

Michel Barnier on Brexit: Cherry picking is not an option

Written by Julie Levy-Abegnoli on 6 December 2016 in News
News

EU's chief Brexit negotiator expects a Brexit deal to be done by October 2018, says no negotiations without notification.



Michel Barnier | *Photo credit: European Parliament audiovisual*

The EU's chief Brexit negotiator, Michel Barnier, has given his first press conference since taking on the role.

Delivering his statement in both French and English, Barnier, the former European internal market and services Commissioner, stressed that Brexit must be a "clear and orderly" process, rejecting the notions of 'hard' or 'soft' Brexit.

The French official said, "The EU is ready to receive Britain's notification", but reiterated the Commission's stance that there would be no talks until the UK government triggers article 50.

RELATED CONTENT

- [UK Supreme Court begins landmark Brexit hearing](#) [1]
 - [Tusk issues stinging rebuke to UK MPs](#) [2]
 - [Verhofstadt: EU must put its house in order](#) [3]
-

Barnier added that it was now up to the UK to tell the EU "what it wants and what it is ready to accept," acknowledging that the work to be done was "legally complex and politically sensitive."

He also stressed that, "Being a member of the EU comes with rights and benefits. Third countries can never have the same rights and benefits, since they are not subject to the same obligations."

In addition, "The single market and its four freedoms are indivisible - cherry picking is not an option."

Barnier said he expects the negotiations to last 18 months - shorter than the two year period laid out in article 50 - with an agreement reached by October 2018. This, said Barnier, will then give the Commission, Council and EU and UK Parliaments time to ratify the deal.

About the author

Julie Levy-Abegnoli is a journalist for the Parliament Magazine

Tags

- [Brexit](#) [4]
- [European Commission](#) [5]
- [Trade](#) [6]
- [Internal Market](#) [7]
- [Foreign Affairs](#) [8]

Categories

- [International Relations](#) [9]



Site Sections

- [Home](#)
- [Content](#)
- [Policy](#)
- [Magazines](#)
- [PM+](#)

- [Thought Leader](#)
- [Climate Crisis](#)
- [Editorial Calendar](#)
- [Policy Events](#)
- [Event Coverage](#)
- [MEP Awards 2020](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

Services

[Dods PeopleDods](#)
[MonitoringDods](#)
[ResearchDods](#)
[EventsDods](#)
[Training](#)

Media & publishing titles

[Politics HomeThe](#)
[HouseThe](#)
[Parliament](#)
[MagazineHolyrood](#)
[Total PoliticsPublic](#)
[Affairs NewsCivil](#)
[Service](#)
[World](#)
[PublicTechnology](#)
[Training](#)
[JournalDods](#)
[Parliamentary](#)
[CompanionVacher's](#)
[Quarterly The](#)
[European Union and](#)
[Public Affairs](#)
[Directory](#)

Dods events

[Westminster](#)
[BriefingDigital](#)
[Health & Care](#)
[ScotlandMEP](#)
[AwardsThe Skills](#)
[SummitScottish](#)
[Public Service](#)
[AwardsPublic Sector](#)
[Procurement](#)
[SummitPublic](#)
[Sector ICT](#)
[SummitCyber](#)
[Security](#)

[SummitCyber
Security
2017Training
Journal Awards](#)

**Partnership
events**

[The Health and
Care Innovation
ExpoCivil Service
LiveCivil Service
AwardsChief
Nursing Officer for
England's
SummitWomen into
LeadershipThe
Youth Justice
ConventionSocitm
Spring
ConferenceNHSCC
Annual Members'
EventDods at Party
Conference](#)

[Privacy PolicyTerms & ConditionsAdvertisingSponsorship Subscriptions](#)

Source URL: <https://www.theparliamentmagazine.eu/articles/news/michel-barnier-brexit-cherry-picking-not-option>

Links

- [1] <https://www.theparliamentmagazine.eu/articles/news/uk-supreme-court-begins-landmark-brexit-hearing>
- [2] <https://www.theparliamentmagazine.eu/articles/news/tusk-issues-stinging-rebuke-uk-mps>
- [3] <https://www.theparliamentmagazine.eu/articles/news/verhostadt-eu-must-put-its-house-order>
- [4] <https://www.theparliamentmagazine.eu/tags/brexit>
- [5] <https://www.theparliamentmagazine.eu/tags/european-commission>
- [6] <https://www.theparliamentmagazine.eu/tags/trade>
- [7] <https://www.theparliamentmagazine.eu/tags/internal-market>
- [8] <https://www.theparliamentmagazine.eu/tags/foreign-affairs>
- [9] <https://www.theparliamentmagazine.eu/categories/international-relations>

