

Facebook Q&A – 14 January 2020

IMPORTANT please note:

The information in this document was correct on the date it was issued (14-17 January 2020).

Ensure you have the latest information by checking the Living in Germany guide at [gov.uk/livinginGermany](https://www.gov.uk/livinginGermany).

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Residency

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| <p>We moved to Germany in Aug so obviously aren't eligible for citizenship. Should we be worried about being able to stay here long-term? We plan to buy a house this year and are nervous about the implications of Brexit.</p> | <p>Hi S, there is no need to worry about staying in Germany. The Withdrawal Agreement is likely to be ratified and will protect the rights of all UK nationals living in Germany before the end of the implementation period (31.12.2020) to continue to live in Germany. You will need to get a new residence permit by 30.06.2021 at the latest to prove your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. Therefore, please contact your local foreigners authority for details on how to apply – the application process may vary depending on where you live in Germany. For further information, please see our guidance on foreigners authorities: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany</p> |
| <p>Hi, if I want to apply for dual citizenship, do I need to submit my application before 31st Jan? Thanks</p> | <p>Hi K,</p> <p>Thanks for your question. In the UK, there are no restrictions on dual nationality and German nationality is a matter for the German authorities. According to Germany legislation, provided the Withdrawal Agreement is ratified by the UK and the EU, you will be able to retain your UK citizenship if you submit your German citizenship application before the end of 2020 and meet all the conditions for naturalisation before the end of the implementation period (31.12.2020).</p> |
| <p>I would like to know whether I will need to apply for a residency visa and if yes, whether I will need to apply at the beginning of February or after the transition period ends in December? I work for a German company and have done for 2 years so I believe my visa will be automatically accepted? But as I travel a lot for work I also need to plan for when my passport will need to be sent off.</p> | <p>If you are currently living in Germany, your rights to continue to do so will be protected by the Withdrawal Agreement. You will need to apply for a new residence permit which is different from a visa. The German authorities are responsible for issuing residence permits so there is no need to send off your passport to the UK. Depending on where in Germany you live, the application process may vary so please see our guidance on foreigners authorities: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany. Provided the</p> |

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| | <p>Withdrawal Agreement is ratified, you will need to get a residence permit by 30.06.2021 at the latest to prove your rights.</p> |
| <p>My British partner (who is not on Fb) has been registered and living with me (a German citizen) in Germany for over a year now, so obtaining a residence permit after Brexit should not be a problem. But what about his rights of movement if we decide to travel together in the Schengen/EU 27 area or even want to live in a different EU country for a while? How would that work? Thank you in advance for your reply!</p> | <p>Dear S, thanks for submitting your partner's question here. Until the end of the implementation period on 31.12.2020, British nationals can continue to freely travel within the EU. The EU has proposed to grant UK nationals visa-free travel to the EU after the UK's exit, even in a no deal scenario, subject to reciprocity from the UK. This would mean that UK nationals would not need a visa when travelling to the Schengen area for short stays of up to 90 days in every 180-day period. If you decide to move to a different EU country to settle there, you would need to make enquiries with the authorities of that country to find out about their local laws for a residence permit for your partner. You might also find it useful to take a look at our Living in Germany guide (www.gov.uk/living-in-germany). We offer an email alerts service to ensure that you don't miss any important developments.</p> |
| <p>I'm born British, but acquired Australian citizenship. I've been advised by the local government that I would have to either take permanent residency or become German to stay after brexit. But if I become German I will have to renounce my Brotish passport. If I become a permanent resident, and if I worj outside Germany I risk losing this visa. I work in construction, so if there is a slow down here, that is a genuine risk.</p> <p>So what is true??</p> | <p>Dear N, Provided you are a UK national who is exercising free movement rights in Germany (for example by working, as you appear to be), then under the Withdrawal Agreement you will be entitled to obtain a residency permit in Germany after Brexit without needing to naturalise as a German citizen.</p> <p>On dual citizenship, once the Withdrawal Agreement is ratified you could naturalise as a German citizen whilst retaining your British citizenship as long as you applied and met the conditions for citizenship before the end of 2020. However, it may be that you would have to renounce your Australian citizenship if you naturalised as a German, since Germany generally does not accept dual citizenship outside Switzerland and the EU (and the UK during the 2020 transitional period).</p> |
| <p>2 questions.</p> <p>Will a new form be required to be completed in order to ensure we are processed? I completed my form last year and still haven't been contacted.</p> | <p>Dear A,</p> <p>Many thanks for your questions. Residency processes are devolved in Germany, so will differ according to where you live. Some foreigners authorities around Germany have contacted UK nationals and others are</p> |

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| <p>For travel around this period will we need to carry our documents with us or will this be after the implementation period has lapsed?</p> | <p>waiting until after our exit from the EU. If you have already completed a form from your foreigners authority, then you can expect that they will contact you again, once the Withdrawal Agreement has been ratified and the German government has finalised certain details around implementing the Withdrawal Agreement. Please be assured that the Withdrawal Agreement will protect your rights to continue to live in Germany. It is worth checking your local foreigners authority website for updates. You will have until 30.06.2021 to obtain a residence permit and prove your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement.</p> <p>On your second question, you will be able to travel between Germany and the UK during the implementation period without the need to present a residency permit. However please carry your passport with you.</p> |
| <p>What do we need to do? I filled in the online form last year but still haven't been contacted in regard to any kind of meeting with authorities about residency. Will this still happen or will there be a new procedure?</p> | <p>Hi L, thank you for your question. Some German authorities are holding off from contacting people while they finalise details in light of recent political developments. Please be reassured that the Withdrawal Agreement, which is now very likely to be ratified by the end of January, will protect your rights to continue to live in Germany. It is worth checking your local foreigners' authority website for updates or contact them to find out more information about their procedure. Also, have a look at our guidance on foreigners' authorities: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany. You will have until 30.06.2021 to get a residence permit and prove your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement.</p> |
| <p>Hello, I am a British citizen and I moved to Berlin in December '19 to live with my husband who is a blue card holder. I have obtained my Anmeldebescheinigung, have registered with the Berlin foreigners authority, and am covered by German health insurance. However, I am currently unemployed (although I am actively looking for employment.) If I were to remain unemployed (while still actively looking for employment and without relying on state benefits) how would my ability to remain in Germany be effected? Thank you.</p> | <p>Hello M, Thanks for your question. As the spouse of a Blue Card holder, the Berlin foreigners authority will be able to advise you on which residency permit best suits your circumstances. To the extent that you wish to exercise any rights under the Withdrawal Agreements, please rest assured that in registering your address and residence you have done all you need to do for the time being. The foreigners authority will contact you in due course regarding a new residence permit.</p> |

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| <p>What documents/proof will we have to present in order to apply for a residence permit? Is it only proof of residency or will other aspects such as self-sufficiency and health insurance be taken into account?</p> | <p>Hi A, the Withdrawal Agreement protects the right of all UK nationals living in Germany before the end of the implementation period to continue to live in Germany, so you can be reassured that you will receive a residence permit (with no requirement to prove self-sufficiency, health insurance, etc). The application process may vary depending on where you live in Germany, so please contact your local foreigners' authority for details on how to apply and which documents to bring. You will need to get a new residence permit by 30.06.2021 at the latest to prove your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement.</p> |
| <p>I am married to a German and haven't been here long enough to qualify for dual citizenship. What permit do I need to apply for and when - now or before December?</p> | <p>Dear S, Thanks for your question. The Withdrawal Agreement is likely to be ratified by the end of January and will protect the rights of all UK nationals living in Germany before the end of the implementation period (31.12.2020) to continue to live in Germany. You will need to get a new residence permit by 30.06.2021 at the latest to prove your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. Therefore, please contact your local foreigners authority for details on how to apply – the application process may vary depending on where you live in Germany. For further information, please see our guidance on foreigners authorities: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany</p> |
| <p>I also have a citizenship question. I will be able to apply for citizenship in October this year. Am I correct to think that i will be entitled to dual citizenship as long as I have submitted my application before December 2020, regardless of whether the decision is made after the end of the transition period? Is there any official guidance on what the dual citizenship rights will be, both during and after the transition period?</p> <p>A second question. I am currently a Hausfrau (my husband, a German National, earns enough for our household and I look after the children at</p> | <p>Dear A, Thanks for your question. You are quite right that you can retain UK citizenship whilst applying for naturalisation provided you submit your application and meet the conditions for naturalisation during 2020 (so October 2020 will be fine, as you say). Otherwise, your rights as a UK national in Germany will in any case be safeguarded under the Withdrawal Agreement.</p> <p>On your subsistence question, in the naturalisation process the citizenship office will simply test whether you would become a burden on the welfare state, and so you would need to disclose your collective family income (i.e. your husband's income) to meet this test.</p> |

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| <p>home). Will this be a problem for citizenship, or even residency, applications - that I don't have my own personal income?</p> | |
| <p>I am registered at a German address, but I am in the process of moving house (within Germany). I move into my new home on the 1st Feb. Will I face any issues at the local registration office when registering my new home address if Brexit has occurred by that point?</p> | <p>Hi J, Thanks for your question. Please rest assured that moving house within Germany will not cause you any difficulties because of Brexit. Once you move, you will need to register your new address (Ummeldung as opposed to Anmeldung) with the local Citizens Office (Bürgeramt). When doing so you will need to provide your previous address in Germany to ensure continuity (and you will also need to deregister with your old Citizens Office – Abmeldung). In any case, for the purpose of securing your post-Brexit residency permit you will also need to engage with a different authority, the Foreigners Authority (Ausländerbehörde) in your new place of residency.</p> |
| <p>I am British living since 1981 in Germany and iam 57 years old. Refused German Citizenship because I get help from the city of Hannover (Aufstockung) as Im working only part time.Will i have to apply in the near future for a new Aufenthaltserlaubnis or Niederlassungserlaubnis ?</p> | <p>Dear A, Sorry to hear that you have been unable to obtain German citizenship. Provided the Withdrawal Agreement is ratified and takes effect from February 2020, you will then need to apply to your local Foreigners Authority (Ausländerbehörde) for a residency permit – for which there will be no income requirement. You should consult your local Foreigners Authority from February to understand their timetable and process for issuing residency permits to UK nationals throughout the implementation period.</p> |
| <p>Hi, I moved to Germany last year in April. Currently we don't know where we stand regarding residency or permits. My local Ausländerbehorde can't clarify on anything regarding Brexit and my future rights here in Germany.</p> <p>I'm worried about the residence permit system they have in place here, you can either be granted a permit to work or to study, and not both simultaneously as a third country national. Would they be putting British nationals through the same system, or would we have a special permit to allow us to continue living our lives as it is. I'm working and studying simultaneously and am afraid I would be forced to give up my studies due</p> | <p>Dear M, The Withdrawal Agreement is very likely to be ratified by the end of January and will protect the rights of all UK nationals living in Germany before the end of the implementation period (31.12.2020) to continue to live (and to work and study) in Germany. You will need to get a new residence permit by 30.06.2021 at the latest to prove your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. Therefore, please contact your local foreigners authority for details on how to apply – the application process may vary depending on where you live in Germany. In any case, it is true that your local foreigners authority will only be able to clarify concrete arrangements once the Withdrawal Agreement has been ratified and the German government has decided centrally on certain aspects of the application process.</p> |

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| <p>to the bureaucracy involved. It's also been uneasy planning the near future being completely unaware what our rights are.</p> | |
| <p>I am married to a German and will have been living in Germany for three years on 15.01.2020. I would like to apply for dual citizenship as I will still be a EU citizen then. Do I need to have done the Einbürgerungstest before 31.01.2020 to meet the criteria or can I do it in the transition period and, if so, how long is the transition period. Thank you</p> | <p>Dear F, Provided the Withdrawal Agreement takes effect in February as anticipated, you will be able to pursue naturalisation throughout 2020 and still retain your UK citizenship, provided your application is submitted and you meet the criteria (including being married to a German citizen for two years) by the end of 2020.</p> <p>Regarding the language test, you would be able to complete this throughout 2020 too. Here it may be advisable to check waiting times for courses with your local Citizenship Office, since in some parts of Germany it can take several months to obtain an appointment for a test.</p> |
| <p>I am currently living in Berlin Germany and would like to obtain a German passport through naturalization. My understanding is that I may be able to keep my British passport and obtain a German one as long as I have applied for German naturalization before brexit happens. From researching online I find many contradictory statements about how to do this and what is possible. As brexit is rapidly approaching I'm hoping that you can provide me with a few answers.</p> <p>I meet all the requirements for German naturalization. My wife is German, I speak German reasonably well, and have been living here more than 8 years. For my application to be approved though I have to undertake a German language and general knowledge test.</p> <p>What I am not sure about is if I can apply for the German passport without the results of this test before brexit and then take the test shortly after. As time is running out, and it is unlikely I can get the results of theses tests before brexit, I'm hoping this is possible somehow. I have seen some information to suggest this is possible and other information saying it isn't so am hoping you are able to provide me with a definitive answer.</p> | <p>Dear N, Thanks for your questions. Please rest assured that, provided the Withdrawal Agreement is ratified (which we expect to happen by the end of January), you will have until the end of 2020 (the end of the transition period) to naturalise whilst still being able to retain your UK citizenship. This means that you would need to submit your application and meet all the criteria for naturalisation (including sitting the tests to demonstrate the language and general knowledge requirements) by the end of December 2020. The key point is that your application is submitted by the end of 2020 and you have sat the tests – it is immaterial whether the test results are available by the end of December 2020 or later, provided you “passed” the tests before the end of 2020.</p> <p>Wishing you good luck with your preparations for naturalisation during the coming months.</p> |

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| <p>If it is possible to apply without the results of the test can you tell me how I would do so?</p> | |
| <p>I bought my house in Germany just over 8 years ago and have been working in Luxembourg for over 22 years (pay my taxes in Luxembourg as well), assuming I can pass German B1 test (I don't need to use German very much) would working in Luxembourg stop me from getting either the residence permit or German nationality?</p> | <p>Hello V, working in another EU country as a frontier worker will not stop you from getting residency in Germany or German nationality as your permanent residence is in Germany. You should be registered with your local Einwohnermeldeamt and will still have to apply to your local Foreigners Authority for a residence permit. Social security arrangements for frontier workers are protected through Germany's Brexit social security transition law https://www.bmas.de/DE/Themen/Soziales-Europa-und-Internationales/Europa/Brexit/gesetz-uebergangsregelungen-brexit.html. For information on residency and citizenship please see the following website of the Federal Ministry of the Interior: https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/fags/EN/themen/migration/brexit/fags-brexit.html?fbclid=IwAR3UcH9fqGS_o9yU5Hzmam5llvq_UZk9YistYdxv9pkdJTzki2aAMTrphXg Please also sign up to Email alerts for our Living in Germany guide https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany.</p> |
| <p>Will the German Gov't or Auslanderbehörde require British citizens to have a Language Certificate i.e A1 or B1 when we apply for the Residence Permit?</p> <p>Will they allow us to change jobs after we received our Residence Permit?</p> | <p>Dear M,</p> <p>If you are currently living in Germany, your rights to continue to do so will be protected by the Withdrawal Agreement, without the need to demonstrate language skills when you apply for a new residence permit. Depending on where in Germany you live, the application process may vary, so please see our guidance on foreigners authorities: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany. Provided the Withdrawal Agreement is ratified, you will need to get a residence permit by 30.06.2021 at the latest to prove your rights. Once you obtain a residency permit, you will still be able to change jobs, though you may be required to inform the Foreigners Authority about any</p> |

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| | <p>such changes. We would advise that you consult your local Foreigners Authority on this point when you come to apply for a residency permit after Brexit.</p> |
| <p>I am British, married to a german(March 2019), we have a daughter who was born in Germany in October 2019. I have lived in Germany since December 2018. What do I need to do to stay in Germany? Can I get dual citizenship? When am entitled to a german passport? Can I get confirmation of dual citizenship for my daughter in Germany it is it something I have to do in England?</p> <p>Many thanks.</p> | <p>Dear A, Thanks for your question, and many congratulations on the birth of your daughter. Since you are currently living in Germany, your rights to continue to do so will be protected by the Withdrawal Agreement, but you will need to apply for a new residence permit. Depending on where in Germany you live, the application process may vary, so please see our guidance on foreigners authorities: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany. Provided the Withdrawal Agreement is ratified (which we expect to happen by the end of January), you will need to get a residence permit by 30.06.2021 at the latest to prove your rights.</p> <p>Regarding naturalisation as a German, the general condition for spouses of German nationals is that the marriage or civil partnership has existed for two years and that you have been lawfully resident in Germany for three years. In your case, based on the information you have supplied, you will not have been lawfully resident in Germany for three years until December 2021. Unfortunately, naturalisation as a German whilst retaining UK citizenship is only possible during the implementation period, which runs until December 2020. After that, German law would not permit dual UK-German citizenship.</p> <p>Regarding your daughter, you would need to consult your local Citizenship Office in Germany to clarify and record that your daughter has German nationality (through her mother) and UK nationality (through you). From the UK perspective there is no bar on multiple citizenships, but we would recommend that you consult your local Citizenship Office to check that your daughter is registered as a dual national. Check this website for more information on how to apply for a first child passport: https://www.gov.uk/get-a-child-passport/first-child-passport</p> |

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| | All the best to you and your family! |
| <p>I am moving to Germany end of Feb this year was married to my German wife in the local statt Halle How will brexit affect me getting residency and a work permit</p> | <p>Dear A, thanks for your question. The Withdrawal Agreement is likely to be ratified and protects the rights of all UK nationals living in Germany before the end of the implementation period (31/12/2020) to continue to live in Germany, so you are within scope since you will arrive within the implementation period. You will need to get a residence permit (which will also allow you to work in Germany) from your local foreigners authority by 30.06.2021 at the latest to prove your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. The process may vary depending on where in Germany you live, so check with your local foreigners authority for details on the application process. For further information, please see our guidance on foreigners authorities: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany Welcome to Germany!</p> |
| <p>The last time I renewed my passport (2016) I contacted the Ausländerbehörde and they told me I didn't need a physical Auslandsaufenthaltserteiligung any longer. Will that now change?</p> <p>Also I will be going on a business trip to the US in February, what should I take with me to prove my Germany residency?</p> | <p>Dear D, as a British national living in Germany you will have to register with your local Ausländerbehörde and obtain a residence permit by 30.06.2021. Please have a look at our Living in Germany guide where you will find further information about this under the heading 'Visas and Residency' https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany. When re-entering Germany during the transition period, i.e. until 31 December 2020, you will not need to prove your German residency as the EU-entry regulations will remain unchanged during this period. We hope that this is helpful.</p> |
| <p>Me and my partner currently live and work in Germany. Previously we have been informed that if a deal is agreed between the UK and the EU then our right to remain and work would be retained, is this still the case under the planned deal? Additionally is this limited to Germany or does it allow us to live and work in other EU countries in future without further paperwork?</p> | <p>Dear T, Many thanks for your question. You are quite right that the Withdrawal Agreement safeguards your right to remain and work in Germany after Brexit. UK nationals will retain the same rights as before to travel, live and work around the EU until the end of the implementation period on 31 December 2020. Beyond the implementation period, the rights of UK nationals already</p> |

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| | <p>living in the EU to move to another member state will be subject to further negotiations between the UK and EU.</p> |
| <p>My husband completed all his application forms for residency with supporting documents in Dec 2018. To date he has not been called for any interview. He has been registered here at the various places we have lived in Bavaria for the past 10 years and is retired. Unfortunately his lack of German skills and advanced years have not enabled him to sit citizenship exams which I was able to do whilst I secured my dual German/Brit a year ago. What are we supposed to do? Continue to wait for them to contact us?</p> | <p>Dear F, Thank you for getting in touch. Provided the Withdrawal Agreement is ratified, your husband will have until 30.06.2021 at the latest to obtain a residence permit to prove his rights. Depending on where in Germany you both live, the application process may vary, so please see our guidance on foreigners authorities: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany. However, since your husband has already interacted with your local Foreigners Authority and submitted documentation, it is reasonable to expect that the Authority will be in touch with your husband again in the course of the next few months, once the Withdrawal Agreement has been ratified and the German government has decided exactly what process they will use to implement it.</p> |
| <p>I am currently a Hausfrau (my husband, a German National, earns enough for our household and I look after the children at home). Will this be a problem for citizenship, or even residency, applications - that I don't have my own personal income?</p> | <p>Dear A, Thanks for your question. On subsistence, in the naturalisation process the citizenship office will simply test whether you would become a burden on the welfare state, and so you would need to disclose your collective family income (i.e. your husband's income) to meet this test. But with regard to residency, your rights will be safeguarded under the Withdrawal Agreement without the need for a subsistence test.</p> |
| <p>I have lived here for two years, been working for the same company the whole time. If I resign from my job, will I still have the right to live in Germany?</p> | <p>Hi E, thank you for your question. The Withdrawal Agreement is likely to be ratified by the end of January and protects the rights of all UK nationals living in Germany before the end of the implementation period (31.12.2020) to continue to live in Germany. You will need to get a residence permit from your local foreigners authority by 30.06.2021 at the latest to prove your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement (see our guidance on foreigners authorities: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany). Resigning from</p> |

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| | <p>your job is your personal decision and does not affect your rights to live and work in Germany under the Withdrawal Agreement.</p> |
| <p>All i get from the Hamburg Welcome Center is a link to the UK Government. Then the return hyperlink isn't active ? When I ask the Hamburg Welcome Center by email they don't reply ? I have been here 10 years working as a British citizen. Applying for work permit/residence extension. No wiser ?</p> | <p>Hi P and thank you for your question. The Withdrawal Agreement is likely to be ratified this month and protects the rights of all UK nationals living in Germany before the end of the implementation period (31.12.2020) to continue to live and work in Germany. You will need to get a residence permit from your local foreigners authority by 30.06.2021 at the latest to prove your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. The foreigners authority in Hamburg has published information and set up an online registration process which will open once the UK has left the EU (i.e. after 31 January 2020). For more information, please check their website for updates: https://www.hamburg.de/innenbehoerde/brexit/12486984/brexit-onlineregistrierung/</p> |
| <p>If you start your citizenship process already is there a Brexit Übergangsgesetz period that secures keeping Dual nationality until 31.12.2020?</p> | <p>Hi R, this is correct, if you meet all the criteria for obtaining German nationality and apply before 31.12.2020, you will be able to keep your British nationality as well. The UK has no restrictions on dual nationality and this will not change with Brexit.</p> |
| <p>Hi: I am married to a german national and have been since 2008 and was married under german law,i left the armed forces in 2013 and registered to live here in 2013 with my local council and i have registered with the forign agency(.with the deal), what must i do next,as because i live in a little village in emsland, kries emsland really dont know, they sent me a form to become german but i belive under the deal i must not change my nationality,so what must i ask for(in german please.) they also said 265 euro for form nationalilyy change . b1 course cost 91 euro but must first a1 another 91 euro, nationality test more money but have forgot how much , i was lead to believe that with the deal it should not cost more than a german pays for there passport about 30 euros</p> | <p>Hi J, thank you for your question. Obtaining German citizenship is a personal choice. Irrespective of that, as a British national living in Germany, your residence rights are protected under the Withdrawal Agreement. You will need to get a new residence permit at your local foreigners authority (Ausländerbehörde) by 30.06.2021 at the latest to prove your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. The German authorities are not yet issuing these new residence permits, as the Federal authorities are still finalising some details. The application process may vary depending on where you live, so please contact your foreigners authority in Emsland for further details. Please also sign up for email alerts on www.gov.uk/livingingermany which will be updated as soon as the German authorities publish further information on the permit.</p> |

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| <p>I also filled in the online form last year but still haven't been contacted with regard to any kind of meeting with authorities about residency. I have been in Germany for 4 and a half years. I have since changed my residential address (still in the same area of Berlin and the same email address) I don't know how to notify the Foreigners Registration Office of my new address. Do I need to apply again or will my application still stand?</p> | <p>Hi L, thank you for your question. Please inform the Berlin foreigners authority of your change of address. Further information and a contact form can be found here: https://www.berlin.de/einwanderung/en/residence/eu-eea-switzerland/artikel.878758.en.php .</p> |
| <p>I am living since 10 years in Berlin as Freiberuflich Musiker. I play in multiple GbR Bands which tour in various european countries. i also play gigs in various European countries as solo artist (Freiberuflich Kleinunternehmer). My question is whether my right to work in other european countries will be threatened by Brexit. will each country have to independently negotiate whether british musicians can work without a visa? or will my residency in Germany protect my right to work in other european countries?</p> | <p>Dear R, Many thanks for your questions. UK nationals will be able to continue to travel, live and work in all EU member states until the end of the implementation period on 31 December 2020. The rights of UK nationals already living in the EU to move to another member state or provide services in another member states after the end of the implementation period will be subject to further negotiations between the UK and EU. Please sign up for email alerts on www.gov.uk/livinginGermany, which will be updated when further information becomes available.</p> |
| <p>I have been living and working full time in Germany since 2016, I am married to a German, have a German child and another due in May. I am registered here on a British passport (not through my marriage) and am also an Australian citizen so will probably not qualify for German citizenship (and don't really want to go through this process just yet). I also own a house here. I understand that I will automatically be given an Aufenthaltstitel without needing to apply and i can proceed to work and apply for Elterngeld as per normal. Could you clarify if this is correct?</p> | <p>Dear L, Many thanks for your question. As a British national you will need to formally apply for a residency permit to safeguard your rights after Brexit under the Withdrawal Agreement. You will have until 30.06.2021 at the latest to obtain this residence permit. Depending on where in Germany you live, the application process may vary, so please see our guidance on local foreigners authorities: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany. Your rights to continue to work in Germany and to receive Elterngeld are also protected by the Withdrawal Agreement, but it is very important that you apply for the above-mentioned residence permit before 30.06.2021.</p> |

Healthcare

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| <p>Thank you for all your support and all your help and advice.</p> <p>My partner and I are both German resident British citizens in receipt of UK state retirement pensions. Our health insurance is financed by the NHS through the S1 scheme. Neither of us received the "famous" / "infamous" letter from Michael Brodie, Chief Executive, NHS Business Services Authority, dated 23rd. September 2019</p> <p>I have two questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Will our S1 provided health insurance continue after Brexit (currently scheduled for 31 January 2020) AND after the end of the implementation period (currently scheduled for 31 December 2020)?2) Will our state pensions continue to be increased indefinitely each April? | <p>Dear M, thank you kindly for your enquiry. The Withdrawal Agreement passed its second reading in the House of Commons with a large majority before the Christmas break and the Government is confident it will ratify the agreement before the end of January. The European Parliament is expected to then ratify it on January 29th, so the UK would then leave the EU with a deal on January 31st. The Withdrawal Agreement protects your rights to healthcare access through your S1 after Brexit, through the Implementation Period, and for the rest of your lives as long as you and your partner remain in scope, for example, as long as you remain living in Germany. Regarding pensions, the UK will also continue to pay an uprated UK State Pensions after the implementation period ends, for those in scope of the Withdrawal Agreement. So as long as you both continue to live in Germany, you will continue to receive an uprated pension and have healthcare coverage via the S1 scheme. Wishing you and your partner good health!</p> |
| <p>As a British pensioner living in Germany, my query concerns the S1 reciprocal health arrangement between Germany and the UK.</p> <p>Q: Ambassador Woods Facebook update of November 1st this year stated that in the event of the WA being signed and executed:</p> <p>“The Withdrawal Agreement would also protect the rights of UK citizens beyond that period, in their member state of residence, in your case of course Germany, for your whole lives. These rights include...unchanged access to healthcare...” etc.</p> <p>My question is this: After Jan 31st and in this event, is it definitively confirmed that I, and British pensioners in my position will have access to S1 reciprocal health cover (or something similar) for the rest of our lives, assuming that we are registered to continue to live in Germany? As a supplementary, If confirmed, is there any circumstance where you could envisage this being in doubt in the foreseeable future?</p> <p>Many thanks</p> | <p>Dear N, thank you kindly for your query, and happy to hear that you saw the Ambassador’s Facebook update! Yes, once the Withdrawal Agreement is ratified, which we expect before the end of the month, your reciprocal healthcare (accessing healthcare through your S1 certificate) will be protected for the rest of your lives as long as you remain in scope, as per your example, as long as you remain living in Germany and have received a new residence permit from the German authorities. Even if the UK and the EU do not agree a new trade agreement, this will not affect the rights of any UK nationals living in Germany before 31 December 2020. If you haven’t done so already, please sign up for updates on the Living in Germany guide at gov.uk/living-in-germany.</p> |

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| <p>I understand that the German authorities have agreed that there will be a 3 months grace period for UK pers to join a German Krankenkasse (KK). When does that 3 months start? Is it on 31 Jan 2020 or it on 31 Dec 2020? Do these dates change if there is a deal or no deal? Will we get notification from the U.K. NHS to inform us that the S1 is no longer valid?</p> | <p>Hello E, and thank you for your question. The German legislation you mention was for the case of a no-deal Brexit. However, a no-deal Brexit now looks very unlikely to happen. The Withdrawal Agreement passed its second reading in the House of Commons with a large majority before the Christmas break and the Government is confident it will ratify the agreement before the end of January. The European Parliament is expected to then ratify it on January 29th, so the UK would then leave the EU with a deal on January 31st. The Withdrawal Agreement protects your access to healthcare through your S1 for the rest of your life as long as you remain in scope, for example, as long as you remain living in Germany. This means in short, that with the Withdrawal Agreement in place, you will not need to join a German Krankenkasse and can continue to rely on your S1. Please sign up for updates on the Living in Germany guide at gov.uk/living-in-germany.</p> |
| <p>Hi, I could really use some help (off anyone) with getting some health insurance. I'm 41 years old and currently covered by S1 til end of Feb. I cannot get a new S1 as I am no longer employed. So I believe I am now in the bracket of voluntary contributions. My income each month is from two UK pensions (an armed forces pension and a widows pension). I'm sure I read (but may have interpreted it incorrectly) that health insurance from foreign pensions is a max of appx 7 % however I cannot find one company that understands my situation! Any advice would be gratefully received 😊</p> | <p>Hello B, Thanks for joining our Q&A. It sounds like you have a unique situation – we would be happy to help you identify your options, but will need a little more information first. Could you please email us at ukingermany@gov.uk with further details about your situation? Thanks again for contacting us, and we are looking forward to receiving your email!</p> |
| <p>What happens with the S1 Health insurance after the Brexit exit.31st.Jan.2020.? Will it continue indefinitely?</p> | <p>Hi E, thanks for joining our Q&A. In short, yes, if the Withdrawal Agreement is approved (as we expect to happen by the end of this month), your access to healthcare through your S1 form will continue for the rest of your life, as long as you remain in scope – for example, as long as you reside in Germany. Thanks again, and wishing you good health!</p> |

Working, benefits and pensions

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| <p>What will be the situation with private and state pensions in the UK? Will I need to action anything? I am not due to retire for a long time yet but it concerns me</p> | <p>Hello F, Thank you for your question, and there is no action you need to take immediately. On your private pension: the UK and EU have already agreed the terms of an implementation period lasting until the end of 2020. During this implementation period, access to one another's markets will remain unchanged and on the current terms, ensuring continuity for consumers and businesses. After the implementation period, the ability to provide services such as payment of private pensions across EU borders will depend on the outcome of negotiations. You may wish to contact your pension provider for further information.</p> <p>On your UK state pension: this is payable worldwide under domestic legislation. Assuming you are living and working in Germany, the EU's social security coordination rules will continue to apply to UK nationals living here at the end of the implementation period, for as long as they remain in scope of the Withdrawal Agreement (such as living here). This means that Member States will be required to take into account all contributions paid into their respective social security systems by UK nationals, whether made before or after the end of the implementation period. Contributions in Germany will also be taken into account if you return to the UK. If your circumstances are different from this, you may wish to get in touch and we can answer your question more fully.</p> |
| <p>(I hold a UK and Australian passport) What is the best way to convince HR staff at companies where I apply for a job in Germany that I will not lose the right to work in Germany after 31st Jan OR after Dec 31st 2020? Currently I have spent 15 months applying for hundreds of jobs, and my CV is being ignored. I strongly believe that this is because HR staff believe that I will be losing my right to work in Germany. They are not going to spend</p> | <p>Hi R, thank you for question. The Withdrawal Agreement passed its second reading in the House of Commons with a large majority before the Christmas break, and the Government is confident it will ratify the agreement before the end of January. The European Parliament is expected to then ratify it on January 29th, so the UK would then leave the EU with a deal on January 31st. Under this agreement, your right to work in Germany without being</p> |

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| <p>hours researching this, they need simple, easy proof that I am not going to become an overhead in future by requiring a 'work permit application'.</p> | <p>discriminated against due to nationality is protected. This protection is lifelong, so long as you are within the scope of the Withdrawal Agreement (i.e. as long as you were resident in Germany before the end of 2020). So you can be quite clear with employers that you can continue to work in Germany and that you will not require a work permit. Good luck with your applications!</p> |
| <p>Concerning the uprating of my UK State Pension, I have received conflicting information so far:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. HMRC told me it was my RIGHT to receive the UK State Pension as I had worked 30 years in the People's Vote UK 2. The House of Commons Library notes of November 2019 IMPLY that the UK will continue to uprate the pensions of its ex-pat citizens 3. However the goc.uk "Living in Germany" section is imprecise and appears to make the continued, uprated payment of our hard-earned pensions dependent on their negotiations with the EU. | <p>Dear S,</p> <p>Thank you for your question. After the implementation period ends, for anyone within the scope of the Withdrawal Agreement (for example, if you live in Germany now and remain living here), we will continue to pay an uprated UK State Pension in Germany. This includes people who are not yet at State Pension age once they start drawing their UK State Pension. I hope that this sets your mind at rest.</p> |
| <p>I worked for almost 10 years in the UK and built up a small teachers pension. Will I still have access to this after brexit?</p> | <p>Hello G, thanks for getting in touch with your question. Yes, you will still have access to the value of your existing pension from Germany after Brexit. However, you might not have access to the pension scheme going forward (i.e. you might not be able to make further contributions). Please contact Teachers' Pensions directly for any questions you might have on the occupational scheme: https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/members/working-life/life-events/moving-abroad.aspx</p> |
| <p>I will not be eligible to U.K. state pension until 2035, at that point will I be eligible to S1 health care cover from U.K. in Germany (having been resident here since 2017), or must I continue to buy health insurance here?</p> | <p>Dear E,</p> <p>If you are currently paying German social security contributions and paying into a German statutory health insurer, it is unlikely that you would have been eligible for a UK S1 form when you retired, even if Brexit was not happening. If you retire in Germany and receive a German state pension, even if you also receive a UK state pension, Germany will be responsible for your healthcare and you will be treated like other German pensioners. You can find more information about how S1s work here:</p> |

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| | <p>https://europa.eu/youreurope/citizens/health/when-living-abroad/health-insurance-cover/index_en.htm</p> <p>You can also find out more information about statutory health insurance for pensioners in Germany from the statutory pensions authority here: https://www.deutsche-rentenversicherung.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/Broschueren/national/rentner_und_ihre_krankenversicherung.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=2</p> |
| <p>My U.K. state pension is not due until 2035, I live in Germany. Will it be frozen on issue or uprated updated annually? can I have it paid to either U.K. or German Bank account?</p> | <p>Hello E,</p> <p>This is a good question. After the implementation period ends, for those in scope of the Withdrawal Agreement (for example, if you live in Germany now and continue to live here in the future), we will continue to pay an uprated UK State Pension in Germany. This includes people who are not yet at State Pension age once they start drawing their UK State Pension. It can be paid into a German bank account, and you can find more information here: https://www.gov.uk/state-pension-if-you-retire-abroad</p> |
| <p>I would like to ask one questions as conformation I have understood the withdrawal agreement correctly, and one on moving to and from the UK. My wife who is German and receives a UK pension and my self are both covered by the S1 health care system. Q1, My understanding is that our health care will continue unchanged with the S1 system, not only during the transition period but beyond into the future. Q2, As mentioned my wife is a German citizen , we married in 1971 before the UK joined the EU. Regretably we never applied for UK citizenship for her. I was in the army at the time and my wife spent the next 36 yrs travelling between postings both abroad and in the UK. We moved to Germany in 2004 on completion of my service and have been here ever since. We travel regulary to the UK visiting family and grandchildren. I would like to gather as much information on her status as possible to ensure she has unrestricted access to come and go as she pleases, indeed to settle in the UK should we decide to move. Is there a department in the UK, (immigration for example) who I could wright to, to get the information I require.</p> | <p>Dear D,</p> <p>Thank you for your questions. The answer to the first one is yes, so long as you remain in scope of the Withdrawal Agreement. That means for as long as you continue to live in Germany, you can continue to access healthcare in Germany using the S1 system.</p> <p>On your second question, UK nationals can return to the UK at any time. Existing close family members of UK nationals who return from living in the EU by 29 March 2022 can apply to the EU Settlement Scheme. That means, your wife could move with you to the UK before 29 March 2022. After this date, UK Immigration Rules will apply as they do for other UK nationals returning from abroad. Here is more information on visiting the UK after Brexit: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/visiting-the-uk-after-brexit</p> |

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| <p>Elterngeld - if we leave with a deal on the 31st will we still qualify for elterngeld until the end of the transition period Dec 2020?</p> | <p>Thank you for your question, D. In short, the answer is yes. You will still qualify for benefits such as Elterngeld until the end of the transition period on 31st December 2020. For anyone who is within the scope of the Withdrawal Agreement – this means any UK nationals resident in Germany before the end of the transition period - this right to access benefits will continue beyond the end of the implementation period. So, if you currently live in Germany, your rights to access benefits will be protected for as long as you continue to live here beyond the end of 2020.</p> |
| <p>I have lived and worked in Germany for 40 yrs. I retire in Aug and plan to move back to the UK. The Krankenkasse payment will come out of my pension automatically and when spoke to the Rentenberatung last year at the time it would still be able to use it in the UK. Now (based on the info I received at the Frankfurt outreach) this will change and I will no longer be covered. If this is the case can I opt out of paying here in Germany? Originally the AOK said no, but also as it had just changed they were not 100% sure. Thank you.</p> | <p>Dear A, Thanks for your question. The answer will depend on your circumstances. If you have never paid any social security contributions in the UK and move to the UK before the end of December 2020, you will be able to access healthcare benefits in the UK via a German S1 form. You will have to continue to pay contributions to the Krankenkasse der Rentner. If you retire in the UK and receive a UK state pension (which might be the case if you have spent a few years working in the UK, for example), even if you also receive a much larger Germany statutory pension, the UK will be responsible for your healthcare and you will be able to access the UK healthcare system without a German S1 form. For further information, please contact the German Pensions Authority.</p> |
| <p>Do Brits still get unemployment benefits in Germany up to 31.12.2020 and what happens after that?</p> | <p>Thanks for your question, R. Yes, you will still qualify for benefits until the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020. For anyone who is within the scope of the Withdrawal Agreement – this means any UK nationals resident in Germany before the end of the transition period – this right to access benefits will continue beyond the end of the implementation period and for the rest of your life. So, if you currently live in Germany and plan to stay here after the end of 2020, your right to unemployment benefits will continue to be protected. We hope this helps!</p> |
| <p>What is the future of Brits having to pay double tax on there Military Pension. Thanks</p> | <p>Hi K, many thanks for your question. On the tax point – the UK’s exit from the EU will not change existing double taxation agreements. The UK has bilateral</p> |

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| | <p>double taxation agreements with all Member States, which will continue to apply on withdrawal. These protect individuals and businesses from double taxation where the same income or gains are taxable in both countries. Please contact the Armed Forces Pension Schemes directly for any questions you might have on the occupational scheme: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pensions-and-compensation-for-veterans.</p> |
| <p>What happens with pension contributions after the transition period? Will contributions made in Germany still count towards the U.K. state pension? Thanks</p> | <p>Thanks for getting in touch, A. If you are within the scope of the Withdrawal Agreement – that is, if you are resident in Germany before the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020 – the German government would be bound under the agreement to pay your pension. The current structure of EU rules and regulations will continue to apply during the implementation period, and this includes protecting contributions paid in other member states. This means that Member States will be required to take into account all contributions paid into their respective social security systems by UK nationals within scope of the Withdrawal Agreement, whether made before or after the end of the implementation period. So even if you move back to the UK after the end of 2020, previous contributions made in Germany would still count towards your UK pension.</p> |
| <p>Hi. I currently live in Germany but work in the UK. I have managed to get to the bottom of all of my paperwork except for pensions. As I understand it, I don't need to pay a German pension as I work abroad (physically) and am paying into the UK state pension as I am taxed in the UK via PAYE. Do you know anything about this or who I would contact to find out more information? My plan is to find work in Germany later this year once all the uncertainty is out of the way, therefore this question will become null and void. If it is relevant, I'm currently supported with an S1 to cover my health insurance in Germany.</p> | <p>Hello S, Under EU social security coordination rules, you only pay contributions, including for pensions, in one country at a time. The current framework of EU rules and regulations will apply during the implementation period, and this includes social security coordination rules. After the implementation period ends, we have confirmed that UK nationals who are in scope of the Withdrawal Agreement for social security coordination purposes will continue to benefit from the coordination rules. This includes ensuring that the worker (and employer) only pays into one social security system at a time. It also provides for the aggregation of (pension) contributions, meaning those who have paid into a system will have their contributions, and the rights that flow from those contributions, protected.</p> |

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| | <p>If you start both living and working in Germany, that is the point you will stop paying UK national insurance contributions and paying into a German statutory pension.</p> |
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Passports and dual-nationality

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| <p>If our British-born children want to have German citizenship, after how long will they be eligible? Would we also have to become German citizens? We haven't been here long enough to apply for dual citizenship</p> | <p>Hi T, thanks for your question about German citizenship. Please contact your local office for citizenship (Einbürgerungsbehörde) for details about how the German law regarding nationality applies to your family's situation. The UK has no restrictions on dual nationality and this will not change with Brexit.</p> |
| <p>Will it still be possible to gain dual citizenship if I don't qualify until April for Germany citizenship?</p> | <p>Dear R, according to the German Transitional Brexit Act (Brexitübergangsgesetz) you will be able to keep your British nationality if you qualify and apply for German citizenship before the end of the transition period on 31.12.2020. Your local office for citizenship (Einbürgerungsbehörde) can offer more detailed information about the application procedure. The UK has no restrictions on dual nationality and this will not change with Brexit.</p> |
| <p>Has the period for dual nationality been extended? Can I currently apply for German citizenship and still keep my British passport?</p> | <p>Hi D, the German Government passed a Transitional Brexit Act in April 2019 which states that you will be able to keep your British nationality if you qualify and apply for German citizenship before the end of the transition period on 31.12.2020. The UK has no restrictions on dual nationality and this will not change with Brexit.</p> |
| <p>Is it true Brits can get a German passport without taking a language test if they are over 65?</p> | <p>Hi A, thanks for your question about the language requirement for taking up German citizenship. This is actually subject to the German Nationality Act. It might be best to speak to your local office for citizenship (Einbürgerungsbehörde) to find out whether you can apply without the usual language test.</p> |

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| <p>I would like to know if there is any financial assistance with citizenship. I have a disabled severely autistic child (British citizen also) and can't afford the nearly 700€. It's left me in a difficult situation because I need to make sure therapies and other things don't get put on hold.</p> | <p>Hi L, thanks for reaching out to us here on facebook. We are sorry to hear about the difficult situation you and your child find yourselves in. You describe a very complex situation and it might be easier to discuss this outside of this Q&A event. Would you be able to contact us by email at ukingermany@fco.gov.uk or call us on 030 204 570? We will get in touch asap to make sure we have all the relevant details and to offer consular support.</p> |
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Travel, pets and driving licences

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| <p>Is it essential for me to 'exchange' my British drivers licence to a German/European one BEFORE Jan 31st or is it ok do this during the transition period (until the end of this year)? Very many thanks for this opportunity to ask questions!</p> | <p>Hi A, thank you for your question that will concern many Brits living in Germany. All UK nationals resident in Germany should exchange their UK driving licence for a German driving licence within 6 months of moving to Germany regardless of Brexit. You will still be able to exchange your current driving licence during the transition period. Driving licence exchange rules beyond the end of the transition period have not been agreed yet. You will be allowed to drive in the UK using your German licence and if you ever move back to the UK, you will be able to change it back to a UK licence.</p> |
| <p>My question is about till when do we have to change a uk driving licence into a german one , is it till 31st january or do we have till the end of the year</p> | <p>Dear G, thank you for contacting us with this important question. All UK nationals resident in Germany should exchange their UK driving licence for a German driving licence within 6 months of moving to Germany regardless of Brexit. You will still be able to exchange your current driving licence during the transition period. Driving licence exchange rules beyond the end of the transition period have not been agreed yet. You will be allowed to drive in the UK using your German licence and if you ever move back to the UK, you will be able to change it back to a UK licence.</p> |
| <p>I've been living and working in germany as a Freelancer for 3 years and now have German Citizenship. I never exchanged my British driving licence when I arrived as I never actually drive here, but now believe it's</p> | <p>Dear L, thank you for contacting us. All UK nationals resident in Germany should exchange their UK driving licence for a German driving licence within 6 months of moving to Germany regardless of Brexit. You will still be able to</p> |

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| <p>necessary (just in case i drive at some point). Question: i have an appointment on 7th Feb(earliest appt when i asked a week ago) to exchange my Uk license for a German one. As I made the appt "pre-Brexit" but the actual appt is "post Brexit", does this mean that I would have to retake my test, theory etc.? Or is there a grace period. Am I correct in assuming that there will be no problem driving in the Uk when I visit, using my German licence? Thanks very much in advance</p> | <p>exchange your current driving licence during the transition period. You will be allowed to drive in the UK using your German licence and if you ever move back to the UK, you will be able to change it back to a UK licence.</p> |
| <p>Hello, when traveling to and from the UK after 31 Jan, what line do I go to at the airport, specifically FRA. Can I still use the automated gates until the end of the transition period or do I use non EU? Thanks</p> | <p>Hi S, your question will be of interest to many people. This is a question for the German authorities who are responsible for entry procedures into Germany, but the rules for entering Germany should not change during the transition period. For further information, please see the website of the Federal Ministry of the Interior https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/faqs/EN/themen/migration/brexit/faq_S-brexit.html?fbclid=IwAR3Uch9fqGS_o9yU5Hzmam5llvq_UZk9YistYdxv9pkdJTzkl2aAMTrphXg or contact the German authorities.</p> |
| <p>As a British (only) spouse of German (only), living in Germany, what movement (EU/Schengen) limitations will apply to me after Brexit, and after any transition period?</p> | <p>Dear E, thank you for getting in touch with us. During the transition period until the end of 2020 you will be able to travel within the European Union and to the UK as you do now. What happens after 2020 will be discussed as part of the negotiations on the future partnership between the UK and the EU. To stay up to date, please sign up for email alerts on our Living in Germany guide. https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany</p> |
| <p>How will the current deal on the table effect pet travel? I have two dogs here in Germany who have been issued EU pet passports in the UK. Will these still be valid for European travel to the UK and other countries or will we need to exchange them for German issued ones? If so then will the new ones be valid for travel to and from the UK?</p> | <p>Dear D, this is a question we receive often. During the implementation period you can travel with your pet to the EU under the current pet travel rules using your current UK issued EU pet passport. Rules on pet travel after the end of 2020 will form part of the future partnership negotiations. For further Brexit related advice on pet travel please see: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pet-travel-to-europe-after-brexit#stay-up-to-date. You can sign up for email alerts so that you will always be informed about the latest developments.</p> |

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| <p>As a British citizen living and working in Germany, how will travel to other EU countries be affected?</p> | <p>Hello S, thank you for your question. British Citizens will be able to travel in the EU as they do now until the end of the implementation period (31 December 2020). Rules on travel to other EU countries from January 2021 will form part of the future partnership negotiations.</p> <p>For updates on this, please sign up for email alerts of our Living in Germany guide: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany</p> |
| <p>(Outside of Berlin - I.e. less apparently organised places) what should be carried to prove German residency when travelling to the UK or elsewhere in Schengen?</p> | <p>Hello J,</p> <p>Thanks for your important question. British citizens will be able to live, work and travel in the EU broadly as they do now until the end of the implementation period (31 December 2020). When the UK leaves the EU, you will need to apply for a residency permit from your local Foreigner's authority (Ausländerbehörde). Once you have this document, this will be proof that you legally reside in Germany.</p> <p>Rules on travel to other EU countries from January 2021 will form part of the future partnership negotiations.</p> <p>For updates, please do sign up for E-Mail alerts on our Living in Germany page. https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany</p> |
| <p>Will there be an agreement to carry on using EU citizens passport control, or will we be required to queue up with "all other passports"?</p> | <p>Hi T, thank you for asking this question that will interest many British citizens. This is a question for the authorities of the country you are travelling to, as they are responsible for the entry procedures into their country. As far as Germany goes, the rules should not change during the transition period. For further information, please see the website of the Federal Ministry of the Interior https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/faqs/EN/themen/migration/brexit/fag_S-brexit.html?fbclid=IwAR3Uch9fgGS_o9yU5Hzmam5llvq_UZk9YistYdxv9pkdJTz_kl2aAMTrphXg or contact the German authorities. Please contact the authorities of any other countries you intend to travel to or contact their embassy in the UK who should be able to help.</p> |

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| <p>I live in Germany but work in Luxembourg and commute every day, will i be able to continue?</p> | <p>Hi D, thanks for your question! This question comes up a lot. You mention you work in Luxembourg but live in Germany, which means you're what's called a "frontier worker". Frontier workers are protected under the Withdrawal Agreement, so you will be able to continue to travel to Luxembourg to work, for as long as you remain a frontier worker after 31 December 2020.</p> |
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Returning to the UK and onward movement

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| <p>I moved over in November and told the local authorities that I have done so. I am in the process of registering here but I have hit a major blip. I am a freelance virtual PA for a company in the Uk. I have been told this is fake employment in Germany. My options are to: 1. either find a full time job in Germany. 2. Register my job as a business and pay all the fees that a business pays or 3. Return to the Uk.</p> <p>I have decided to return to the Uk but understandably this is going to take time - as I have to fly back to view places to find a home, pack up and move back. How soon after the brexit happens do I have to leave?</p> | <p>Hi B, thanks for your question! I'm sorry to hear about the difficulties you've had registering.</p> <p>If you're a British passport holder, you can return to the UK at any time – there is no time limit. For more information on returning to the UK, have a look at the following site: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/returning-to-the-uk</p> <p>Under the Withdrawal Agreement, UK nationals will still have the same rights as now to live and work in Germany until the end of the implementation period on 31 December 2020.</p> <p>Good luck and all the best!</p> |
| <p>I have lived and worked in Germany since 1978. I now have double citizenship British/German but hope to return to UK to live when I retire Jan 2023. What should I do now to stop problems later on? Should I register in UK and where? I still have my old social security number</p> | <p>Hi L, thanks very much for your question on returning to the UK when you retire. As a dual national, you are able to move to the UK as a Brit at any time. Check out the Returning to the UK page on gov.uk for a checklist of things you should have in mind when you return.</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/returning-to-the-uk</p> <p>All the best!</p> |
| <p>I also have a similar question to Simon Hopkins, will the "Surinda Singh" loophole still exist?</p> | <p>Hello Sue, thank you for your question. Under the Withdrawal Agreement, UK nationals choosing to return to the UK during the implementation period will have the same rights as now. In addition, UK nationals will have the right to bring existing spouses back to the UK and apply to the EU Settlement Scheme up until 29 March 2022.</p> |

Other

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| <p>Will Brits abroad receive compensation for the burdens the governments inaction over the past 3 years has posed on them? (e.g. having to secure rights to remain in Europe and their non-british families) (admin process costs for citizenship, residence permits), rejection from jobs based on insecurity concerning status as TCN where EU citizens are favoured). Limited to those costs which would not have been incurred had the government responsibly waited to enact Art 50 TFEU and entered negotiations with a plan.</p> | <p>Thank you for getting in touch, N. We understand that this has been an unsettling time. The processing and cost of German citizenship and residence permit applications are matters for the German authorities. The Withdrawal Agreement protects the rights of all UK nationals living in Germany before the end of the implementation period (31.12.2020) to continue to live and work in Germany. You will need to get a new residence permit by 30.06.2021 at the latest to prove your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. The Withdrawal Agreement protects your existing rights to equal treatment and non-discrimination for UK nationals residing or working in the EU. The German authorities are not yet issuing these new residence permits, as they are still finalising some details. Local authorities are responsible for issuing residence permits in Germany, therefore the application process can vary from town to town. UK nationals should contact their local foreigners authority and find out how to apply for a new residence permit. Some foreigners authorities are already collecting residence permit applications from UK nationals. Please see our guidance on foreigners authorities (https://www.gov.uk/.../germ.../foreigners-authorities-in-germany). We will update the Living in Germany guide (www.gov.uk/livinginGermany) and publish information to this Facebook page as soon as further information on the new residence permit for UK nationals becomes available.</p> |
| <p>I am a British citizen and have been living and working in Germany for the last 30 years. My wife is a German citizen and we have been married for 36 years, and lived 3 years in the UK with me after we married. Our intention was to move back to the UK when we retire, but now we are unsure of the situation. My questions are. What will be the situation about moving back to the UK with a non British spouse? Will we be able to have health insurance via the NHS and what costs will</p> | <p>Hi S, Thanks for your questions!</p> <p>Regarding returning to the UK with your German wife, UK nationals can return to the UK at any time. If you return to the UK before 29 March 2022, your German wife can apply to the EU Settlement Scheme. After these dates, the UK Immigration Rules will apply. Check out the Returning to the UK page on gov.uk for a checklist of things you should have in mind when you return: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/returning-to-the-uk</p> |

this involve?

Will things such as our house contents or our vintage car (which came over from the UK) be taxable on return to the UK?

Access to healthcare in the UK is based on residency. That means, anyone who is “ordinarily resident” in the UK has access to the NHS for free. You can find more information on the NHS website about moving from Germany to England and about what “ordinarily resident” means at <https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/nhs-services/visiting-or-moving-to-england/moving-to-england-from-the-european-economic-area-eea-or-switzerland/>.

Under the Withdrawal Agreement, there will be no change on import rules until the end of the implementation period on 31 December 2020. Prior to any move to the UK, you should check the guidance on the HRMC website for information on importing personal belongings (<https://www.gov.uk/moving-to-uk>) and vintage cars (<https://www.gov.uk/importing-vehicles-into-the-uk>).