

EU Summit - Brexit: EU27 businesses growing more concerned by the day

EUROCHAMBRES' President Christoph Leidl has stressed the EU27 business community's growing concern about the possibility of a Brexit no deal scenario after another EU Summit concluded without progress.

The comments of President Tusk at the end of the Summit indicated a more positive mood during the Brexit discussions than in Salzburg, but also confirmed insufficient progress to convene an extraordinary Summit. Reacting to this, President Leidl stressed: "*We must avoid a 'no deal'. Brexit in any form is going to have a detrimental effect on the European economy, but we must do everything that we can to limit the damage, first and foremost by securing a Withdrawal Agreement.*"

President Leidl also provided a reminder of what is at stake: "*We need to deviate somehow from the hugely politicised route that the Brexit negotiations have taken, because fundamentally, Brexit is not about politics, it's about people, jobs, businesses and communities, both in the EU27 and in the UK.*"

Even if an agreement is reached by negotiators in the coming weeks, there is a chance that it will not be ratified by both parties. Chambers therefore continue to advise their member businesses to prepare for 'no deal' and are providing support through a range of tools and services. "*With just over 5 months to go, businesses cannot simply cross their fingers and hope for the best, so Chambers are helping them to prepare for the worst*", concluded President Leidl.

Note

EU Chief Negotiator, Michel Barnier, [took part in EUROCHAMBRES' European Parliament of Enterprises](#) (EPE2018) in the Brussels hemicycle last Wednesday, 10 October. On this occasion, entrepreneurs [voted almost unanimously](#) that the integrity of the Single Market and the EU take precedent over a favourable Brexit deal with the UK. However, they also expressed grave concerns about the prospect of reaching no deal at all.

More information:

- EUROCHAMBRES Position Paper 'On Track for Trade-Oriented Brexit?': <http://bit.ly/2NkwjLq>
- Press release: Salzburg Summit Brexit talks: Priority #1 = ensure an orderly Brexit (18/09/18): <http://bit.ly/2PJbVAI>

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