

What now? Our guide to Britain's future outside the EU

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Brexit is now a reality.

For those readers wondering what Nicholas Barr, who wrote our very popular Letter to friends, is thinking, it's this:

I hope I am wrong, but fear that – for the reasons set out in my [earlier article](#) – the referendum result will come to be viewed as a historic mistake. My sadness is not for my generation but for the 75 per cent of younger people who voted to remain.

These are some of the predictions our contributors have made about the post-Brexit world.



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The exit plan

Agata Gostyńska-Jakubowska and **Adam Lazowski** [explain](#) why Leavers want to avoid invoking Article 50 too quickly. “Vote Leave seems to assume that the entire outside world will just bow to its demands. But the contemporary world of globalised trade works in a different way.”

Tim Oliver [looks at](#) how the EU will respond.

Edward Pitt [sets out](#) the regulatory areas where the EU has been accused of overreaching itself – and which a Leave government will probably want to reform.

Trade

Ruth Lea [argues](#) that getting access to EFTA's trade agreements would be an economic boost.

Alan Sked is equally [optimistic](#).

Lorenzo Codogno says the [long-term effects might not be as bad](#) as predicted.

But **Robert van Geffen** [believes](#) Brexit will seriously damage financial services in the UK.

Steve Woolcock [says](#) we will be trading according to rules we no longer have a say in.

Simon Hix predicts the EU will become a [more heavily regulated market](#), making it harder for us to access it.

Michael Johnson says abolishing all tariffs is [unrealistic](#).

Tim Lang and **Victoria Schoen** [warn](#) the cost of food will rise as sterling falls, and look at what will become of British farmers outside the Common Agricultural Policy.

Yu Jie (Cherry) [warns](#) China would have preferred to trade with a Britain in the EU.

The NHS

LSE health policy experts [look at](#) the effect on staff, drugs, research and the debate about TTIP.

Migration

Dionyssis G Dimitrakopoulos says this is a [vote to cut migration](#), no matter what liberal Brexiteers say.

Chris Bickerton [argued](#) it was a chance to devise a coherent migration policy and open our borders to people who currently struggle to obtain a work visa.

Heather Rolfe offers an [employers' guide](#) to Brexit.

Marco Scipioni and Paula Hoffmeyer-Zlotnik [debunk](#) the notion that it will give Britain more control over refugee flows.

Universities

Helen Drake [mourns](#) the severing of ties with Europe.

Scientists Mike Galsworthy and Rob Davidson: "[Brexit will kill the goose that lays the golden egg.](#)"

But David Walker says it's [unclear](#) how much of Britain's success in the social sciences is dependent on the EU.

Britain and the rest of the world

Ex-diplomat Brian Crowe [predicts](#) the UK will be sidelined and Nato weakened.

Mareike Kleine: "[Think Liechtenstein](#), and you will get a picture of Britain's future status in world affairs."

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