SEPTEMBER FACEBOOK Q&A

Thank you for your questions! Our teams have looked at 94 enquiries submitted during our two hour window and provided answers below, divided by themes:

- 1. Residency
- 2. Pensions/Social Security
- 3. Healthcare
- 4. Driving licenses
- 5. Working in France/Frontier workers
- 6. Education
- 7. Passport and travel/Pet Passports
- 8. Other

For more information please use our recommended links below:

Living in France guide: https://www.gov.uk/livinginfrance

To sign up for Living in France Guide email alerts: https://www.gov.uk/email-signup/?topic=/world/living-in-france

For news about upcoming Embassy citizens outreach events:

https://www.gov.uk/government/news/information-and-events-for-british-citizens-infrance

To sign up to the Embassy Voisins Voices newsletter: https://bit.ly/2HSCAf6

To read previous Voisins Voices and Q&As:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/voisins-voices-a-newsletter-for-the-british-community-in-france

The French Government website with information on Brexit: www.brexit.gouv.fr

The French Government website giving more information about current Cartes de séjour: https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/N110

To contact the British Embassy Paris: www.gov.uk/contact-consulate-paris

Residency

Questions	Answers
lan Montacute	Hi lan, thanks for joining us – great question.
Our Daughters are now at university.	We have raised this with the French
We have lived in France for 6 years	authorities a number of times. Their response
and will be able to apply for a CDS	has been that if your daughters can show that
permanent when the system opens.	their home base is still in France, coming
As they are no longer resident I	home for holidays etc, and they were clearly

understand that they will not qualify. As they are students and likely to return to France for their breaks they will spend more than 90 days in any 180 in France so cannot enter as tourists. Will they need to apply for a visa? And if so how do we commence? Many thanks.

living in France before they moved to university, they would likely still be eligible for residency. You, as parents, should qualify for permanent residency under the new system so this is helpful in showing the amount of time you and they have spent in France. The French authorities have repeatedly reassured us that they will implement the new system as flexibly as they can, although all situations will of course need to be considered individually. This would suggest that no visa is required. We continue to press the French to make more detail available about this, but hope this is helpful for now. You and your daughters might like to follow us on @BritishinFrance to get the latest updates.

Jill Collinge:

In response to Ian Montacute: This - except our children have lived in France for 10 years but went to day school in Geneva for secondary school. They have carte vitale bit not carte de sejour. We are still paying all their expenses whilst they are at university in London so I think they should be resident in France. But are they? If they are not then will the nhs cover them?

Hi Jill, thanks for your question. As we replied to lan, the French will take a case-by-case approach, but if you can prove that your children's home base is in France, they should be ok. Proof that they are dependent on you is another factor we expect the French to take into consideration. And there will of course be an appeals process for all residency applications, allowing for files to be re-examined. However, if your children were still not considered to be resident in France, and decided therefore to remain in the UK, they would be able to access the NHS by showing that their ordinary residence was there (for example, by having a UK address and intending to remain there). There is more information about NHS access on our Living in France guide:

<u>https://www.gov.uk/livinginfrance</u>. I hope this reassures you.

Michelle James

In response to Ian Montacute: Following. 20 year old daughter in similar situation having studied outside France. Born in France but refused nationality due to professional studies in UK. Brought her back to France to get a carte de séjour so she can stay with her family and friends. Brexit is particularly cruel to these

Michelle, we're sorry to hear that this has been a challenge for you and your daughter, and thank you for the feedback – we appreciate that this is a stressful time for many. Given the situation you describe, your daughter should be eligible for a residence permit under the new system, as we've described to lan and Jill. Please do sign up to alerts on our Living in France guide https://www.gov.uk/email-signup/?topic=/world/living-in-france.

children/ young adults who are being punished through no fault of their own.

John Hicks

I remember hearing that some form of Freedom of Movement might be retained by long term residents of EU countries, will our TCN cards enable this, to some extent? Hi John, great question, thanks for posting this. If you are a permanent resident in France, i.e. been legally living here more than 5 years, you will be able to apply for the longterm residence card in the post-Brexit system. This card is also available to third country nationals under the EU directive on long-term residents for TCNs. Our understanding is this card can facilitate the process if you want to move residence to another EU country. although you would still need to meet any requirements set by that country. You can find more information about it on the French website here: https://www.servicepublic.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F17359 or the European Commission website here: https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/what-wedo/policies/legal-migration/long-termresidents en

Laura Sharpe

Hello, I'm British and now also have French nationality. My husband is French. We have a Franco-British son. Could we move to and work in the UK after Brexit? Or would my French husband have to apply for some kind of visa? What about holidays in the UK? Would he need a visa?

Hi Laura, thanks for joining our facebook Q&A session. It would depend on when you want to move. If you were to move back to the UK as a family before 29 March 2022 your husband would still be able to apply for the EU settled status scheme as the spouse of a returning UK national. This would allow you both to work etc. If you were to move after this date, it is still possible but your husband would need to meet the criteria in the future immigration system, which has not been fully announced yet. Short-term holidays in the UK (less than 90 days) can continue without the need for a visa. You can find more information on gov.uk: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/n o-deal-immigration-arrangements-for-eucitizens-moving-to-the-uk-after-brexit/no-dealimmigration-arrangements-for-eu-citizensarriving-after-brexit

Bob Genge

Can you share this link for those living in France as it is much clearer what the French Government have in mind?

Hi Bob, good to hear from you again! Glad you have found the French website helpful – happy to share this and the brexit.gouv.fr site which should have the same information. Thanks!

https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/.../Le-ministere.../Sejour...

Cathy Heaton Was-ferguson

For those who sold up lock stock and barrel in the UK to live the dream in France and who are living off their savings, growing their own produce etc, but don't yet have an income / pension as they are inactive early retirees. I understand they won't therefore meet the monthly financial criteria required for a residency card, even if they own their own home here in France. What happens if they are refused a residency card? It can take years to sell your house here. Will the UK house them? And where? How does it work? Can you appeal the refusal?

Hi Cathy – Thank you for writing to us to share your concerns.

The French authorities have said that they will

consider applications flexibly, considering all sources of income, including savings, and also taking account of whether applicants are property owners or living in a property rent free. There is also an appeals process, the details of which would be set out in any refusal letter. There are 3 ways to appeal (in French – faire un recours - 1) directly to the prefecture 2) via the Ministry of Interior and 3) through the courts. Information is available via https://www.servicepublic.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F11891 For advice on returning to the UK, please take a look at our Living in France guide which has a section on returning to the UK https://www.gov.uk/living-in-france. But in short, as a UK national, you can return to the UK and have access to a wide range of services. If you decided to return full-time to the UK, you would be eligible to apply for social housing. I hope that this helps to put your mind at rest – the French Government has been clear at every level that it wants to find a way for UK nationals living in France to be able to stay here.

Katherine Hartig

Despite the British Embassy informing us that all French prefectures had been informed to treat our requests for CDS's regardless of Brexit (as is our right), and despite having already contacted the British Embassy for assistance through the correct channels after my prefecture (Colmar dept. 68) decided not to treat my dossier any further (although I match the "apparent" criteria required), by replying with what seemed to be a standard, automated email response which

Dear Katherine, I am sorry to hear about your experience. We are aware that a number of UK nationals have experienced difficulties when engaging with different Prefectures and not always had the same treatment - this is something we have raised with the Ministry of Interior (MoI). While the French authorities have not yet said how they will treat "in train" applications like yours, and we hope they will find a way to take into account the dossiers already received as much as possible, everyone will need to obtain a new (non-EU) CdS after Brexit. The documents you will need to provide under the new system will be slightly different, and simpler, than what you have had to give before. If you work, for

included being in the loop of your internal email correspondence discussing as to who would/should "deal" with me......"I" managed to finally push my prefecture to hand me at least a

récépissé for my request for a CDS. They finally gave me one but only valid for 6 months. Will this récépissé be enough for me to make this so called "smooth transition" with this so called "new online" system or will it be worth nothing? If nothing, will I be reimbursed the costs (approx 400.00 EUR) for official document translations which I was informed to get although others applying at the same prefecture made the same "demand" for a CDS without such translations and have received theirs? Similarly as a frontalier (Switzerland), how will a no deal effect my work permit situation and how long would I then have to get this sorted out.....

And should I be forced to give up my job as a result of Brexit, will the British Government provided any form of compensation...... bearing in mind of course that I was not even allowed to vote in 2016????!!!

And last but certainly not least, having suffered a heart attack in December and a double by-pass in February I'm now on ALD with CPAM....will this be effected?? If so, how?

#StopBrexit

example they will only ask for ID and your work contract. As for your question on working in Switzerland, as long as you have your cross border work permit ("G"), this is protected under the agreement reached between Switzerland and the UK, which is independent to the wider deal/no deal negotiations with the EU. I am sorry to hear about your heart attack and surgery - if you are already receiving benefits, this should not be affected. We realise this continues to be an uncertain time, but the French authorities have repeatedly assured us the new system will be simpler and their intention is for everyone to be able to stay.

Bob Genge

Do you have contingency plans for the repatriation of UK passport holders living in the EU to return back to the UK? Hi Bob, we are making contingency plans for all issues impacted by Brexit, however large or small.

Richard Borrie

For those of us who live and work in both the UK and France, the EHIC is vital. Do you have any details on what

Richard, thank you. It's not clear from your question whether you live in France or the UK, but UK issued EHICs will not work in the EU if we leave without a deal, and France issued EHICs will then also stop working in

is happening with it? The Brexit government is currently running adverts on UK TV telling us all to get prepared and that travelling to the EU is going to "change", but it seems as if the government itself has no idea what these changes are.

the UK (though will continue to be valid elsewhere in the EU). We therefore strongly recommend taking out comprehensive health insurance. You will find more details on healthcare at the link below: https://www.gov.uk/livinginfrance

Meg White

Will you be providing a service to provide FREE translation of British documents required for French residency applications?

Dear Meg, thanks for joining our Q&A. I'm afraid that the short answer is no. But as we know from a number of UK nationals in France that there are inconsistencies in Prefectural requests and that every translation has a cost, we are working to standardise and minimise the number of translations required. The French authorities have stated that Prefectures do have the right to ask for translations from Member States where the language of the document is not an official language of the country of residence (ie France can ask for translations of English documents from UK nationals). Having said that, the official communication from the EU Commission suggests that this right should be exercised on a case-by-case basis rather than systematically. Here is the non-legally binding EU guidance which details this: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legalcontent/FR/TXT/?uri=celex%3A52009DC031

We have explained the cost issue to the French Interior Ministry and they have agreed to look at ways to encourage Prefectures to take more of a case-by-case approach, only asking for translations where necessary. However, this continues to be a work in progress. Do sign up for alerts every time we update our Living in France Guide (www.gov.uk/livinginfrance) or follow us on @BritishinFrance for progress updates.

John Hicks

Bonjour ...

Can you confirm that in a No Deal Brexit I will need to purchase health insurance to visit the UK because my Bonjour John. You would indeed be well advised to take out fully comprehensive travel insurance if you are on a visit. The EHIC/CEAM agreement does not cover some costs including repatriation and even without Brexit we would always advise travel insurance even for travel within the EU. However as a transitional measure the

CEAM (EHIC equivalent) card will no longer work?

government this week did announce that the UK will continue to cover those travelling to the EU with an EHIC, whose visits commenced prior to Exit day until they return to the UK, up to a period of six months. For more information have a look at the government website https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/healthcare-when-travelling-abroad/healthcare-in-france/

Alex Sth

The new online CDS portal will be available in mid October according to the last Embassy outreach in Paris.

Will current CDS holders need / be able to register immediately or do we need to wait until after 31/10 / Brexit happens before reapplying?

Pt2 if we apply before 31/10 and pay the "tax" and this is later quashed or Brexit fails to go through will this be refunded? Hello Alex. As you heard at our outreach meeting (thanks for joining us), we have been told that the portal will open in mid-October but that there is no rush to apply as it will be open for the full six months. We'll advertise as soon as the site is open, so do follow us on @BritishinFrance.

Your second point is a good one. We have asked, but the French have not made any comment on this so far.

Ian Gordon

We lived in France in 1992 and were fully registered with cds/tax etc and have kept our tax and social security numbers. Will this be of any help to get our new cds?

Helen Vandeweghe

I am British and my husband is French. We have both lived and worked in the uk and France, but we currently live in Hong Kong. If we want to return to France or the UK in 5 years time what will we need to do? Is the fact that we are married enough to allow us to live in the UK or France - but to work will we need visas? lan, thanks for your question. It's not clear whether you left France in the interim or not, and if you did, when you returned, but if you have lived here since 1992 then any documentation that shows that will be relevant. Please also see our answer to you second question.

Hi Helen. It is difficult to answer this question at this stage. The answer will depend on the immigration rules in place in both countries at the time. The UK is currently developing its future system, and more information is available here:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-uks-future-skills-based-immigration-system

Our two children have British and French passports. lan Gordon Dear lan, thanks for your question. In this case you would need to provide alternative How do you register in France before proof that you were living here on or before Brexit if the first income tax form you exit date. This could include, for example, can complete is in May 2020? travel tickets, household bills, rent contract or house deeds, along with a number of other documents. Do follow us on Twitter Is there a system to get into the system mid-way through the tax @BritishinFrance for regular updates. vear? Otherwise how do I prove that I arrived before Brexit day? Sandra Whitehouse Hi Sandra, thanks for your comment. We're sorry to hear that you have had such a difficult time. We have had lots of Department 79 Deux Sevres state you can only apply for a RDV for a conversations with the French Ministry of CdS by phone. We have made Interior about the best way to proceed. You numerous attempts and we did do of course have the right until the day that manage to speak to someone once the UK leaves the EU to apply for an EU carte de sejour. Increasing numbers of Prefectures only to be told they were not accepting applications from British are, however, now advising the UK nationals citizens and were awaiting advice. resident in their Departements to wait for the The British Embassy told us they new online system, which is designed to be administratively lighter. This should launch in should be giving appointments, so we keep on trying but, now you just get a mid-October. You will not require an EU recorded message saying you can't Carte de Sejour to apply for a new residence leave a message as the mailbox is permit (and you would need to apply for a full!! So we are at a loss as to how to new permit even if you had a Carte de Sejour). The future system is designed to be proceed much simpler, with only one appointment at the prefecture where possible. You can find more information on our Living in France Guide at www.gov.uk/livinginfrance. **Pam Wood** Hi Pam, thanks for joining us today. We understand how frustrating it is to not be able to get an update on your application - we I applied for a cds in February in region 87, is there someway of at have raised this issue with the French least getting an acknowledgement authorities on a number of occasions. from them that it is being processed? However, whether or not you get a CDS Getting a bit twitchy now! before exit day, you will still need to re-apply for a residence permit in the new post-Brexit system. More detail is available on our Living in France Guide at www.gov.uk/livinginfrance. Or follow us on Twitter @BritishinFrance John Reading Hi John, thanks for your question. We're very

Will British citizens who have been

resident in the EU for more than 15

aware how strongly many British citizens

living in France feel about this issue. The

Government is committed to scrapping the 15

years be entitled to vote in any future Parliamentary election in the U.K?

year rule that prevents British citizens overseas from participating in UK parliamentary elections and was disappointed that the Bill to do this didn't pass Report stage earlier this year. During that debate, the Minister for the Constitution made it clear that the Government remains committed to implementing votes for life and is considering other ways to deliver this.

Heather Higgs

Applied for C de S from Angoulême in department 16 in December 2018 All paper work sent as requested have heard nothing since getting very concerned now .Have lived here 10 years . Is the embassy able to help or raise the issue . We are not alone in Department 16 although other prefectures appear to be issuing them

Hi Heather – thank you for getting in touch. Your situation sounds very frustrating. We do collect cases and then raise them with the Ministry of Interior to see if we can help get things moving. However, increasing numbers of Prefectures are now advising the UK nationals resident in their Departements to wait for the new online system, which is designed to be administratively lighter. This should launch in mid-October. You will not require an EU Carte de Sejour to apply for a new residence permit (and you would need to apply for a new permit even if you had a Carte de Sejour). The future system is designed to be much simpler, with only one appointment at the prefecture where possible, and if you have lived here for ten years then you should have no difficulties in getting a permanent residency permit under the new system. You can find more information on our Living in France Guide at www.gov.uk/livinginfrance.

Anthony M Parks

What is the situation for UK nationals in PACs with French national (living and working in France over 20 years and Pacsed since 2003)?

Hi Anthony, this is a good question. The no deal legislation does not specifically mention PACsed individuals although there may be options available to you under normal French rules for third country nationals. Having said this, the French no deal legislation for UK nationals legally resident in France by exit day might offer you an easier path to apply for residency in your own right because there are facilitated conditions and process for the application. As you have been here 20 years, you should be able to apply for a permanent status in the new system. The process will be particularly simple if you already hold a permanent residence card. Do look at the Living in France guide for more information on the French offer to UK nationals in a no deal scenario. Hope this helps.

Robin Rayner

Simple questions from a British couple who have lived here 14 years we have our carte de sejour and currently our carte vitals via S1 forms I understand the french government have said nothing will change with the carte vitale for two years is this correct? And how will the system work to exchange our European cds for a non European cds?

Hi Robin, thank you for your questions. If you have been here 14 years and already have permanent CDS valid 10 years, you will be able to simply upload a copy of these to the new online portal, which opens mid-October. The prefecture will then call you in for an appointment to check your fingerprints and ask you to pay the fee. Your new cards will then be posted to your home. You are correct that the French no deal legislation includes continuing to recognise the S1 for 2 years so you should see no change here during that time. The intention on both sides is then to sign a further reciprocal agreement on healthcare. Please do sign up for alerts to Living in France Guide at www.gov.uk/livinginfrance.

Roxy Lsltt

What will happen to double nationals? I'm super confused.

Hi Roxy, good question! There are no planned changes for the rules on dual nationality. If you are a UK national and already have a second EU nationality, you do not need to take any action to continue your residence in France. If, however, you are in the process of applying for a second EU nationality, and have not yet received a decision on your application, you will need to register as a resident UK national within the 6 months after exit day, if we leave without a deal. Do follow us on Twitter @BritishinFrance

Michelle Griffiths Salopek

Bonjour. I ve asked for french nationality all tests etc done and i received a letter saying i will soon be contacted. That was in april. Are french naturalisaton passports being held up? I have received a new cds. It says citoyen ue eee suisse. Will i have to renew this? I have lived and worked full time in france for 23 years my son was born here i am married to a french citizen for 19 years. Would we be able to move back to the uk one day? My son has a british passport and french nationality id card. When we travel home in october what documents should i use for him and do i need to make any changes to our passports. Thank you.

Hi Michelle, thanks for the question, which I'll take one by one. We cannot get involved with nationality applications but do understand that it can take 1-2 years. Yes, you will need a new residence permit to replace your EU CDS. Assuming your current CDS is permanent and valid 10 years, all you will need to do is upload this to the online portal, when it opens in mid-October, in order to get your new residence permit. If you choose to move back to the UK before 29 March 2022. your French spouse would be able to apply to the EU settlement scheme. If it were later than this, he would need to meet conditions under the future immigration system, which has not been fully announced yet. In terms of travel, you won't need to do anything for October this year, but the UK will stop recognising ID cards as a travel document during the course of 2020 so you would need

Janine McMahon

Any more information on when the application on-line process for Titre de Sejour is going to happen?

to check your passports are up to date. Please do sign up for alerts on the Living in France guide at www.gov.uk/livinginfrance.

Hi Janine, thanks for being online with us. Yes, the French have announced that the online portal for applications will open mid-October and you will still have 6 months from exit day to make your application. We have recently updated the Living in France Guide with more information at www.gov.uk/livinginfrance.

Rebekah Louise

Hello.

I have been living in France for 10 years. I've got higher french éducation, my child was born in France and my partner is french. I am working full time and have a CDI

Do you think a double nationality would be more idéal for my situation rather than a "carte de séjour"? Many thanks for your advice.

Hi Rebekah, welcome to the Facebook session. The British Embassy cannot advise on taking a second nationality – this is really a personal decision. You can find information about French nationality here:

https://www.service-

public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/N111

However, please be aware that after Brexit, all UK nationals resident in France will need to obtain a new type of residence permit relevant to their situation to claim their rights, within 6 months of exit day if we leave without a deal. This includes if you are in the process of applying for French nationality, which can take some considerable time. Do follow us on Twitter @BritishinFrance

Jane Holland

My mother has been resident in France legally since 2003. She has her titre de sejour permanente, but over the past 12 months has become increasingly infirm. She is 89 and has no internet access. 1) how will she be able to easily get her replacement card when the new system is in place (she only leaves the house for medical appointments). 2) will she still be entitled to the APA payments she receives to help her live at home, with the help of aides à domicile and nurses?

Hi Jane, sorry to hear about your mother. We have raised this concern with the French authorities who have tried to simplify the process as much as possible. For example, someone with a valid permanent CDS will be able just to scan it and upload this to the website, and then present themselves once at the prefecture for fingerprint checking and payment. They will receive their new card by post. If she has no internet access, she will need either you or a friend or neighbour to do this for her. Her Prefecture should also be able to explain what systems they have in place to help the less physically mobile. We have just put out a call for proposals for charities and support organisations to bid for British Government money in order to support people in your mother's situation, and will share details as soon as contracts have been awarded. . There should be no impact on any

Dave Blackmore

My wife and I have lived and been fiscal resident in France for 12 years, we have 1 child and another due February 2020, the last couple of years have been difficult for us and for the moment our only income is rsa, we have only been granted a 2 year carte de séjour, my understanding was we would have rights to permanent residency given we have been here over 5 years? As we start our family here in France we are left worried if our family will be allowed to stay. Please can you advise. Many thanks.

benefits she receives. Please do stay in touch with us if you have any further concerns, and consult our website www.gov.uk/livinginfrance on your mother's behalf.

Hi Dave – thanks for getting in touch. Firstly congratulations for your imminent arrival! I'm sorry to hear that the last few years have been difficult. The French government have been really clear with us about wanting to find ways to help British citizens stay here. The good news is that after Brexit, you should still be able to receive the RSA as a "third country national" who has lived in France for longer than five years. When it comes to exchanging or applying for your residency permit after Brexit, it's really important to show as full a picture as possible of your life here. Even though you might just be asked about the last five years, anything additional that you can show from when you arrived and from the years in-between when you were working will help show that you've been living here, contributing to the economy, engaging with the community etc. If you don't think you've got the right card after that, then you can get in touch with us at the Embassy via this contact form: https://www.contactembassy.service.gov.uk/?country=France&po st=British%20Embassy%20Paris. We expect the online application portal to go live in mid-October. Follow us on Twitter @BritishinFrance for updates.

Miles Larbey

Please advise exactly what we are required to apply for after Brexit, by when and to whom? When does the system open? Thank you.

Hi Miles. There are three things you'll need to do: (1) apply for residency, (2) check your healthcare coverage, and (3) check your passport validity.

(1) After Brexit you will have to apply for a residency card, whether we leave with or without a deal – but the timeframe will change according to the scenario. If we leave with a deal then we expect you to have until June 2021 to apply, though the French authorities will set out an exact timetable. If we leave without a deal, you will have six months to apply for a residency permit (or exchange an existing residency permit) and then six months to receive it. The French Ministry of Interior is putting a new online system in place

- from late October to simplify this. You can find updates on the French government website:

 www.brexit.gouv.fr which now has some sections in English. And the Living in France guide may also be helpful www.gov.uk/livinginfrance.
- (2) You will need to show that you've got healthcare coverage in order to get your residency permit. We understand that the French government will be flexible about what this means exactly. So if you have a Carte Vitale already you will continue to be able to access French healthcare; or if you are a UK pensioner and hold an S1, you will also be able to continue accessing French state healthcare under the same terms as now for a two-year period. If you have not yet applied for a Carte Vitale then we recommend you do so now. For longer term certainty we are seeking a reciprocal arrangement with France to cover matters like pensioner healthcare.
- (3) Finally go to https://www.passport.service.gov.uk/ch eck-a-passport to make sure you have enough validity to travel on your passport after Brexit.

I hope that this is useful – do sign up to updates from our Living in Guide and follow us on Facebook and Twitter @BritishinFrance for further updates.

Lloyd Tarran

Hello

I've lived in France for 20 years, I am married to a Philipine and we have a daughter together
My daughter has a Philipine and
British passport
What will the procedure be to go to and from England
Will my daughter have to have a authorisation to leave France and return?

Hi Lloyd, thanks for your question. With a British passport your daughter will be able to travel freely to the UK. If you don't have French nationality, however, and are planning to carry on living in France, you, your daughter and your wife will all need to apply for a residency permit after Brexit.

As a French national, your son will also be able to travel freely to the UK for short visits. After Brexit, the visa rules may change, for example, on stays of longer than three months. Please visit this site for more

Also I have a 15 year old son with a French passport to my previous relationship

Will he have to have a visa to go to and from England if he is travelling with me?

information: https://www.gov.uk/visiting-the-uk-after-brexit

Thanks Lloyd

Olivia Lune

Have you drafted a plan to provide support (staffing, office space, financing etc) to Prefectures in order to ensure that they are able to provide CDS or any other mandatory documents to British citizens following Brexit. It is all very well telling us we will have 12 months to obtain whatever titre de sejour is implemented post-brexit however sadly for many prefectures 12 months is insufficient

Hi Olivia, thanks for your question. We've raised the challenge of processing so many applications in such a short time with the Ministry of Interior. They have assured us that they will be able to handle it – and this is partly why they're bringing on a new online system to simplify the process. But we'll be watching this very closely.

Tony Wigmore

At your Parthenay (79) outreach session in January this year, the prefecture stated that 600 of the 4,000 British citizens living in Deux Sevres had applied for a CdS during 2018. At that time they believed that 200 cards had been issued, 200 more had been passed for card creation and 200 required additional information. Given my wife and I had our RDV in November 2018 and we have so far heard nothing from Niort, largely due to the team processing the cards having been disbanded in December 2018, what confidence do you have that 6 or 12 months will be sufficient for the French authorities to process the newly required residency cards and what fallback might we

Hi Tony – I was at the Parthenay meeting and remember those numbers. We're aware of delays at some prefectures and also that some have chosen to pause processing applications in the run up to Brexit day. We've raised the challenge of processing so many applications after Brexit in such a short time with the Ministry of Interior. They have assured us that they will be able to handle it and this is partly why they're bringing on a new online system to simplify the process. But we'll be watching this very closely. It sounds like you know our Living in France guide (www.gov.uk/livinginfrance) already, but do consider following us also on Twitter @BritishinFrance.

expect if (or when) they are unable to cope?

Carole Jeffries

Could you please explain the 'sufficient resources" required by the French authorities when applying for a long-term resident card ie: the minimum monthly wage you should be earning, how many savings you have, monthly amount of pensions etc. The prefecture in Laval told us we have to have at least 75K each in savings as well as earning the SMIC to be eligible to stay in France. Thank you

Hi Carole, thank you for raising this question, as I am sure many others will also find it helpful. All UK nationals resident in France before exit day will need to apply for a residence permit within six months of exit if we leave the EU without a deal. The French published no deal legislation earlier this year to protect the rights of UK nationals in France, including detailing the reduced conditions for UK nationals to acquire their residence permits, whether permanent or other. It sounds like Laval have referenced the current terms for third country nationals, whereas UK nationals covered by the no deal legislation will have to meet lighter criteria. You'll be able to find our informal translation of the rules at www.gov.uk/livinginfrance. The decree specifically says that sufficient resources will be no more than the level of revenue solidarité active (RSA), the low income benefit. This is roughly 550 euros for an individual. One of the additional facilitating measures is that if you own property you may not need to have this full income requirement and the French will assess your situation as a whole, taking into consideration how long you have been in France etc. I hope this helps.

Jan Glover

What if any, arrangements are in place for British Citizens who are house bound/severe disabilities to obtain a CdS, if not able to attend a Prefecture to collect the card and provide fingerprints?

Hi Jan, good to hear from you. We have raised this question several times with the Ministry of Interior and they have assured us that each Prefecture has measures they can take to facilitate the process for those with mobility issues. In extreme cases we understand it is possible for a residence permit to be delivered without biometric data. To apply for this, people will need to get in touch with their local Prefecture once the online system has launched. Also worth noting that the new residence permits will be posted to individuals' homes, reducing the requirement to travel. There's more information on this in our Living in France guide at www.gov.uk/livinginfrance

Audrey Irma Wilson

I am in a Pacs relationship with my partner We are both British & have

Hi Audrey, thanks for the question. The new online system, which will launch in mid-October, will enable you to make your application online from your home, although

lived in France for 25 years We have carte vitals I have limited mobility .Will we be able to apply as a couple Our Prefecture is some 40 kilometres away?

you will have to apply individually, rather than a couple. You will be given an appointment to visit the Prefecture to give your fingerprints and pay the fee, and then your new residence permits will be posted to your house. If you have difficulty accessing the Prefecture, you will need to get in touch with them direct to discuss how they can help - we have been assured that there will be systems in place to facilitate access for those with reduced mobility. I hope this helps.

Sue Harper

Apologies, as I asked this question previously, but I think it slipped through the net. Can documented residency in another EU country (9 years in the Netherlands) have any bearing on our future status. Secondly ; Have applied a long time ago for our CDS at Tulle...I have been issued with a receipt to say all'is in order and have had my biometrics taken, but my husband whose application went in at the same time and in the same envelope has not yet been processed. It is valid until Novemberwill this be all that is needed for the new online application ? Many thanks

Hi Sue, sorry if you did not see the reply we posted previously. Unfortunately, this time in another EU country does not count. If you have your permanent EU CDS this is all you need to apply to the future online system. However, if it has not come through yet, or as you say, your husband is still waiting, then this will unfortunately require a fresh application online. But, do note that the list of documents to provide has been reduced you can find more information on our Living in France Guide (www.gov.uk/livinginfrance) which also links to an informal translation of the decree itself. Hope this helps.

Heather Rosemary

My father is 90 and I care for him over here, he has dementia. I do not think I would be able to get him to the meeting to get his CDS. He has lived here with me for 12 years so how would I go about getting him a CDS as I do all everything for hims now including his paperwork. Do you have something in place for this kind of problem? Thank you

Hello Heather – thank you for your question. The French government have told us that they will help make special arrangements for people in the same situation as your father to enable them to apply successfully. I suggest you get in touch with your local prefecture after the new scheme has launched and explain the situation.

Ruth Rowan

Bonjour,

23 years in France working and paying into the Social security system. The last 6 years living in Hi Ruth. The legislation that France has introduced to cater for UK Nationals in the event of a no deal Brexit is generally aimed at those living in France at Brexit day and so your time spent in China may mean you are not eligible for these light touch residency

China paying into the CFE.
Planning to return to France within the next 12-24 months. We own our house and children have double nationality but we don't. What's our situation?

application requirements and instead would need to apply through the normal residency procedures for non-EU nationals. I would advise a conversation with your local prefecture about your options.

James Storr

Bonjour, I am a British citizen living in France for over 30 years. Since beginning of 2019, I have a "carte de séjour permanent pour européen". I have understood that I will need to apply for a new card in the 6 months following a no-deal Brexit. Will the procedure be simplified if I already have this card (like an exchange)? Thanks.

Hello James. Yes – that's our understanding. You should be able to apply for a straightforward exchange of your current card using the online system.

Vck Mllr

- 1. Are British citizens being prioritized by Prefectures when requesting French nationality in light of current Brexit-related uncertainty?
- 2. After Brexit, will it be possible to drive French-registered cars in the UK & vice versa or will there be additional formalities/costs for this?
- 3. Will French driving licences remain valid in the UK after Brexit? (for driving license section)
- 4. For British citizens with carte de séjour already, how much will it cost to exchange this post-Brexit for a non-EU version?
- 5. When will British citizens living abroad & currently disenfranchised due to UK electoral legislation be able to vote in future elections/referenda?

Hello Vck Mllr -

- 1. The prefectures are working on putting in place the new system for British nationals to apply for residency and when the new online application system is launched we understand some will receive additional resources to help with the extra work. We are unaware of special arrangements regarding nationality applications.
- 2. It will be possible to drive a Frenchregistered car in the UK. If your car is not
 insured in the UK, you will need to carry a
 green card as proof of insurance in France (or
 another European country). Contact your
 vehicle insurer before you travel. It will also
 be possible to drive in France with a UKregistered vehicle.
- 3. Yes.
- 4. We understand the cost will be €119.
- 5. This is an issue that concerns many British nationals. This was part of the Conservative Party manifesto in 2017 and a private member's bill was making progress through the Houses of Parliament with government support earlier in the year. However, it did not progress past the Committee stage. We don't have any more news at the moment but will update as soon as we do.

Pensions, Social Security

Questions	Angwara
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Answers
Neil Chatterjee	Hi Neil, if you apply for French citizenship
His bounds I get you DMD accounts	you will be able to retain your UK
Hi how do I get my DWP account;	citizenship. Regarding the procedures for
pension, access to benefits if needed,	transferring social security and pension
transferred from the DWP to CAF. Just	arrangements to CAF, I recommend you
been given a five year titre de séjour	discuss this with the International Pension
and will probably stay in France. Also if	Centre who provide advice or information
I apply for French citizenship do I	about pensions and benefits for British
retain UK citizenship? Many thanks.	nationals living abroad.
Suzanne Espley	Hi Suzanne. Thank you for your question. If the EU and UK agree a Withdrawal
What will happen to my son, aged 25	Agreement, nothing will change until at least
who receives the AAH as he suffers	the end of 2020. In a no deal Brexit
from sévère anxiéty? Will he lose this	scenario, if your son is living in France
after Brexit ?	currently, his entitlement to the benefit will
	be preserved for a one year transition
	period. After this, in order to benefit from the
	AAH, he would, according to current French
	guidance, need to meet the conditions laid
	down for non-EU citizens. You may wish to
	visit the French Brexit website here, where
	there is also an email address if you have
	further questions.
	https://www.brexit.gouv.fr/sites/brexit/accueil
	/vous-etes-britannique-en/prestations-
	sociales-en.html
Sarah Massingham	Hi Sarah, UK pensions will still be payable
	to you overseas. See here for further
I am concerned that I will still be	information: https://www.gov.uk/state-
entitled to my state pension and	pension-if-you-retire-abroad. You will also
teachers pension from the UK, I have	find a link there to the International Pensions
not started to draw on it, I will have a	Centre, a good source of advice.
small pension in France too.	
Suze Sidwell	Hi Suze, thank you for your question. The
	UK government will continue to pay a State
Will people who receive both state and	Pension to those eligible in the EU after
employment based pensions from uk,	Brexit, and your UK State Pension will be
still be entitled to the cost of living	uprated in April 2020, 2021 and 2022 if you
increases in the years to come? Or will	live in the EU, EEA or Switzerland. Beyond
they be frozen, thereby putting	that the UK hopes to continue uprating but
thousands of UK citizens in penury.	this will depend on a reciprocal arrangement
Will they also be entitled to health care	being reached in this area with the EU.
benefits in France and if not will they	Regarding healthcare, in the event of a no
be entitled to free health care in UK to	deal Brexit the French government has said
which they are not entitled under	it will continue to provide healthcare to UK
present rules.	pensioners on the same terms as local
	members of the French system for a period

of two years while a longer term reciprocal arrangement is negotiated with the UK. Possession of an S1 form will also entitle you to NHS healthcare on visits to the UK, if you were living in France before Brexit Day. For more information on healthcare please visit: https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/healthcare-when-travelling-abroad/healthcare-in-france/

Julie A Fox

What will be the situation if there is a no deal Brexit on the following?: UK blue badge holders parking in French towns and tourist sites when UK blubadges have large EU12 stars symbol on them. Will badge users still be treated the same as French blue badge holders in France or will they get fined for using blue badge parking spaces? (for healthcare section) 2. Does the British embassy know what you have to do if you have a Maison secondaire in France and you are considering making it your primary home and your UK on your secondary. If you move pension to French system to get in French health system would we get taxed twice, once by UK and once by France in no deal scenario?. What would happen tax wise if no deal Brexit if kept Pension in UK. Would we also be liable to tax in France? So far we do not have anything like 5 years residency

Hi Julie, thanks for your question. There isn't official advice at the moment about what will happen to UK blue badges, but whether or not to accept them will remain at the discretion of local authorities. If you are resident in France then you can apply for a Carte Mobilite Inclusion (CMI) which is the French equivalent of a blue badge, and is valid in all EU countries. Regarding your pension, the UK France double taxation agreement will not be affected by Brexit. However for more information you may find this link useful: https://www.gov.uk/statepension-if-you-retire-abroad. You will also find a link there to the International Pensions Centre, a good source of advice.

David J Williams TD

Please explain why UK pensions are being frozen when this has sod all to do with the fact if we leave the EU or not as the case maybe. As I understand it French citizens living in the UK will not have to suffer this appalling decision as us British will have to. I have fought for my country and if this is the way the government thinks of its veterans then I will feel worthless and putting my life on the line was futile as it has not reaped any benefit to me or my family.

Hi David, I recognise your strength of feeling on this issue. In a no deal scenario your UK state pension will continue to be uprated as expected in April 2020, 2021 and 2022 if you live in the EU, EEA or Switzerland. During this 3-year period the UK government plans to negotiate a new arrangement with the EU to ensure that uprating continues. We are confident Member States will feel, as we do, that it is in all our interests for this to happen on a reciprocal basis.

Paula Lassey

As UK state pensioners with CDS cards, will the UK government be assisting with financing changing these cards after brexit?

Hi Paula. As you indicate, the French government has said it will charge a fee for the new residence cards. The UK is not requiring a fee of EU nationals under its settled status scheme, and nor are some other EU countries, and we are urging the French government to follow suit.

Healthcare

Questions **Answers** Hazel Brownlie-Kind Thank you for your question Hazel. I can confirm that in the event of no deal, the French government A hospital visit this week highlighted that my French health rights expire on has said it will continue to provide 31 October 2019. healthcare to UK pensioners on As I am receiving treatment following a equal terms to other members of car accident in May, does this mean the French healthcare system for a that I will have to pay for any period of two years, or until a reciprocal agreement is signed appointments and treatment after that with the UK. Both sides want such date? I have contacted my CPAM office and they said that they have no a reciprocal deal. I note your idea what will happen. experience with your CPAM, it is I currently have my health care cover important we are receiving this via an S1 as I am over 65 years old. feedback. Tana Deen Thank you for your question Tana. Firstly, we would strongly recommend, if you haven't I need private health insurance in order to apply for a CDS and apparently we already, that you apply for a Carte need the same amount of cover as you Vitale, so that you are set up for would get on a Carte Vitale. Nobody healthcare in the event of a no seems to be able to advise me how deal much cover I need You are right that to apply for certain types of CDS under the scheme the French government have established to treat British nationals in a no deal Brexit, you will need to have health insurance. The French government has not confirmed what types or levels of health insurance it will recognise for this purpose, although we are hopeful that the definition will include French state health insurance. Do register for updates on our online "Living in France" guide which will be updated when we know more. Valerie Holland Thank you for your question Valerie and I'm sorry to hear BLUE BADGE SCHEME: GOV.UK

states

the Blue Badge is "based on the standardised Community model..." This is no longer the case. My French Blue Badge, renewed in 2018, is the

about the problems you've encountered using your Blue Badge in the UK. I can confirm though that after exit day, the UK will continue to recognise

size of a debit card while those recently renewed in the UK have not changed. Last month, while visiting England, I was questioned by officials and experienced abuse from members of the public for using the disabled parking bays and not displaying the standardised (recognisable) model of Blue Badge

The UK authorities tell me they have no information from the DfT and are unable to issue a Visitor's Blue Badge What arrangements have been made for handicapped UK citizens living in France, holding a French Blue Badge and needing to park legally in disabled parking bays when in the UK?

Blue Badges issued by other EU Member States, as we do now. I am not sure who the officials were who you spoke to but it sounds like this shouldn't have happened.

Helen Woodford

We are on a UK permanent contract, located in France. We are NOT claiming pensions, we are full time permanent employed.(CDI). The Carte Vitale requires an A1 and S1 to confirm our right to health care. But our A1 expires on October 31st and HMRC have advised our employers we do not need an S1, which in any case would expire on the same date. The French government has stated that a) we do need an S1 form submitted as well A1 and b)that there is currently no replacement for the A1 in place and it is unclear whether the much lauded 'grace' period will cover this issue. Thus we are currently without a Carte Vitale and need urgent resolution of this contradictory advice.

Hi Helen. I am sorry to hear about the difficulties you are experiencing and thank you for sharing your experience.

The French government has said that the grace period will cover residence, work and social rights. UK nationals should in principle be able to apply for a carte vitale now.

However we are aware of cases where the process of obtaining a carte vitale is not proving simple. We are urging the French government to bring forward more information for UK nationals about application procedures.

You may also be aware that the UK government announced this week that it will fund the healthcare of UK-insured individuals while they are going through the local healthcare registration process. That means if you have an EHIC, for example, you may be eligible for UK-funded cover for up to a year while registering. For up to date information on healthcare when you are living in France please see:

https://www.nhs.uk/using-thenhs/healthcare-abroad/healthcarewhen-travelling-abroad/healthcarein-france/

Nelli Birch

Are there any plans to help UK citizens get into the French health system? Timescales seem completely arbitrary as to when you get your Carte Vitales. We have been waiting over 9 months, friends in a very similar situation got theirs in less than two months. You cannot get hold of anyone to speak to if you are an early retiree.

Hi Nelli - thanks for getting in touch. I am sorry to hear about the delay you are experiencing in obtaining your Carte Vitale. It is useful to receive these reports. We are seeking further detail from the French authorities on how they will approach those who have not completed the registration procedure before Brexit day. You may also be interested to know that the Health Secretary announced on Monday that the UK government will if necessary, in the event of a no deal Brexit, provide healthcare cover during the time it takes to be registered with a local healthcare scheme. such as the Carte Vitale. This is to ensure people are not exposed to gaps in healthcare coverage and potentially high costs while they register for healthcare locally. I hope this provides some reassurance whilst you are waiting. Please see also https://www.nhs.uk/using-thenhs/healthcare-abroad/healthcarewhen-travelling-abroad/healthcarein-france/

Colin Morris

What will happen for me i am on sick health in france now since 10 years will it stop with the break i have worked all my life in france and never in the uk although i am still english with a cds eu thank you for the answer

Hi Colin, I'm sorry to hear that you are in poor health. If you have a Carte Vitale then you will be able to continue to access healthcare after Brexit. If you don't have a Carte Vitale, then please start your application. As a fallback, if you were to encounter any delays becoming registered, the UK government will be able to provide healthcare cover during the registration process.

Julie A Fox

What will be the situation if there is a no deal Brexit on the following?: UK blue badge holders parking in French towns and tourist sites when UK blubadges have large EU12 stars symbol on them. Will badge users still be treated the same as French blue badge holders in France or will they get fined for using blue badge parking spaces?

2. Does the British embassy know what you have to do if you have a Maison secondaire in France and you are considering making it your primary home and your UK on your secondary. If you move pension to French system to get in French health system would we get taxed twice, once by UK and once by France in no deal scenario?. What would happen tax wise if no deal Brexit if kept Pension in UK. Would we also be liable to tax in France? So far we do not have anything like 5 years residency (for pension section)

- There's quite a few questions there Julie! Taking them in turn:.
- (1) There isn't official advice at the moment about what will happen to UK blue badges, but whether or not to accept them will remain at the discretion of local authorities. If you are resident in France then you can apply for a Carte Mobilite Inclusion (CMI) which is the French equivalent of a blue badge, and is valid in all EU countries.
- (2) The UK and France have a bilateral taxation agreement so once you are settled and resident here, there will be a degree of coordination between our authorities to make sure you're being taxed appropriately.
- (3) Your mother will need to exchange her titre de sejour permanente for a post-Brexit residency permit. We're expecting this to be a relatively straightforward process, for example, you or a friend would send a copy of her existing card in, and the new one will be posted out. We have raised the issue of potentially vulnerable citizens and asked that they be considered in the design of the new system. Separately the UK Government has set up a fund for local organisations who can help vulnerable people apply for their residency card. This scheme is currently accepting bids for organisations but the funding is expected to be allocated in the Autumn. So if your mother does need special support that may be another option. We expect that holders of the residency card will be able to access the benefits that they do now, in which case the APA support would continue.

Driving Licences

Questions	Answers
Andrew Bird:	Dear Andrew,
UK registered yacht? How long can it stay in EU waters?	There will be no change in conditions for yachts registered in the UK to access and stay in EU waters. Vessels have rights of freedom of navigation (EEZ) and innocent passage (Territorial Sea) under UNCLOS to which we and EU MS are parties in our own right and which also form part of customary international law. These rights are not affected by Brexit.
Iana Sprulas	Door Jano

Jane Sprules

Do the UK and French Governments talk to each re the advice the British Embassy in Paris provides to UK nationals in France concerning the saga of Brexit?

I ask as the British Embassy's advice is to exchange UK driving licences for French ones. I sent off our application forms with all the requisite photos, etc. in January only for both to be returned with a letter saying that our UK driving licences would be accepted and are still valid after 29th March and, I presume, in the event of the UK leaving the EU on 31st October, this will also apply. Is my understanding correct?

I also emailed the Calvados prefecture for an application form for a CdS about 2 months ago at the email address supplied on their website. I've heard a big fat zero. I cannot request an RdV until I've got the form. Now I see that the French Government are opening a Dear Jane,

On the subject of driving licences, the French government has said that if you are a resident in France at Brexit day and hold a UK driving licence, it will continue to be recognised by French authorities irrespective of the conditions of the UK's departure from the European Union and with no time limit. You do not need to apply to exchange it unless it is expiring, lost or stolen, if you need to add a driving category or if you have committed an infraction to the French highway code with results in docking points from a French driving licence. Because of processing delays in CERT (currently standing between 9 and 12 months), we recommend that unless you are in either of the four previously mentioned situations, you defer your application. The wording in the Living in France guide could be

website for UK Nationals living in France to apply for their CdS. British Embassy, you and I both know that everyone will apply as soon as they hear this website is up and running as they want certainty and I don't blame them, but will the website cope with the demand? Please can you ask the French Government about this?

There are a lot of people here who are concerned about healthcare as they are receiving treatment. Please can the UK and French Governments discuss this and come to an agreement between the two of them to allay UK Nationals' fears on this point. It doesn't apply to me as I'm too young for a pension (if I ever get one due to the goalposts being moved all the time) but those with S1s are worried their treatment will cease as of 31st October, if, of course, the UK leaves the EU on that date. Please confirm that UK Government is taking this point seriously.

I have been deeply upset to see that UK Government seems to care more about EU Nationals living in the UK than UK Nationals living in the EU. The impression I'm getting loud and clear is that because I'm resident in the EU that UK Government doesn't give a monkeys about me and are casting me aside.

Last, and by no means least, please convey my respects to Her Majesty with my humble request that Her Majesty rounds up all Members of Parliament, puts them in the Tower and gives orders for any bits that she deems fit to be chopped off as the Members of Parliament including Bojo are not fit for purpose.

Thank you for reading this and for opening this thread up for questions. I wish you a pleasant afternoon.

improved though, you're right – let me take that away.

Regarding healthcare, in the event of a no deal Brexit the French government has said that it will continue to provide healthcare to UK pensioners living in France at Brexit day on the same terms as other members of the French healthcare system. More information is available on the UK government's web pages here which you might find useful: https://www.gov.uk/living-in-france#healthcare-in-france

Thank you for your other comments. We completely understand the uncertainty that people are facing and I can assure you that the UK government is working hard to protect the rights of UK nationals in France after Brexit. The Prime Minister, the Brexit secretary Steve Barclay and home secretary Priti Patel all raised the issue of citizens' rights with their counterparts in their recent visits to Paris. Embassy officials are in regular discussions with French officials about it. You might also be interested in the Ambassador's evidence to the French parliament's European Affairs committee earlier this week, available here:

https://twitter.com/LCP/status/1176 788868827418626

Beverley Thornton

I have heard that if you are over 70 and have a french driving licence you will not be able to drive in the uk is this true

Hello Beverley. The British government will continue to recognise French driving licences as previously. This means, as a tourist, you will be able to drive in the UK with your French driving licence irrespective of your age. However, current French legislation would, after Brexit, require you to have a translation of your British driving licence if you are driving in France as a tourist. French authorities will accept international driving permits as a translation. In this case, we would recommend you get an international driving permit. For more information on how to get and IDP, see here.

Julie A Fox

Another question if there's no deal Brexit what are we to do with driving licence and about international driving permits when France demands them and you cannot obtain one online and can't just pop to local UK post office to get one as you're already abroad?

Hello Julie, thanks for your question. If you are a resident in France and hold a UK driving licence, you do and will not need an IDP. The French authorities will continue to recognise your UK driving licence as previously irrespective of the outcome of the UK's departure from the European Union and with no limit in time.

An IDP may be useful in lieu of a translation of a UK driving licence if, after Brexit, you are driving in France but do not reside in France (e.g. as a tourist).

Although, as a resident you will not need it for French authorities to fully accept your British driving licence, if you reside in France and still want an IDP, you can apply from France for an IDP by following the French Ministry of interior instructions here.

Clive Hedley Jones

Again I am asking for support for those of us shortly to reach 70 yrs of age, and about to be without a driving licence valid in the uk, France or anywhere else in the world ... because of no fault of our own, and with no support from our Embassy or Gov

Yes, it is about those vastly delayed french driving licences, again, and we need positive help and action ... no more words of comfort which come across as condescending at best

And so

What action are you taking to accelerate these licences with the French authorities, and have you involved M Macron, and if not why not? When will this be resolved?

Why havent you worked with the uk gov and the DVLA to enable our uk licences to be renewed for 3 years, based on last known uk address for instance, or an accommodation address that is cognisant of our French address ... this is an emergency and requires you to take action on our behalf. The renewed licences are perfectly acceptable to the French, would help us, and relieve pressure at the overstretched authorities in France.

Please do not insult us with the passive answers from before ... time for you to take action

Clive H Jones

Dear Clive,

We have been in contact with CERT regarding the delays in application, including a second visit to Nantes two weeks ago. Delays are currently 9 months to a year. CERT is increasing its capacity to deal with the backlog and working on a new approach.

Because of these delays UK citizens residing in France should defer their applications to exchange unless they have a) lost or had their licence stolen, b) you have to include a new driving licence vehicle category, c) you have committed an infraction to the French highway code which means you have to dock points from your licence, d) as in your case- your licence (and not the photocard) is expiring.

In the case of people approaching 70 CERT has told us they will treat these cases as a priority. You should apply (or reapply) if you are in this position.

Thank you for your suggestion on working with DVLA. The embassy has been talking to DVLA and the Department for Transport to determine whether there is any flexibility in current requirements and legislation (including around overseas renewals and addresses) or whether more guidance could be made available about the law in this area. We will publish any relevant information on this subject on the Living in France Guide. But I should also caution that you must not attempt to renew your UK licence if you have an application

in the pipeline at CERT because
in the pipeline at CERT because this will result in your CERT
application being invalidated and
returned to you.

Working in France, frontier workers

Questions **Answers** Jordan Middleton Hi Jordan, many thanks for the question. The French Government Hello, I am a British student Who has has passed legislation that ensures lived in France for the Last 13 years that in the event of a no deal, and I am this year sitting the CAPES British citizens who are already externe publique in order to be an civil servants or stagiares on the English teacher, but Will Brexit date of the UK's departure from the complicate my situation since if I pass I EU will retain the status of Will be a fonctionnaire d'état ? Can you fonctionnaire. The French offer any infotmation on this? Government website has more detail. We are seeking further information from the French government about how this provision applies to those in different stages of training. **Debby Hynx** Hi Debby, if you reside in France and want an IDP, you should be Frontalier issue: I applied to exchange able to apply by following the my UK driving license for a French French Ministry of interior one. The application was returned to instructions here, although we are making inquiries to see how if at all me without being processed. Now the French say they will still accept UK this process is affected by Brexit. ones. However I am frontalier with Regarding the latest information Switzerland and I think the latest there about Swiss arrangements, you is that I would need an international should monitor the government's Living in Switzerland guide. UK license. Is there a route for Frontalier to be able to exchange driving licenses without the dossier being returned again? Jayne Tetley Hi Jayne, many thanks for the question. In a no deal scenario, if you are lawfully resident in France If we live/work in a border area e.g. swiss/france, what will happen about on Brexit day then you will be regular travel across those borders if eligible for a new French residence brexit goes to no deal? permit, although you will need to apply for this within 6 months of Brexit. More detail about this is available on our Living in France guide. We're awaiting more detail on the approach that will be taken at the border crossing although we expect the French authorities will

take a pragmatic approach to documentation given the 1 year grace period in which UK nationals will not be legally required to hold a residence card. Regarding your ability to work in Switzerland, a bilateral agreement (gov.uk/government/news/swisscitizens-rights-agreement) may be relevant to your situation. For example, your cross border work permit ("G") is protected under this agreement, which is independent to the wider deal/no deal negotiations with the EU.

Claudia Ryder

Is there any further information for cross border workers (travelling from France to Switzerland)? Will we need any further documentation apart from titre de sejour/Swiss work permit?

Hi Claudia, many thanks for the question. The Withdrawal Agreement covers frontier workers in a deal scenario. In a no deal scenario, if you are lawfully resident in France on Brexit day then you will be eligible for a new French residence permit, although you will need to apply for this within 6 months of Brexit. More detail about this is available on our Living in France guide. Regarding your ability to work in Switzerland, this bilateral agreement (gov.uk/government/news/swisscitizens-rights-agreement) goes some way to address this. For example, your cross border work permit ("G") is protected under this agreement, which is independent to the wider deal/no deal negotiations with the EU. We're awaiting more detail on the approach that will be taken at the border crossing although we expect the French authorities will take a pragmatic approach to documentation given the 1 year grace period in which UK nationals will not be legally required to hold a residence card.

Kay Doney

We have lived permanently in France for the past 8+ years. We are 60 and 63, and run a small successful holiday business. I have been told that if UK leave EU we will not be able to

Hi Kay, many thanks for the question. I am glad to say that this is incorrect, in either a deal or no deal scenario. You will, however need to obtain a new type of residence permit relevant to your situation to claim your rights. If the UK leaves the EU with a deal, you

continue working in France is that correct? Has this been discussed?

will have until at least June 2021 to apply for the new card. The agreement on citizens' rights will allow UK nationals to stay in their Member State of residence after Brexit. For a no deal, the French published legislation earlier this year to protect the rights of UK nationals in France, including detailing the conditions for UK nationals to acquire their residence permits. Having lived here for over 5 years, you should be entitled to apply for a permanent Carte de Sejour, which will allow you to continue to reside and run your business in France. The French Ministry of Interior have detailed this information in an ordonnance and accompanying decree. You can read their question and answers on their website.

Andrew Kesterton

Any more updates on the status frontaliers, who live in France and work elsewhere. As far as I know we aren't covered by the no deal ordonnance. In a deal or no deal outcome, will we retain the right to live (and potentially work) in France and also to continue working in the third country e.g. Switzerland?

Hi Andrew, many thanks for the question. As you rightly point out, we're still waiting for further details from the French on the exact process for frontaliers. The Withdrawal Agreement covers frontier workers in a deal scenario. In a no deal scenario, if you are lawfully resident in France on Brexit day then you will be eligible for a new French residence permit, although you will need to apply for this within 6 months of Brexit. More detail about this is available on our Living in France guide. Regarding your ability to work in Switzerland, this bilateral agreement (gov.uk/government/news/swisscitizens-rights-agreement) goes some way to address this. For example, your cross border work permit ("G") is protected under this agreement, which is independent to the wider deal/no deal negotiations with the EU. We're awaiting more detail on the approach that will be taken at the border crossing although we

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residence card.

Education

Questions Answers

Sarah Massingham

My daughter who has lived in France for 15 years, she has a carte de sejour, and is working for the moment , but plans to sit the CAFEP (Catholic teaching exam) next March, to become an English teacher , will Brexit affect her status to qualify for this exam ?

Dear Sarah,

Our understanding is that non-EU candidates can take the CAFEP but they need some extra paperwork ("une dérogation à la condition de nationalité"). Please see information on the French public website regarding the criteria and process for taking the concours:

http://www.devenirenseignant.gouv .fr/pid34104/enseigner-danscollege-lycee-ensei-contrat.html

Elizabeth Owen

In your update from the Paris meeting you said that UK nationals living in France will still be eligible for Home/UK rate university fees for up to 7 years in case of no deal, and during the implementation period in case of a deal. What is the source of that information? When will that be transmitted to the UK universities as this has a direct impact on children/students applying in the current UCAS application period. The universities are saying that if you apply for 2020 you will definitely get UK fees, but beyond that they do not know. My daughter would like to apply for deferred university entry but we cannot establish what her fee status would be if she applies to start in 2021.

Dear Elizabeth.

We received information from the UK Department of Education that UK Nationals who are resident in France now, whether or not they previously lived in the UK are eligible for home fee status. If the UK leaves the EU with a deal, this arrangement will apply for 7 years after any implementation period. If we leave with no deal, the 7 year period will begin on exit day.

This advice is publicly available online and can be found as part of the gov.uk guidance "Living in the EU: Prepare for Brexit" (https://www.gov.uk/advice-for-british-nationals-travelling-and-

Please refer to the section:
"Access to higher education, 19+
further education and
apprenticeship funding in the UK".

living-in-europe).

This offer was announced in Parliament on 4 April 2019 through

a Written Ministerial Statement by Minister Robin Walker (https://www.parliament.uk/busines s/publications/written-questionsanswers-statements/writtenstatement/Commons/2019-04-04/HCWS1483/)

Alison Wyld

Can you give any update on what will happen for university fees for French resident British citizens and/or French citizens in Scotland, starting in 2021 or later? (at the Grenoble outreach meeting you said discussions with Scotgov are ongoing)

Dear Alison,

The Devolved Administrations have made separate announcements on tuition fees for EU students. Please contact the Scottish Awards Agency (https://www.saas.gov.uk/) for further information.

UK Nationals who are resident in

Jo Wilkinson

In a post of September 19th you explained said UK nationals who have not previously been resident in England will get home fee status in England for 7 years either from the end of a transition period if there is a deal or from the day the UK exists the EU if there is no deal. Does that mean if someone were born in England but moved to France as a child this would not apply to them and they would not be eligible for home fee status because they had previously lived in England? Also, what will be the situation for universities in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland? Do you have any information on how UK national will be viewed by universities in the EU and the EEA? Will they have to pay international student fees?

Dear Jo

France now, whether or not they previously lived in the UK are eligible for home fee status. If the UK leaves the EU with a deal, this arrangement will apply for 7 years after any implementation period. If we leave with no deal, the 7 year period will begin on exit day. The **Devolved Administrations have** made similar announcements. Please contact their award agencies for further info: - Scottish Awards Agency https://www.saas.gov.uk/ -Wales: https://gov.wales/writtenstatement-funding-and-support-eustudents-studying-wales-202021 NI: https://gov.wales/writtenstatement-funding-and-support-eustudents-studying-wales-202021

For UK nationals in France, the French government has just recently completed its review of international fees. It is our

understanding that individual universities can now choose whether or not to apply the option of increased fees to their non-EU students (British or other). It is our experience that many intend not to take the option to charge higher fees. For more information, please check the Campus France (French government agency for international students): https://www.campusfrance.org/fr/c out-etudes-superieures-francefrais-inscription For UK nationals at universities in other EU countries, please contact the UK embassy in that host country.

Sara Pendlebury

What is happening to recognition of qualifications with no deal?

Dear Sara.

According to the French ordonnances, UK holders of UK-issued professional qualifications who are "lawfully pursuing their occupation or profession" in France on Brexit day will continue to be able to rely on their qualifications.

UK holders of UK legal qualifications will seemingly have a year's grace period to apply to convert to French qualifications. UK holders of MRPQ qualifications, and legal qualifications, where they are availing themselves of the rights to work on a "temporary or casual basis", shall see those rights elapse after the end of their contracts.

There are no special provisions for frontier workers, or for workers currently working under the seasonal and posted workers directives.

Wendy Grey

At the meeting in Caen, the question of 'overseas student' fées for universities in France was raised. The French government website seems very clear that all non eu citizens will have to pay the much higher rates as from this year. Given the agreement to allow French students to continue to pay the same fees as English students in England, can you tell me if the reciprocation has been discussed/agreed? Many of us have children who have never studied anywhere other than France, will be obtaining the French Bac and have patents who've been working and paying taxes in France.

For UK nationals in France, the French government has just recently completed its review of international fees. It is our understanding that individual universities can now choose whether or not to apply the option of increased fees to their non-EU students (British or other). Our experience is that many intend not to take the option to charge higher fees. For more information, please check the Campus France (French government agency for international students): https://www.campusfrance.org/fr/c out-etudes-superieures-francefrais-inscription

For the moment, there is no reciprocal agreement.

Passport and Travel/ Pet Passports

Questions

David Cunningham

My wife is Irish and I am British. We are resident in the UK. We own a house in France and we spend all summer there from April until October, around 160/170 days every year. As I understand it, she will be able to continue to do so. Two questions. What will I have to do, if anything, to be able to accompany her As now? And second, we have travel insurance. but what reciprocal arrangments are being made for emergency medical treatment at the Urgences and for pre existing conditions, covered by EHIC but not by insurance. The govt is spending such a lot of money telling us to get ready for Brexit, so I assume that you now have the information we need.

Answers

Dear David, your question is an important one, as many UK nationals have second homes in France.

To obtain a permanent residency status in France with the associated rights to live and work in the country, you must normally reside in the country for more than 6 months every year. If you do not become a French resident then after any no deal Brexit you will normally be limited to spending 90 days in any 180 days in France. Another potential option is to apply for a long stay visa.

You may wish to speak to your Prefecture to discuss your options, particularly as the spouse of an EU national.

You should be covered for emergency medical treatment by your travel insurance but we would advise you to check with your insurer for pre-existing conditions. Regarding EHIC, the French government has said it will not continue to pay for the healthcare of EHIC cardholders who are visiting France temporarily. However the UK government this week announced that holders of EHICs whose trip to France began before Brexit day would continue to fund healthcare costs for the duration of that trip for a period of up to 6 months.

For more information on healthcare please visit https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/healthcare-when-travelling-abroad/healthcare-in-france/

Please also register for updates on our Living in France Guide which always has the latest information, or follow us on @BritishinFrance.

Penny Hill

A question please on behalf of my parents: they live in England but have had their maison secondaire in Brittany 30 years. Will they be able to continue enjoying their second home as much as they like or will they really be restricted to 90 days out of 180? Will they just be able to apply for a visa extend their stays to more than 90 days at anyone time and if not will this actually be policed?? And what about the time when when one dies - will the other be able to come and live with me here in France? I am a UK national, who's been here (working on CDI) for 3 years, who unfortunately has no blood link to another E.U. county to obtain another passport (2)

Dear Penny, many thanks for your question. Please see our answer to David Cunningham on second homes. As for whether it will actually be policed, we cannot answer that. But you might expect the French authorities to take a pragmatic approach at least for the first year during which UK nationals residing in France will not be required to old a residence permit.

As for when one of your parents die (and I hope this is not for a long time!), this would be something that depends on the French immigration rules at the time. I am sorry we are not able to be more specific on this topic at this stage.

We would advise you to register for updates on our Living in France Guide which always has the latest information, or follow us on @BritishinFrance.

Graham Hendry

Good afternoon, and thanks for running another Q& session. They are good value.

I am a UK citizen settled in France under FoM since 2015. I have a CdS issued in 2016, Carte Vitale, pay taxes in France etc.

If the UK leaves the EU without a Withdrawal Agreement on 31/10, and pending an application for/receipt of a new residence permit, how do I avoid being treated as a visitor and not a resident when I re-enter France after trips to the UK or elsewhere? There seems to be a high risk that frontier

Dear Graham, thanks for your feedback – we're delighted that you find these Q&As useful. This is a question we get asked by many UK nationals living in France. When you re-enter France after trips to the UK or elsewhere, at the border, the French authorities have said they will take a pragmatic approach to keep travel as smooth as possible for both residents in France, and travellers. We therefore would not expect this to become an issue during the first 12 months after a no deal exit while people are in the process of acquiring the correct paperwork.

police will simply stamp all UK passports for entry for a 90/180 day stay, leaving residents to have to sort things out later and risk inadvertently becoming overstayers. Has the Interior Ministry given any assurances/advice on this? Which documents should I carry? What should I do if the frontier police insist on issuing a 90 day entry? Thanks

However if you have a CdS, we would advise you to travel with it.

Please register for updates on our Living in France Guide (www.gov.uk/livinginfrance) which always has the latest information, or follow us on @BritishinFrance.

Adam Barry-Orr

Hello. Please could we have a firm answer on what will happen in the case of a no deal and we wish to travel to the UK then return to France? At the moment we don't need anything to prove we are residents and passports don't get stamped upon entering France. Are the PAF/Douanes going to be stamping UK passports from 1st November? Will a UK passport holder who's resident in France be forced to remain in France after a no deal Brexit until they've obtained one of the new Titres de Séjour? All I've read says "have something that proves you're resident in France like a Bill" but is there an official communication which will be followed and respected at the border? I don't want to get a stamp that says I'm a visitor and can only remain in the country where my home is for 90 days and for it to cause me problems in the future because I'll have officially 'overstayed'. Thank you.

Dear Adam, many thanks for your question. If we were to leave the EU without a deal, then the French authorities have said they will take a pragmatic approach at the border to keep travel as smooth as possible for both residents in France and travellers. We therefore would not expect this to become an issue during the first 12 months after a no deal exit while people are in the process of acquiring the correct paperwork.

Please register for updates on our Living in France Guide which always has the latest information, or follow us on @BritishinFrance.

Liz Contant Nicholls

In response to Adam Barry-Orr: Adam Barry-Orr same here... the address I have on my British passport is the only address I have.. been here for nearly 40 years... just wish someone would let us know what's happening !!!!

Hi Liz, please see our answers to Adam and Graham.

Janine McMahon

I have not yet applied for a new Titre de Sejour as am considering French citizenship. However, I am leaving travelling over the next few months to Dear Janine, thank you for your question.

If you are living in France now and planning on staying after Brexit, you will need to apply for a residence permit under the new

Spain and the UK. October to Spain and November to the UK and again in December. Q. Am I going to have trouble getting back into France after B-Day???

French registration system. In the meantime, you will be able to travel after Brexit day with your British passport up to a period of 90 days out of 180 in those European countries which are a part of the Schengen area. When you return to France from your travel, at the border, the French have said they will take a pragmatic approach to keep travel as smooth as possible for both residents in France, and travellers.

Please see our Living in France Guide for the latest information.

Hope this helps.

Hlk Mandozai

Hello dear sir

If my relatives send me invitation latter or sponsor latter from London to france to visit my family

And I have ten years resident card And also am in chômage process. What is necessary for me that I bring to uk embassy of paris to get uk visa, Please give me answer Thanks Dear Mr Mandozai, many thanks for your question. I would advise you to check on our consular website if you need a visa to come to the UK. You will find all the necessary information on this website:

https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa

Hope this helps.

Louise Chamberlain

We are supposed to travel to South Africa on 19th October and return to France on 3 November. Will we have any problems getting back into France as TCN's? Is there anything we can do to ensure a smooth return? Hi Louise, thanks for your question. If you are living in France, you will need to apply for a residence permit. But you should have no problems getting back to France after Brexit. At the border, the French have said they will take a pragmatic approach to keep travel as smooth as possible for all travellers.

Please see our Living in France Guide for the latest information.

Penny Hill

Will the UK be leaving the E.U. on 31st October 2019? Is that still the PMs

Hope this helps.

Hi Penny, thank you for your question. The UK Government's policy is that the UK will leave the EU on 31 October.

plan despite apparently STILL not being ready?

What is the advice please for UK nationals resident in France who will not be in France on 31st Oct due to holidays etc? Will there be a problem trying to get back into France after this date? (Noting not all have CDS yet)

Our advice to UK nationals living in France is that you will need to apply for a residency permit under the new French registration system. If you are not in France on 31 October and are returning after this date, you should have no problem getting back into France. At the border, the French have said they will take a pragmatic approach to keep travel as smooth as possible for both residents in France, and travellers.

Please see our Living in France Guide at <u>www.gov.uk/livinginfrance</u> for the latest information.

James Tetley

1) Is the new website to apply for leave to remain for British citizens in France up and running? 2) What is the likely impact on pets? Hi James, the new online registration system is not up and running yet. We have been told by the French authority that it will be ready sometime in the middle October but we don't have yet the exact date. We would advise you to check our Living in France guide for the latest updates. www.gov.uk/livinginfrance . Or follow us on @BritishinFrance As for pets, you will also find all the relevant information on our Living in France guide but also on the French government website www.brexit.gouv.fr which now has some sections in English.

Kev Gregory

Will the French authorities maintain the e-gate access for UK passport holders and will the UK offer a similar solution for EU citizens (the signage at the UK border appears to indicate this will be the case but there is nothing on the French side). Also, have you received assurances that the residence application system will not be more onerous than the UK settled status application system.

Dear Kev, thank you for your question.

For the time being, border crossing arrangements will remain unchanged. UK passport holders will still be able to continue to use French e-gates access. And EEA citizens will enter the UK as they do now, using their passport or national identity card. They will also be able to use e-Gates if they are travelling on a biometric passport and will not face routine

questioning upon arrival. But please do follow us on @BritishinFrance for updates on changes to immigration policy and practices.

As you probably know, the UK settled status application system is free. Unfortunately, the French residence application will cost around 119 euros. We raise this issue constantly and at every level with the French authorities.

Jane Mills

Whether there is a deal or not. Will my European passport be valid? I've lived in France for 15 years.

Dear Jane, thank you for your question. Whether there is a deal or no deal, your UK passport will still be valid. However, we'd advise you to check its expiry date here: https://www.gov.uk/living-in-france#passports-and-travel

Other

Questions	Answers
James Christie Cit	Hi James, many thanks for your
	question. The DOMs are covered
Hello.	by the French no deal legislation
	and French authorities have
Please can you give us very specifc	indicated to us that in principle
and clear information regarding the no-	British citizens living in DOMs will
deal situation for British citizens living	be treated in the same way as
in the DOMs.	British citizens in the mainland but
	we are pressing them for further
We are NOT in Schengen, and so the	details, including on any impacts
rules will certainly be different. We	from not being in Schengen. You
would very much like reassurance on	may also wish to submit a question
this.	on this to the French government
	directly via their brexit.gouv.fr
Thanks in advance.	website.