

STEWARTS



Navigating barriers to access justice in today's political climate

EU-UK Cooperation following Brexit – PEOPIL's Position Paper on the Rights of Personal Injury & Fatal Accident Victims in the field of Jurisdiction and Enforcement

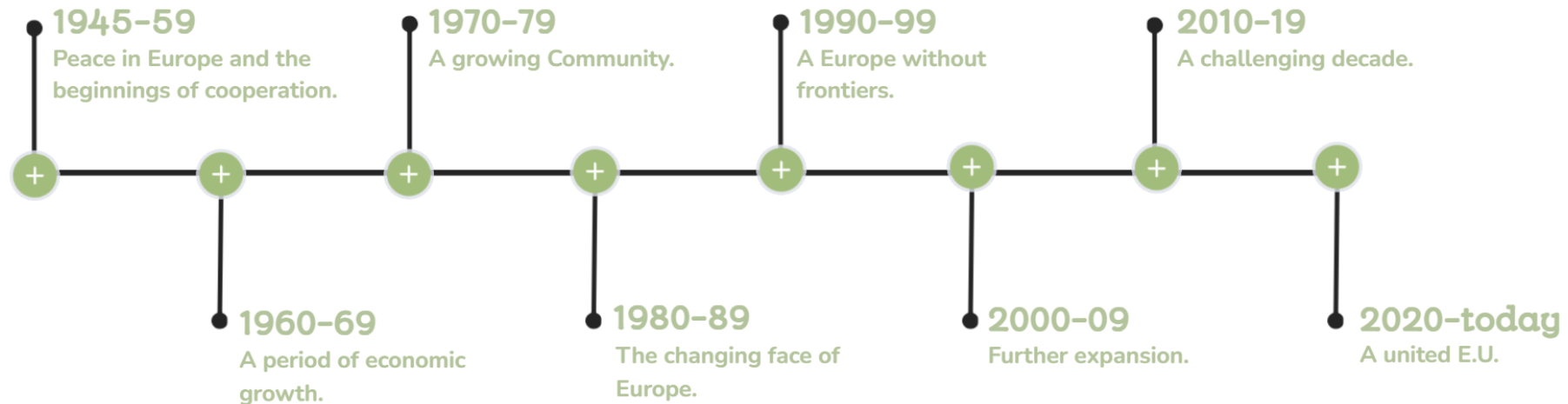
Chris Deacon, Partner, Stewarts, London | Chair of PEOPIL EU-UK Working Group

PEOPIL Annual conference, Brussels | 26 September 2025



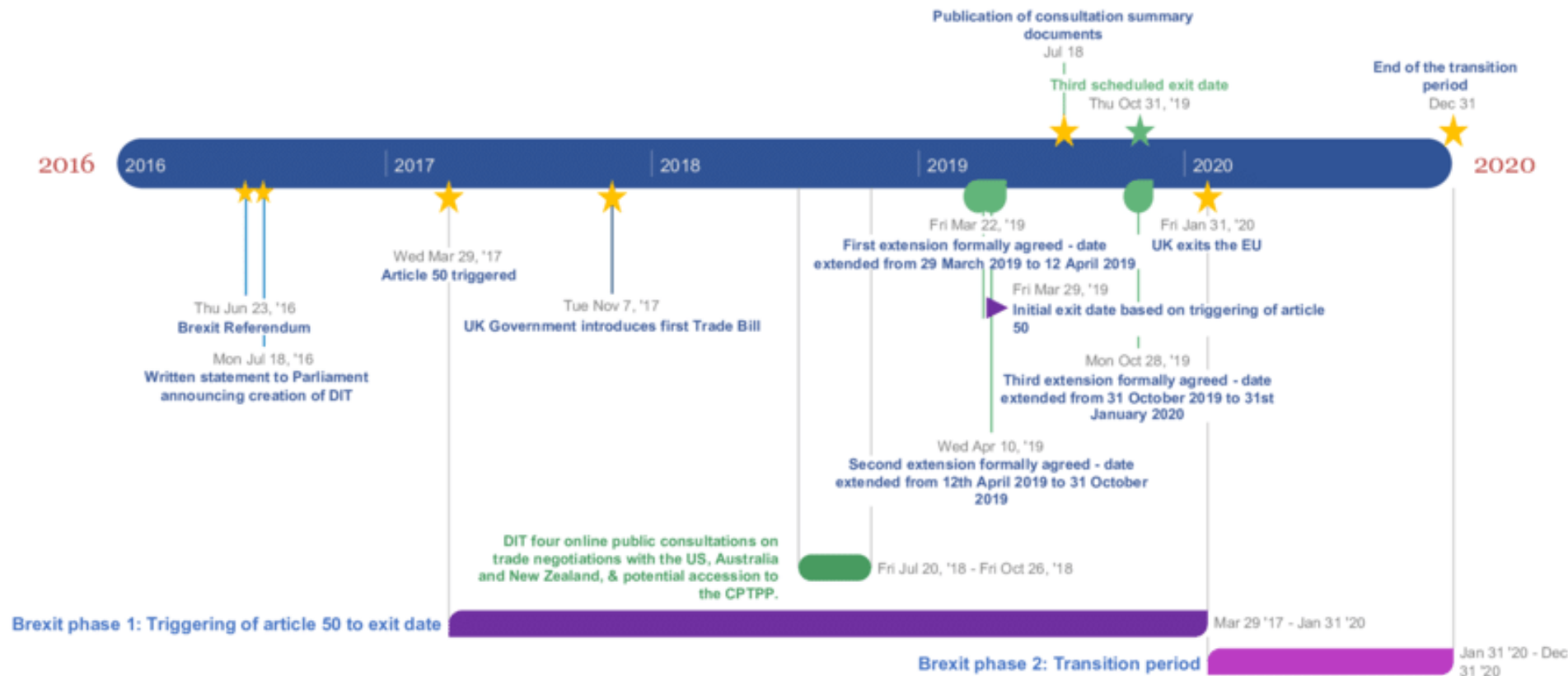
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European Union timeline













May	1979	First Thatcher ministry	General election	Margaret Thatcher	Conservative	Elizabeth II
	1983	Second Thatcher ministry	General election			
	1987	Third Thatcher ministry	General election			
	1990	First Major ministry	Leadership election	John Major	Conservative (minority)	
	1992	Second Major ministry	General election			
	1996		By-election			
	1997	First Blair ministry	General election	Tony Blair	Labour	
	2001	Second Blair ministry	General election			
	2005	Third Blair ministry	General election			
	2007	Brown ministry	Leadership election	Gordon Brown	Labour (caretaker) ^[9]	
6 May	2010		General election			
11 May		Cameron–Clegg coalition	Formation	David Cameron	Conservative	Liberal Democrat
		2015	Second Cameron ministry		General election	Conservative
	2016	First May ministry	Leadership election		Theresa May	Conservative
8 Jun	2017		General election	Conservative (caretaker) ^[9]		
11 Jun		Second May ministry	DUP agreement	Conservative (minority)		
Jul	2019	First Johnson ministry	Leadership election	Boris Johnson	Conservative	
Dec		Second Johnson ministry	General election			
6 Sep	2022	Truss ministry	Leadership election	Liz Truss	Conservative	
8 Sep			Accession			
Oct		Sunak ministry	Leadership election	Rishi Sunak		
	2024	Starmer ministry	General election	Keir Starmer	Labour	





PEOPIL's EU-UK Working Group

The core objective of the working group is to:





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The core objective of the working group is to:

- › *Lobby for improved access to justice between the EU and UK for injury victims, consumers and employees in the field of civil judicial cooperation.*
 - *i. Enforcement*
 - *ii. Jurisdiction*
 - *iii. Other areas: service, taking of evidence*



Photo by Christopher Furlong, Contributor, Getty Images

PEOPIL EU-UK WORKING GROUP



POSITION PAPER ON RIGHTS OF PERSONAL INJURY AND FATAL ACCIDENT VICTIMS IN THE FIELD OF JURISDICTION AND ENFORCEMENT: CALL FOR EU-UK COOPERATION

About PEOPIL

1. PEOPIL, as a leading European organisation of personal injury lawyers and academics, is devoted to the study of European law and to the development of a full and fair redress protection of personal injury and fatal accident victims without any frontiers between European jurisdictions.
2. PEOPIL has contributed to the development of Recast Regulation (Regulation EC



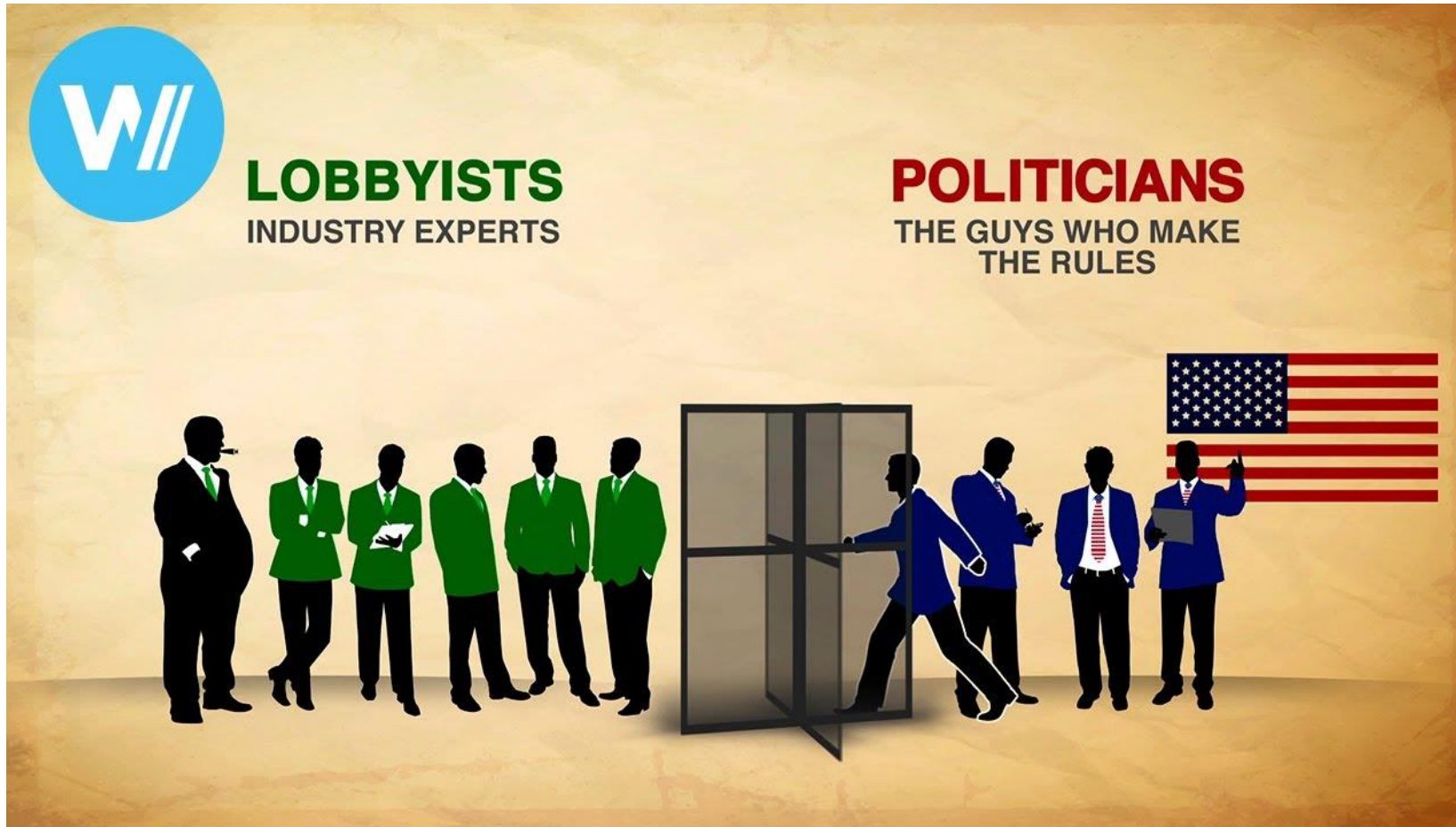
*PEOPIL considers there is **no legal basis for the EU refusing the UK's request to rejoin the Lugano Convention**. The suggestion from the EU Commission previously that accession to Lugano depends on participation (even if only partially) in the EU's single market is not supported by a literal or purposive interpretation of Lugano. Furthermore, it overlooks the status of Northern Ireland under **the Windsor Framework and the reality of the close alignment between the EU and UK under the Trade and Cooperation Agreement; close alignment which is to be further bolstered following the EU-UK summit and reset in May 2025**. The present position does arguably demonstrate the UK's partial participation in the single market.*

*In the alternative to Lugano, **a new bi-lateral arrangement** is required between the EU and UK that ensures full protection for injury victims on the combined issues of jurisdiction and enforcement.*



"Success always has many authors. I am convinced that when we work together, that's when the magic happens."

Linda Lipsen, CEO, American Association for Justice ("AAJ")



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