

No deal all over again?

*While the UK economy is on course to suffer the worst COVID-19 damage of any OECD country, the prospect of a no-deal Brexit has re-emerged after four rounds of negotiation have stalled, write **Ros Taylor** and **Roch Dunin-Wąsowicz** (LSE).*



There's no sign of the government countenancing a Brexit extension yet – but full border checks when the transition period ends will now be [scaled down](#). This will make for a 'pragmatic and flexible approach'.

Welcome to the Britain's self-inflicted post-Brexit unlevel playing field. Not so much take back control but abandon control and expose UK business to one-way free movement of goods. Telling that this is what now passes for good news. <https://t.co/Fa7uoZloTR>

— Simon Nixon (@Simon_Nixon) [June 12, 2020](#)

The UK economy [shrank](#) 20.4% in April and the OECD predicts [a decrease in the UK's national income of 11.5%](#) this year, which will outstrip the falls in all other western economies. Despite these forecasts, the lack of progress between the negotiating parties means no deal is a possibility. This would mean that more than half of the UK's current imports from the EU would incur a 5.7 per cent tariff.

Talks will now be '[intensified](#)' and Boris Johnson will meet EU leaders on Monday 15 June. 'Not met anyone EU-side who expects a breakthrough at the moment,' [says](#) the BBC's Katya Adler.

However, Whitehall and Berlaymont are not the only players in the game:

The European parliament could veto UK-EU trade deal, according to leaked resolution.

I know you've heard this one before, but here's the twist...(thread)<https://t.co/SPvFbUbUqk>

— Jennifer Rankin (@JenniferMerode) [June 10, 2020](#)

However, as [reported last week](#) a compromise will probably be reached during Germany's EU Council presidency – 'when the cost of failure will become significantly more tangible', as Sam Lowe [writes](#) for the CEU. In the meantime, some of the EU members most vulnerable to no deal, such as Ireland and Belgium, are pressing the European Commission to update its COVID-19 tumults to [take account of Brexit](#).

The UK in a Changing Europe has a meaty new report about [fisheries and Brexit](#). Cod be a good read.

On LSE Brexit

The Brexit divide may have an indirect effect on the phenomenon of lockdown scepticism, writes Patrick Sturgis, Jonathan Jackson and Jouni Kuha:

[Lockdown scepticism is part of the Brexit divide](#)

['It means Europeans aren't at the front of the queue': beyond the liberal/ cosmopolitan divide](#)

Brexit thinking, and indeed the immediate material consequences of that decision, stymied the government's response to the virus, at a great human cost, writes Jonathan Hopkin:

[Brexit thinking poisoned the government's response to COVID-19](#)

Finally, a reminder of happier days:

Brexit will not affect your summer holiday to the EU, Britons told <https://t.co/8LOgqpLUDf>

— SkyNews (@SkyNews) [January 17, 2020](#)

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