

The Bulletin



Eleonora Vasques discusses the possibility of a no deal Brexit in the week's top story.



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LACK OF EXIT STRATEGY COULD LEAD TO A NO DEAL BREXIT

BY ELEONORA VASQUES

AFTER THE US ELECTION RESULTS, IN WHICH JOE BIDEN WAS CONFIRMED AS THE 46TH US PRESIDENT, THE BREXIT NEGOTIATION TREND CHANGED DRAMATICALLY. THIS IS DUE TO THE FAILURE OF THE BORIS JOHNSON STRATEGY. THE UK PRIME MINISTER SAID MORE THAN ONCE THAT A NO-DEAL WITH THE EU WOULD NOT BE A PROBLEM IF THE UK FOUND AN AGREEMENT WITH OTHER EXTRA-EU COUNTRIES.

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THE NO-DEAL IS A SCENARIO THAT IS BECOMING MORE AND MORE TANGIBLE, DUE TO BORIS JOHNSON'S UNPREDICTABLE BEHAVIOUR IN NEGOTIATIONS AND THE LOOMING BREXIT DEADLINE.

The Trump-US was the first candidate for such a deal, however, the Biden idea on next UK-EU relations is sharply different from the Trump one: Biden has expressed concerns regarding Brexit since 2016. Additionally, the Boris Johnson decision to break the law on the Northern Ireland protocol after Brexit particularly contributed to exacerbate relations with the EU, and non-EU countries (the US included). “Any trade deal between the US and the UK must be contingent upon respect for the [Good Friday] Agreement and preventing the return of a hard border period” said Mr Biden on Twitter last September.

The combination of the US election results and the consequences of Boris Johnson's idea to violate an international agreement on Northern Ireland (with the risk to recreate a violent situation in that area) makes the UK a less reliable international partner. As a result, London changed its strategy, intensifying negotiations with the EU.

Although several discussions occurred throughout November, EU Chief negotiator Michael Barnier said on Twitter last week that “we agreed today that the conditions for an agreement are not met, due significant divergences on level playing field, governance and fisheries.” Last Saturday, when journalists questioned him in front of the European Commission on whether a deal will be reached or not, Barnier replied only “we will see.”

It can be deducted that the future of the UK-EU relations after the 31st December deadline is still a mystery, even for negotiators themselves.

Therefore, the no-deal is a scenario that is becoming more and more tangible, due to Boris Johnson's unpredictable behaviour in negotiations and the looming Brexit deadline.

Read the full piece [here](#).



EU Institutions

DUM SPIRO, SPERO!

A EUROPEAN MAGNITSKY ACT IS IN THE WORKS

BY SHAIMA CHACHAI

Sergey Magnitski, aged 37, was pronounced dead on November 16th, 2009, after 358 long days of detention in Moscow's Butyrka prison. The young Russian tax advisor was imprisoned after uncovering a large fraud allegedly involving state officials unlawfully seizing corporate and tax documents and handing them over to criminal organizations. Magnitski subsequently died, just a few days before his release, after being beaten and denied access to the medical care he so desperately needed to treat various conditions which he had developed while serving his sentence.. Read the full article on our [website](#).



IT IS EUROPE'S DUTY TO CONDEMN AND SANCTION THOSE WHO CHOOSE TO MERCILESSLY VIOLATE HUMAN RIGHTS, WHOEVER AND WHEREVER THEY MAY BE.





Current Affairs



RECENT EUROPEAN EVENTS DIGESTED WITH EUROPE ELECTS PODCAST

BY KIMBERLEY MANNION

For anyone aspiring to keep on top of all the ins and outs of European politics, the Europe Elects podcast is essential listening. Each episode includes extensive news from elections taking place around the continent, from high profile national elections to those which won't be an international front page splash, like the Portuguese Northern Mariana Islands. All of this is brought with analysis from political party representatives and commentators from highly respected newspapers. There are even historical segments on elections of the past for when 2020 just isn't giving you enough. Read the full piece [here](#).



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DARING NEW SPACES SUMMIT

10.12.2020 14:00

Das Progressive Zentrum

IMAGINE WHAT EUROPE COULD AND SHOULD LOOK LIKE IN 2025.

DARING NEW SPACES SUMMIT ON THE EUROPEAN PUBLIC SPHERE

ON 10 DECEMBER, 2:00 – 5:00 PM CET, ONLINE

Join DPZ Berlin to explore future visions of a truly European public sphere during an online summit on December 10. Learn about promising initiatives for a more connected Europe, and engage in interactive debates on policy proposals with European decision-makers. If you would like to attend the online event, please send an email to events@progressives-zentrum.org.

CONTACT

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