

# Reality - Britain's Brexit Nightmare

By [Mike Small](#)

Global Research, October 19, 2020

[Bella Caledonia](#) 17 October 2020

Region: [Europe](#)

Theme: [History](#)

*The inevitable is happening before our eyes. The long predicted - and carefully curated - collapse of talks with the EU has happened as the die-hard Brexiteers who prorogued parliament and ejected long-standing members of the Conservative Party complete their mission.*

In June last year Boris Johnson had promised to leave ["Do or Die"](#). While everyone could see their strategy they watched him lie: "It is vital that we are prepared for a no-deal outcome if we are going to get the deal that we need. I don't think that is where we are going to end up, I think it is a million-to-one against."

Writing to colleagues yesterday with his usual bonhomie he talks of proceeding with "high hearts and complete confidence" to "embrace the alternative".

To be clear the "alternative" is, according to figures based on modelling with the London School of Economics, likely to hit Britain's economy three times harder in the long term than [coronavirus](#), and will lead to queues at the border and shortages of fresh food and medicine.

One study predicts that by the year 2030, the UK economy could lose 14% of GDP or €57bn or €873 per head. The [Scottish Government's Chief Economist predicts No Deal](#) could see a 6% fall in GDP by 2030, worth over £1,600 per person in Scotland and that an economic slowdown would be expected to double unemployment. Unemployment is forecast to rise by around 100,000.

These predictions were made BEFORE covid hit the economy.

This is stark economic harm foisted upon us. It's shamelessly ideological, it's profoundly undemocratic. It's been pushed through against the wishes of the Scottish people and against the wishes of the UK parliament. We should be furious but we should not be surprised.



10 DOWNING STREET  
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THE PRIME MINISTER

16 October 2020

Dear Colleague,

As you know, we left the EU on 31 January 2020 and delivered on the largest democratic mandate in the history of this country. We promised to get Brexit done and we did it.

Since then we have been in a transition period, obeying EU law, paying EU fees, all as a non-voting member. We have been working on the future relationship we hope to enjoy with our friends and partners from 1 January 2021.

From the outset we were totally clear that we wanted nothing more complicated than a Canada-style agreement, based on friendship and free trade.

To judge by the latest EU summit in Brussels, that will not work for our EU partners. They want the continued ability to control our legislative freedom and our fisheries, in a way that is obviously unacceptable to an independent country. Since we have only ten weeks until the end of the transition period, as Prime Minister I have to make a judgment about the likely outcome and to get us all ready for the end of the transition period.

Given the EU have refused to negotiate seriously for much of the last few months, and given that this latest summit appears to explicitly rule out a Canada-style arrangement, I have concluded that we should get ready for 1 January 2021 with arrangements that are more like Australia's.

This will be based on the simple principles of global free trade. We always knew that there would be a change on 1 January 2021, whatever type of relationship we had. Now is the time for our businesses to get ready for that Australia-style relationship.

We are willing to discuss the practicalities with our friends, where a lot of progress has already been made, on issues such as social security, aviation and nuclear cooperation.

It is clear from this latest summit that – unless there is a fundamental change in their approach – the EU are not willing to offer this country the same terms as Canada.

As a result, and with high hearts and complete confidence, we will prepare to embrace the alternative. We will prosper mightily as an independent, free-trading nation, controlling our own borders, our fisheries and setting our own laws. In the meantime, this Government will be focusing on tackling the coronavirus pandemic and building back better, so that 2021 is a year of recovery and renewal, in which we regain our economic and political independence.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Boris Johnson', written in a cursive style.

All MPs and Peers

As the reality that Boris Johnson was using public money to pay Jennifer Arcuri for sex is [exposed](#) (she received £126,000 in taxpayers money), the levels of corruption, and the PM's seeming impunity is astonishing.

Predictably the “collapse” of talks is blamed on the EU.

Let's be clear, there have been no negotiations. As Philippe Lamberts MEP says:

Johnson lies. [pic.twitter.com/CRCTqGREIZ](https://pic.twitter.com/CRCTqGREIZ)

— Tim Walker (@ThatTimWalker) [July 6, 2020](#)

This is wildly irresponsible behavior by the government we didn't elect. It's completely unnecessary and it's astonishing to watch it being played out with "high hearts and complete confidence" in the face of the coronavirus depression that is about to hit us all.

A No Deal Brexit means a No Deal Britain.

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