesses

5 December 2019

Businesses and investors have been given a clear signal as to the direction of travel of the new European Parliament and Commission on business and human rights at a conference on 2 December 2019, co-organized by Shift and the Finnish Presidency of the Council of the EU.

Boardroom Brexit: Stay prepared for no-deal

4 November 2019

Boardroom Brexit

Welcome to our latest issue of Boardroom Brexit, covering most recent developments..

No-deal Brexit: Impact on dispute resolution

1 September 2019

While a range of outcomes, including a departure under the terms of the current Withdrawal Agreement, remains possible, it is important for businesses to plan for a no-deal Brexit, in which the UK leaves the EU without a withdrawal agreement or other deal. Here we look at the potential impact of a no-deal Brexit on dispute resolution.

No-deal Brexit: Impact on supply chains and international trade

1 September 2019

While a range of outcomes, including [a departure under the terms of the current Withdrawal Agreement](#), remains possible, it is important for businesses to plan for a no-deal Brexit, in which the UK leaves the EU without a withdrawal agreement or other deal. Here we look at the potential impact of a no-deal Brexit on businesses engaged in international trade and supply chains

Boardroom Brexit 2 August

2 August 2019

Boardroom Brexit

Welcome to the latest issue of Boardroom Brexit, covering developments since the election of Boris Johnson as leader of the Conservative party and, as a consequence, his replacement of Theresa May as the UK's new prime minister.

Predictions of a No-Deal Brexit are rising...but for the Life Sciences Sector, will “science prevail” over the Brexit “doom and gloom”?

9 July 2019

This article assumes a no-deal Brexit (Hard Brexit) and highlights the key UK Government, MHRA and EMA guidance, proposed legal changes and practical consequences of a Hard Brexit on medicines, medical devices, clinical trials, manufacturing and supply.

Engaging with UK Parliamentary Select Committees

21 June 2019

Giving evidence to a Parliamentary Select Committee can be a daunting experience. Select Committee hearings are high-profile events which can attract significant media attention. Evidence sessions expose witnesses to cross-examination by MPs or Peers, which at times can be hostile.

Brexit webinar

31 MAY 2019

Boardroom Brexit

A discussion around how the results of the European Parliament elections could affect UK business and Brussels. With CBI's Callum Biggins, and DLA Piper's Paul Hardy, Lord Tim Clement-Jones, and Anthony Callaert.

UK and EU no-deal planning

21 MAY 2019

Boardroom Brexit

In this client alert we:

- Explain why the risk of a no-deal Brexit is increasing; and
 - Provide links to the relevant UK and EU no-deal guidance your business will need to understand should the UK leave the EU without a deal.
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Preparing for new customs procedures post-Brexit: Focus on UK and EU EORI numbers

8 MAY 2019

As companies prepare for a range of potential Brexit outcomes, including a no-deal scenario, among the key considerations for businesses engaged in international trade will be the potential introduction of additional customs procedures for UK-EU trade following the UK's departure from the EU customs union.

Engaging with the UK's post-Brexit trade negotiations

26 APR 2019

As the UK Government continues to consider the UK's post-Brexit bilateral trade and investment relationships, it has been clear of its need to fully understand business and civil society's offensive and defensive interests. An increased focus on stakeholder engagement is now crucial to developing informed and representative negotiating positions with third countries.

Boardroom Brexit 12 April

12 APR 2019

Boardroom Brexit

Welcome to our latest issue of Boardroom Brexit, covering developments during the week commencing 8 April 2019.

Boardroom Brexit: UK seeks further extension as EU warns of rising no-deal risk

5 APR 2019

Boardroom Brexit

On Monday, 1 April, the House of Commons (the Commons) voted on four possible arrangements (whittled down from the eight voted on last Friday) in an attempt to break the Brexit logjam.

Boardroom Brexit: Customs union closest option to winning MPs' approval as PM's deal fails again

1 APR 2019

Boardroom Brexit

Welcome to our latest issue of Boardroom Brexit, covering developments during the period 25 - 29 March 2019. This week, we strayed from our usual Friday distribution to ensure we captured and reported on the outcome of last Friday's House of Commons vote.

EU Policy & Regulatory Update - European Parliament Adopts EU Copyright Reform

28 MAR 2019

Following two and a half years of negotiations and unprecedented public attention, the European Parliament adopted the controversial EU copyright reform in its plenary session on 26 March 2019.

Boardroom Brexit: New timeline after EU grants conditional extension

22 MAR 2019

Boardroom Brexit

The third vote on the draft Withdrawal Agreement didn't take place this week. John Bercow, Speaker of the House of Commons (the Commons), announced that the deal couldn't come before the Commons this parliamentary session in similar, or substantially similar, terms as before. According to parliamentary convention dating back to 1604, the government couldn't hold repeated votes in the Commons, in the same parliamentary session, on a motion that is the "same in substance."

Boardroom Brexit: What next after a dramatic week in UK politics?

15 MAR 2019

Boardroom Brexit

MPs voted by a majority of 210 in favour of the government's motion extending the negotiation deadline until 30 June 2019, if the withdrawal agreement is approved by next Wednesday (20 March 2019).

No-deal Brexit: UK Government publishes temporary trade tariff

14 MAR 2019

This week the UK Parliament voted against leaving the EU without a Withdrawal Agreement and a Framework for the Future Relationship on 29 March 2019 - i.e. a no-deal Brexit.

Brexit Podcast: No confidence vote and next steps

22 JAN 2019

Following a tumultuous week in the House of Commons and with the 29 March deadline fast approaching, DLA Piper's Brexit Committee Chair Richard Bonnar and Brexit Director Paul Hardy review recent developments and summarise next steps ...

What does Brexit mean for the hospitality industry?

21 DEC 2018

UK hospitality and leisure companies rely on easy access to a pool of workers from the EU-27, particularly on casual zero-hours contracts. This access may be restricted by new immigration rules after Brexit (and after a transition period).

What next as the UK Supreme Court rules on validity of Scottish EU Continuity Bill?

18 DEC 2018

On 13 December 2018 the UK Supreme Court issued its judgment on the UK Government's challenge to the validity of the Scottish Parliament's Brexit Bill. The Court decided that, except for one section, the Bill was valid when it was passed. However, as a result of the timing of the legal challenge and the subsequent changes made to the European Union (Withdrawal) Act by the UK Parliament prior to it passing, additional parts of the Bill cannot now take effect.

Negotiating a more inclusive trade policy post-Brexit

17 DEC 2018

The EU plays an important role in promoting gender equality among its members states and internationally through a number of initiatives, including its external trade policy. As the UK prepares to leave the EU, it should focus on designing a truly inclusive trade agenda that puts gender equality at the centre of its trade relations with third countries. Meaningful efforts to address gender and wider social and economic inequalities, including through the UK's future free trade agreements (FTAs), will require support from and engagement with businesses, both in the UK and third countries.

European Court of Justice rules that the UK can unilaterally revoke its EU withdrawal notice

11 DEC 2018

On 10 December 2018, the Court of Justice of the European Union decided that the UK can unilaterally revoke its Article 50 notice to withdraw from the EU.

Boardroom Brexit - the Withdrawal Agreement

21 NOV 2018

Boardroom Brexit

In this edition we summarise the key takeaways you need to understand. In the next edition, we look at the framework for the future relationship, which is being negotiated in Brussels this week.

Scrutiny of secondary legislation made under the EU (withdrawal) Act - What role for business?

9 OCT 2018

The UK Government estimates that some eight hundred pieces of secondary legislation will be required to amend existing UK legislation so that there is a functioning statute book after Brexit. The powers to make these amendments lie under the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 (the Act).

Cross border trade: Contingency planning for a "no deal" Brexit

14 SEP 2018

The UK government has published a collection of technical guidance notices to assist companies trading in or with the EU to prepare for a "no deal" Brexit scenario, whereby the UK leaves the EU on 29 March 2019 without an agreement in place to govern the future UK/EU relationship.

The prospect for deep and comprehensive trade agreements with the Commonwealth post Brexit

27 APR 2018

The UK Government is eager to promote the merits of increased trade with the Commonwealth after Brexit. The Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting ("CHOGM") held in London from 16 - 20 April 2018 was a much needed opportunity to showcase credible post-Brexit trade and investment opportunities with some of the world's most diverse and fast growing economies.

- "Parliament, Legislation and Accountability", *Hart*, 2016

[Events](#)

[Previous](#)

Brexit and sustainable energy

25 September 2019
London

Today's challenges for lawyers in the payments sector

12 JUN 2019
London

Brexit Breakfast and Lunch

14 MAR 2019

Brexit Breakfast and Lunch
Liverpool

Brexit Breakfast and Lunch

14 MAR 2019
Brexit Breakfast and Lunch
Manchester

Brexit Webinar - Hear our analysis of the EU Summit - June 2018

29 JUN 2018
Webinar

- Speaker, Netherlands British Chamber of Commerce event, "Impact of Brexit on Manufacturing", Manchester, 23 November 2017
- Chairman, EU Withdrawal Bill Summit, Guildhall, 21 November 2017
- Moderator, "Investing in the UK", Horasis China Meeting, Sheffield, 5-6 November 2017
- Keynote speech on the Supreme Court's decision in Miller, Legal Research Foundation of New Zealand, Auckland, 10 July 2017
- Keynote speech on Brexit, European Business Council for Africa and Mediterranean Annual Dinner, London, 29 June 2017
- Speaker, Alliance for Intellectual Property breakfast event on Brexit, London 29 June 2017
- Panellist, Chartered Institute for Securities & Investment Brexit Debate, London, 27 June 2017
- Keynote speech on Brexit, South African Chamber of Commerce, London, 6 June 2017
- Keynote speech on Brexit, Asset Based Finance Association annual conference 2017

NEWS

DLA Piper hosts leading business and diplomacy conference

14 MAR 2019
DLA Piper's London office has hosted the Annual Conference of the International Diplomatic and Business Exchange (IBDE).

- NZ businesses need to prepare for Brexit changes, *Radio New Zealand*, 13 July 2017
- Businesses sit on their hands as Brexit deadline approaches, *Financial Times*, 28 June 2017
- Businesses can't afford to leave UK before Brexit, says lawyer, *The Times*, 23 October 2017