

Regulation

Key Facts

1

The UK is no longer part of the EU's legal structure and will no longer be bound by EU rules and court rulings

2

There are likely to be trade-offs in the negotiations between alignment of rules and market access

3

A new balance between UK and EU regulatory systems will need to be found

Moving to the UK in 2020 and beyond

Many UK rules have an EU origin. This allows businesses to trade with EU countries without having to think about local rules for almost all products and for many services.

Businesses will need to develop an awareness of the regulatory aspects of trading with the EU as rules can form so-called "behind the border" or "technical" barriers to trade.

Both the UK and the EU have expressed an intention to minimise barriers and mutually recognise rules or to consider them "equivalent" or "adequate" as much as possible. However, the relationship between the two regulatory systems will need to be agreed in a trade agreement.

During the implementation period, EU laws will apply in the UK and stay on the UK Statute Book to prevent disruption in the longer term. Over time, Parliament will scrutinise and possibly modify or replace each piece of EU originated legislation. There are also new laws to reflect that the UK left the EU and that it has own policies on, for example, trade, agriculture or nuclear energy.

For the regulation around your product, it is advisable to closely watch both the trade negotiations and the forthcoming parliamentary scrutiny of EU originated laws. In the meantime, you have to get your head round trading as a business from outside the EU ("third country").

For example, this could mean that you may have to show at the border that your product complies with EU rules or with local rules in the destination market, even if the UK rules are still the same. Also, there will be no recourse to the European Court of Justice in the event of a conflict.

To do

- Use the [UK](#) and the [EU](#) information portals to find out what the specific EU rules there are around your product, e.g. labelling, chemicals
- Find out about [domestic rules of the country you provide your services in](#)
- Set up a partnership with the [Primary Authority](#) to ensure you receive the latest updates on regulatory compliance
- [Sign up](#) for the London Growth Hub's business resilience training to help you identify relevant EU legislation

What's next

Whatever the outcome of the negotiations, technical barriers to trade are expected to happen from 2021. To get an idea of the new trading terms, check out this [example of a Free Trade Agreement with the EU](#).

For more information on the changes next year:

Visit [London Growth Hub](#) or [sign up](#) for free business resilience training

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