FEBRUARY 2020 - FACEBOOK Q&A

Residency:

Questions

1/2 I moved to france a few months ago to live with my partner, currently I'm unemployed and living off savings. I'm completely confused as to what steps I need to take to remain in france. Would like some information on what steps I need to take and what I have to do to remain living here. Am currently learning french and hoping once my skills improve I can look for employment.

Could you also advise do I need to get a visa? If so what kind and how do i go about starting this process.

2/2 can you also advice the difference between a long stay visa and a residency permit and which one I need to apply for. Please provide me with information or a link of where I need to go to to request these documents. Thankyou At the moment you do not need a Carte De Sejour or a visa. All UK nationals lawfully residing in France by 1 January 2021 can stay living and working here, accessing public services and benefits as now. You will, however, have to apply for a residence permit before 1 July 2021. The French government will open a new residency application website in July 2020 to help you do this. We are waiting for the French authorities to confirm exactly what criteria and supporting documents they will require for the new residency application, although the Withdrawal Agreement means it should be straightforward and

Answers

Thanks for your question Collette.

We will update our <u>Living in Guide when more information is available.</u>

we expect they will take a flexible approach.

In the meantime we'd suggest that you and your partner talk to your local CPAM office about what healthcare options are available to you as a resident. This link may be helpful https://www.gov.uk/guidance/healthcare-in-france-including-martinique-and-guadaloupe

My elderly mother and I are looking to become residents in France. Is there any part of the documentation/application process for healthcare, taxation, residency (in July) etc that can be completed(or applied for) while we still live in the UK before finding somewhere to live in France? Or do we need a French address (rented/purchased) before we can start the ball rolling?

Thanks for your question Paul. You aren't able to start the residency process before being in the country. As you are moving in July (i.e. before the end of the transition period 31 December 2020), you will be in scope for the Withdrawal Agreement. You will need to apply online for a residence permit before 1 July 2021. The website to do that will open in July this year and we'll signpost it on our website. In the meantime we are waiting for the French authorities to confirm exactly what criteria and supporting documents they will require for the application, although the WA commits them to keeping it to a minimum. We expect they will also take a flexible approach.

We will update our Living in Guide when more information is available. My daughter has just got her CDS from Thanks for your question Sarah. I can appreciate that Lille but despite living (mortgage) and it is frustrating, but at the moment your daughter doesn't need a CDS. It is worth noting, that whatever working (managerial position) here since the validity of her carte de séjour, as a UK national 2003 she only got ONE year....she's living in France she will need to apply for a **new** furious...what can she do..... was told residence permit under the Withdrawal Agreement appealing is no good and was told to before 1 July 2021. She will be able to apply online renew..... via a new residency portal which will open in July 2020. Despite not having a card with a longer validity now, she will be able to provide proof which may enable her to get a residence permit with a permanent right in the new WA system. Please see our Living in France Guide for more detail. We have lived in France for 17 years, we Thanks for your question Helen. We are raising this applied for our Carte de Sejour at the issue with the French authorities. Unfortunately, as it prefecture in La Rochelle, Charente stands at the moment, you will need to make a fresh Maritime in February 2019 and received application for a **new residence permit** under the Withdrawal Agreement before 1 July 2021. You will our récépisse and were told we would be able to apply online from July 2020 via a new receive a message when our CDS was ready to collect. They then stopped residency portal. We are waiting for the French authorities to confirm exactly what criteria and issuing the CDS until Brexit was done. We would like to know if we have to supporting documents they will require for the new residency application, although the Withdrawal reapply or if we will be issued our CDS on Agreement means it should be straightforward and the basis of our original application. Can we expect they will take a flexible approach. you help? Please keep an eye on our <u>Living in France Guide</u> for updates. Hope this helps. If we get to stay will we have to join the Thanks for your question Wendy. The UK has a french tax system, we are retired double taxation agreement with France to ensure you do not pay tax on the same income in both countries. We can't give you advice on tax matters but your tax authority should be able to help you with your questions on double taxation relief. Otherwise you can obtain professional advice on paying tax in France either from your local tax office, a lawyer or a financial advisor.

Will new CDS applicants get asked how they voted in the referendum - Leave or Stay? Leave - go home, Stay - you're welcome!!

Hi Jan and Rich. The French authorities have not yet set out the criteria for the new residency permit, but they are certainly not allowed to ask this under the terms of the Withdrawal Agreement! You will need to apply via the new online residency portal that will launch in July 2020. Stay up to date on the criteria and what documents you'll need via our <u>Living in France Guide</u>.

My daughter grew up and was educated in France but has a British passport. She is currently working in the UK but wants to return to France (as her whole family live here). However, this is likely to be after the transition w. Will it still be possible?

Hi Emma, thanks for the question. In theory, if your daughter has grown up in France she may have been eligible for permanent residency under the Withdrawal Agreement, and therefore maintain a right to be absent from France for up to 5 years. However, we are waiting for the French authorities to confirm how they would assess this right if the individual is out of the country during the application window for the new WA residency permits (July 2020-June 2021). If she is not considered in scope of the Withdrawal Agreement in her own right, she could be able to join you through family reunification rules if she is under 21 or is your dependent. Otherwise, she could still come back to France in the future under common immigration rules. Hope this helps.

I have lived in Paris for 3 years, and by January next year it will be my 4th. Will I still be able to get residency at my 5th year in france as easily as I could currently.

Hi Phillip, thanks for getting in touch. You will need to apply for a new residence permit under the Withdrawal Agreement before 1 July 2021. You may find the process is even easier than currently as you will be able to apply online via a new residency website, which will launch in July 2020. We are waiting for the French authorities to confirm the criteria, but no more will be asked of you than now. We will update our <u>Living in France Guide</u> as more information becomes available.

I have dual UK & ROI nationality, living permanently in France. I receive UK DWP pension and have my S1 registered with local CPAM, So, UK is my competent state for healthcare costs. Do I need to do anything to secure the continuation of these rights per the WA? Thank you.

Hi Jan, thanks for this question. As a national of an EU Member State you retain your rights as an EU citizen. As such your right to live, work, study, access benefits and services and be joined by your third country national family members across the EU will continue under EU law.

As a resident in France, you can also be covered by the Withdrawal Agreement. Therefore, you will be able to continue to receive your uprated UK state pension and associated reciprocal healthcare cover via your S1. Those rights are protected under the Withdrawal Agreement, however we are waiting for the French authorities to confirm whether they will ask you to apply for a residency document to prove this.

Me and my husband want to move to France this summer.

My husband is self employed and runs a staging and set building business in the UK within the entertainments & arts industry. His income comes from 30+ projects per year. He will travel to the UK bi-monthly to fulfill projects. He also has a part time job in the theatre which he would attend bi-monthly during the same trips to the uk.

We want to sell our house in the UK this spring and move to France this summer and buy a house outright in France. So we will own the french house with no mortgage. We would like to have a gite for me to earn an income in France. I am degree level educated so would also consider teaching English privately. Where do we stand with the Carte de Sejour? I have read they are issued just for 1 year. Does one renew them annually? Is this done automatically? Or is there a chance we could be told to leave and return to the UK despite owning our own home and supporting ourselves?

How much evidence do we need to provide to show my husbands self employed income?

Just to reiterate - all this would be happening this summer/autumn, so would be within the transition period.

Thank you for your time.

We have been given 10 year CdS but my daughter, aged 14, only 5 years. We applied for Naturalisation in 2018 but our interview in Grenoble is?Jan 2022.

Hi Nikki, thanks for sharing your situation. Once you and your husband are resident in France you will have to apply for a new type of residence permit. The website for applying will open in July 2020 and, under the terms of the Withdrawal Agreement, you will have until 1 July 2021 to do this.

Once you've applied under the new system, you would initially receive a temporary permit which would allow you to build up to five years of residency. Once you have five years of residency you will be issued with a permanent card.

The French authorities have no intention of asking people to return to the UK – they want people to be able to continue living their lives in France. We're waiting for the French authorities to announce what evidence they will require for situations such as self-employed or self-sufficient.

Please keep up to date via our <u>Living in France Guide</u> and we wish you all the best for your move to France!

Hi Tracey, thanks for sharing your concern. France should be able to remain your home. Although we cannot advise on French nationality, your daughter will be able to apply for a residency permit which

We have been told our daughter will pass from minor to major during this period?so she must?start her own process at 18. She has been here, scolarised since 9. How will her rights be protected? Will she have to remain in France for all of her further education?

France is our home.

Consular assistance. Will those of us who have acquired (or will acquire) residency rights under the Withdrawal Agreement still be able to request consular assistance from our country of residence when in a third country? For example, if hypothetically on the 2nd January next year I am on holiday in a country outside the EU where a major incident takes place which results in countries repatriating their nationals, would my only option be to accept repatriation by the FCO to the UK and be responsible for my own onward travel back to France? Or would I be entitled to ask the French authorities to take me back to my country of residence, France? Is this circumstance even covered in the WA

will protect her current rights under the Withdrawal Agreement (until her nationality comes through). She will need to apply via the new online residency portal which will open in July 2020. You also may need to apply for the residency permit in order to ensure your rights are protected before the end of the transition period (31 Dec 2020) and obtaining French nationality Please sign up to alerts on the Living in France Guide for more information.

Thanks for your question Ian. Consular assistance is usually offered according to nationality, rather than where you reside – I.e. a UK national will receive consular assistance from the FCO, a French national from the French. If there is no representation of either State in a country it can happen that a third country can offer assistance, if they have an agreement with that country. In certain circumstances countries can work together, for example to evacuate citizens, even if there is no agreement. But this depends on the incident. We would always advise that you read FCO travel advice before travelling to locate the nearest British consulate is and to know where to get advice if there is an incident.

Thanks guys! I have lived in France since before Brexit day, have a carte sejour, CDI, carte vitale etc. But will my long-term Vietnamese partner be able to move to France at some point in the future? We are not (yet) married.

and if not will it be the subject of any

ongoing negotiations?

Hi Jack, thanks for your question.

As a UK national already resident in France you are covered by the Withdrawal Agreement. This gives you rights to family reunification, whereby your close family members can join you in France at any point in the future. The definition of family members includes those in a "durable relationship" as long as that relationship started before 1 January 2021. As long as you can prove this, your partner should also be covered by her family link via you. We are waiting for the French authorities to confirm how they will test the 'durable relationship' criteria.

In any case, please make sure you apply for a new residence permit via the online portal that will be launch in July 2020. You can keep up to date on our Living in France Guide.

Pationals go to LIK from France. Hi Bob, great question. A dual LIK / French national.

If dual nationals go to UK from France, which passport should we use going/coming back?

Thanks.

Hi Bob, great question. A dual UK / French national has the option of presenting either of their passports at the UK border and Border Force will process the passenger according to the nationality of that document. If the passenger holds a UK passport it would be simplest to present this document to UK Border Force.

In the event that our current government continue to try and upset the EU 27, in the event that one is not granted the right to stay (tds) what support does the British government have to offer, when individuals houses, jobs and family are all in France. (And also how my family unit would be kept together as a French wife and son)

I am hopeful I won't need this type of support, but I would like to know how I would be assisted if needed.

Alex thank you for your question. The French authorities will ask UK nationals resident in France to apply for a new residency permit in line with the Withdrawal Agreement. The online application portal will open in July 2020. The French authorities want UK nationals to be able to continue living here, and although we are waiting for them to confirm the exact criteria for the new residency permits, we understand they will take as flexible an approach as possible. If you do have difficulties, there will be a number of organisations available in France that will have received UK government funding to support the most vulnerable. As always, our consular services remain available to UK nationals requiring consular assistance in France. Please do sign up to alerts on our Living in Guide.

Hello. You may have been alerted to this issue by RIFT admins.

I am UK citizen living with wife and children in Ain. House owner since August 2015. Rented since August 2014. I do not have a CDS yet. We may have to leave France for a temporary but possibly 2 to 3 year posting outside the EU. This could take place on 1st July or shortly after. That iof course will not allow enough time to get through the on line process to get a CDS after it

Hi Philip, great question. Unfortunately, we don't have the exact answer to this right now. We are waiting for confirmation from the French authorities on how they will manage this kind of situation. Once you have five years of legal residence in France you will be able to secure permanent residence. This means you will be allowed to leave France for up to five years and still maintain your residency rights here. However, the exact question of how you prove that you had a right to permanent residence before you left has not yet been resolved. We are working with the French authorities to understand how they will manage these cases, including if they will accept applications from abroad, and will update our Living

belatedly opens on 1st July before leaving France. Hence my question is: How do I establish my rights in this situation? Will it be ok to apply on line whilst already having moved? Or on return? Or preferably to put down a marker somehow before leaving, that is authenticated by French authorities,

in France Guide as soon as we have more information. You can also ask the French Interior Ministry directly by explaining your situation here: https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/Contact/Ecrire-au-ministre-de-l-Interieur

Can you please quote the relevant French documentation / law that supports your reply.

Many thanks,

We signed up for the CDS exchange on the old site and have been told we don't need to sign up again on the new one, we'll be registered automatically. But can you confirm what cost to swap will be? I recall it said about 120 euro each to swap on the old site. Plus new photos and new fingerprints though they haven't changed LOL.

Hi Phil. We're glad to hear you've been contacted about your existing application on the 'no deal' site. The Ministry of Interior have confirmed to us that the new residence permits will be free of charge. As you say, they may request additional (or resubmission) of supporting evidence, but this hasn't been confirmed yet. We will update our <u>Living</u> in Guide when more information is available.

When and how will the citizen rights from the WA get formally agreed between France and the UK and what is the process for getting these into law please? The Ministry of Solidarity and Sante are stating that S1s are only valid utto December this year which is a a tad worrying.

Hi Deborah, thanks for sending in this question. The Withdrawal Agreement came into force on 1 February 2020 as a legally binding international treaty. It applies directly to France and protects the rights of UK nationals who are legally resident here on or before 31 December 2020. We are aware of the information on the Health ministry's website and are working with them to update the content. We can confirm that the Withdrawal Agreement protects your S1 for as long as you remain resident in France (i.e. past 2020).

I moved to Paris last September and I work part-time in education for a French employer and part-time for a UK employer, an education NGO. (I do this remotely from Paris). I pay tax and national insurance to the UK government on the UK income (unless this changes after declaring my taxes in April to the French and UK governments). I want to

Hi Steph, great question! As long as your main place of residence is France you should be eligible to apply to the new residency permit in line with the Withdrawal Agreement. The fact you have recently arrived or have some income from abroad should not be a problem. You will be able to look at the online residency application portal when it opens in July 2020 to see whether you meet the specific criteria, which are still being decided by the French

know if I am eligible for residency under the new post-Brexit system based on my situation i.e. being quite new to living in France and having two employers? authorities. Please also sign up to alerts on the Living in France Guide.

I have a Carte de Sejour (10 year, issued August 2018) and I applied on the "No deal" website on 9th October 2019 for the new non EU Titre de Séjour.

On the 03 February 2020 I received an email from Le Ministère de l'Intérieur confirming that my application will be dealt with and I need do nothing until I hear from the Prefecture.

However I have since changed address (and department). Do I have to notify my change of address?

If so how do I do this?

Can I do this online, if so how and on what site?

Or as I have arranged for my mail to be forwarded to my new address is it acceptable to leave my previous address on the system? I look forward to your comprehensive reply. Hi Trevor, good question. Given the timing and current situation, it might be best to wait until the prefecture contacts you (either by phone, via your re-directed post, or via email) to arrange your appointment. You'll have the opportunity to discuss with them by email at that point. Alternatively, you could write to the prefecture by letter or email to explain the situation, so at least you know you've done all you can to inform them. I hope that helps.

I intend asking for French Nationality having been married to a French national for 32 years....should I still apply for a CdS in the meantime?

Hi Rachel, until you have French nationality confirmed, you should still apply for the new residency permit in line with the Withdrawal Agreement. This is because it can sometimes take a while for nationality applications to be processed and it's important that your rights are protected between the end of the transition period and the date that your nationality is confirmed. You will be able to do this online from July 2020. Please see the Living in France Guide for more information.

We still live in the UK (a). My wife and I have both retired early and don't receive our UK Gov pensions until 2021 & 2022. Our plan was to retire to France in 2021. Where do / will we stand mid 2021 to get residency, healthcare and pensions in France?

Hi Albert. Thanks for getting in touch. If you want to benefit from the Withdrawal Agreement and its residency and healthcare rights you would have to become resident in France before 1 January 2021. Arrangements for moving to France after that date are subject to future negotiations. Otherwise, you would need to

Will we receive assistance in receiving our CDS after December 2020

After paying into the NI all our lives, can we receive free medical in France. How does it work and will we be able to after December 2020

meet French rules for third country nationals in order to settle here. You can find out more about what that entails on the French Ministry of Interior website http://accueil-etrangers.gouv.fr/

Hi Lesley, thanks for your questions.

In answer to your first question, you will need to apply for the new residence permit via an online portal that will launch in July 2020. You will have until 1 July 2021 to apply. Most people will be able to complete their applications independently. For those without computer access, prefectures can offer facilitated access to a computer, for example via a computer at the prefecture. Look out for the "point numerique" - a map can be found here. People with mobility issues can highlight this as part of the online application and the prefecture can take steps to accommodate this. For those with a more significant need for support, the UK government has announced a support fund for local organisations to assist the most in need. We will be announcing these shortly. If there are specific consular cases, you can always contact us here.

Your rights to reciprocal healthcare are covered by the Withdrawal Agreement. If you are an S1 holder you will need to have registered your S1 form at your local CPAM. Please note that healthcare in France is not free, and the S1 only covers you for state care – you might want to consider taking out additional top-up health insurance or *mutuelle* to increase the amount you are reimbursed. If you haven't yet reached state pension age, you will have the right to apply for a UK S1 once you start drawing your UK state pension.

S1 forms aside, if you are legally resident in France, you can get a French social security card for healthcare (*carte vitale*). To get a French social security card, you will need to register with your local Caisse Primaire d'Assurance Maladie (CPAM). They can tell you which documents they need for your registration. Top-up insurance cover (mutuelle) also exists to cover the cost of healthcare not

covered by a Carte Vitale. If you have been resident in France for more than 3 months you can apply to be covered by the French healthcare system (PUMA).

See more on our Living in France Guide.

I am a British citizen living in France and dependant on my Irish husband. I read recently that dependants of EU citizens when applying for the Carte de séjour can be granted five years instead of just one year. Can you confirm or otherwise please!

Hi Helen, third-country national (TCN) dependents usually get a 1-year card the first time they apply, and then 2-4 year card upon renewal. See more here: https://www.service-

public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F2209. However, as a UK national resident in France you are also covered by the Withdrawal Agreement. You can choose whether you want to apply via the TCN route, or for a residency permit under the Withdrawal Agreement. If the latter, you will be able to apply online from the start of July 2020. See more on the Living in France Guide.

Hi there,

Firstly, thank you for all the support you're providing through initiatives such as this.

We've had a 2nd home in France for 5 years in anticipation of our retirement. Our original plan was to retain our UK home (as our main residency) and move between both houses but spending more time in France plus visiting other EU countries. We have now both recently retired but are now faced with the prospect of our plans being curtailed by the 90/180 day rule. We have documentary proof of paying utility bills etc for the past 5 years in France but have not been 'permanently resident' here as we were both working full time in the UK prior to our retirement.

1. Is there somewhere I can find an authoritative and correct explanation of the different types of 'status' (including e.g. pros and cons of each) in terms of: Carte de Sejour, Residency, Nationality, Citizenship etc?

Charles, thanks for joining us and for your support. There is no such comparison website on these issues, however you can find information on residency permits here:

https://mobile.interieur.gouv.fr/Actualites/Le-ministere-de-l-Interieur-se-prepare-au-Brexit/Sejour#113660 children and nationality here: https://brexit.gouv.fr/sites/brexit/accueil/vous-etes-britannique.html .

We are waiting for the French authorities to announce exactly how they will assess residency applications under the Withdrawal Agreement, but they have suggested they will take a flexible approach. This would support you getting a residency permit under the Withdrawal Agreement. You will need to consider what implications this may have on where your main residence is (e.g. where you pay tax etc). This solution, however, would allow you to be in France as long as you like, travel to other EU countries for up to 90 days in every 180 days visa-free, and visit the UK as often as you like on your British passport.

For your final point, it would depend on from when/if the French decide to start stamping

2. What are the options in terms of getting around the restrictions of the 90/180 rule (if this is applied) and what should we be doing first? Our Mairie is very supportive in terms of anything they need to do (e.g. supporting a Residency application if required). For example should we first apply for a Carte de Sejour when the form becomes available on the French Govt website in July?

passports when you cross the border, but any new provisions would only come into effect after the transition period ends on 31 December 2020. I hope this helps.

3. If the 90/180 day rule is implemented, is this likely to start with a 'clean slate' on 1st January 2021? Given we are in the transition period until 31st Dec I would hope so, or might this take the previous 180 days in 2019 into account?

Thank you Charles

During the 5 year period of my first CDS to be issued by France this year, if I left France for a continuous period of 8 months after 31/12/20, would I be denied my 10 year permanent card when my initial 5 year card expired due to this absence greater than 6 months in a one year period? Thanks!

Hi Guy, thanks for your question. Whilst you are building up your first five years of residence for a permanent residence permit you can only be away from France for up to 6 months every year without losing your resident status. Once you have a permanent residence status, you can be away from France for up to five years and still keep your right to permanent residence. The French authorities have suggested that they will only do a light touch assessment of continuous residence, but we are waiting for written confirmation of this.

The online application portal will be launched in July 2020 and please check our <u>Living in France Guide</u> for further updates and information.

I moved to France in 2000, and the only home I own is here. However, from 2015 to the end of 2019 I worked in the UK and paid tax there, returning to France at weekends and for holidays. I am now working as a self-employed consultant (under the auto-entrepreneur regime for the time being). I have no carte de séjour, as I never needed one. I applied for one in Januaruy 2019 (to the

Hi Adrian, thanks for your question. The French government have been very clear that they want British people living here to stay living in their homes. Under the Withdrawal Agreement you will need to apply for a new residency permit before 1 July 2021. You can do this via an online application website which will open in July 2020. It does not matter that you left the country for this period, or

Préfecture du Rhône); the application was acknowledged, but I have heard nothing since. Can I stay in my home after the end of the 2020? How can I formalise my status here as soon as possible to end the years of uncertainty caused by UK government policy? Thanks.

that you do not currently have a carte de sejour. Please see more on the Living in France Guide.

Hello, My husband and I were full time resident in France from January 2007 until August 2014. We worked and paid into the French system for this duration.

We moved to UAE in August 2014 to fulfil work contracts which were extended and we are currently still here with an unknown departure date to return to our home in France. We still have our home (fully owned and paid for) and bank accounts and have paid utility bills whilst out of the country.

As Brexit has now occurred, we need to know the options available to us with regard to returning home to our permanent residence in France.

Could you please advise of the options available to us. For example, what is the amount of liquid assets in order to qualify for the Residency Program for affluent individuals (Art R 313-6). Maybe there are also other options available to us?

We would really appreciate any information that you can give us.

Many thanks in advance.

Will I be able change my European TDS for a TNC one with no charge and no supplementary paperwork?

Hello Lucy, this is a good question.

If you arrive back and are living in France before 31 December 2020, you should be eligible to apply for a new residence permit under the Withdrawal Agreement. An online application portal will open from July 2020 until the deadline of 30 June 2021. Although your previous years living in France won't count, you can build up five years of residence and then secure permanent residence. The French authorities have suggested they will do a light-touch assessment of continuous residence in France, so you might like to wait and see what the options on the new website will be.

I'm afraid we can't give advice on the Residency Program for Affluent individuals. You may want to contact the Ministry of Interior (here) or your local prefecture about whether this is an option given your circumstances, but our understanding is that they will point UK nationals towards the new residence permit.

Hi Tildi, thanks for your question.

You will need to apply for a new residence permit via the online portal which launches in July 2020. You have until 30 June 2021 to do this. If you hold a permanent Carte de Sejour, you will be able to simply exchange this via the online portal, but if your CDS is not permanent you may be asked to provide further evidence. It is worth noting that the new residence permit will not be a third country national permit, but rather a specific new permit created for those in scope of the Withdrawal Agreement. The French

authorities have not yet announced what evidence will be required. When we do know we will update our Living in France Guide. Will there be special arrangements Hi Julia, thanks for joining. Under the made for the elderly living in France. Withdrawal Agreement, all UK nationals living in My mother at 92 years of age a France will need to apply to the online residency British citizen who has lived in France website for their new residency permit. for 18 years has suffered a stroke However, there will be a number of and unable to talk. Will there be organisations in France who receive UK special help to get her CDS? government funding to support certain groups, such as the elderly, or those with limited computer access. We will publish their details shortly so you can see which group is working in the area where your mother lives. In addition, prefectures can make exceptions for people with mobility issues and facilitate the application process in certain cases. You will be able to comment on any challenges your mother may have as part of the application process. Please do sign up to alerts on our Living in Guide.

Nationality

Questions	Answers
I'm considering taking dual nationality,	Martin, thanks for your question. The British
will you be offering advice on how best	Embassy cannot advise on French nationality, other
to achieve it?	than to say that both UK and France accept dual
	nationality. You can find more information on the
	French website here:
	https://brexit.gouv.fr/sites/brexit/accueil/vous-etes-
	britannique/droit-au-sejour.html
For those people, and I'm concerned	Deborah, thanks for flagging this concern. As a
about several retired friends, who have	national of an EU Member State you retain your
dual (or multiple) nationality and who do	rights as an EU citizen. As such your rights to live,
not need or cannot get a CdS, but do	work, study, access benefits and services, and be
have UK citizen rights, how should or can	joined by your third country national family
they prove that they are exercising their	members across the EU will continue under EU law.
treat rights prior to the end of the	As a resident in France, you can also be covered by
transtion period. As UK S1 holders they	the Withdrawal Agreement. Therefore, your retired
cannot access the French Puma system.	friends will be able to continue to receive their
This is a conundrum for people with	uprated UK state pensions and associated reciprocal
French nationality as of course they	healthcare cover via the S1.
cannot apply for a CdS!	
	We are looking into the detail of how this will work
	in practice if, as you say, you are not eligible for a

residence permit. Although I cannot give you a clearer answer at this point, please be assured that we take this issue very seriously, and we are working with the French authorities to understand the system.

Hi, I have been living in France with my French-born husband (who has dual nationality) since 2002; I am 63, I have a British passport, pay taxes in France and subscribe to the healthcare system. I have applied for an updated titre de sejour, but I really want to know 1) if I apply for French nationality will it affect my British nationality? Can I have dual nationality? and 2) Will I be able to claim a British state pension when the time comes? As an aside, I am a bit miffed at being excluded from voting in the local elections next month! Thank you.

Hi Niki, France and the UK both accept dual nationality so it would not affect your British nationality if you were to become a French citizen as well. As a UK national resident in France now, you are covered by the Withdrawal Agreement and this protects your right to access an uprated UK state pension once you become eligible.

Taxes

Questions Answers

I've lived in France since 1975. I have a half share in my late parents' house, currently occupied by my brother. If he dies before me, what might the inheritance tax position be? And similarly, If I sell the property, what might UK and French postions be regarding tax?

Hi Andrew, thanks. Succession raises complex legal questions, the answers to which are heavily dependent on individual circumstances and you should seek expert legal advice for this kind of question.

UK nationals habitually resident in Member States in which the EU Succession Regulation applies can choose UK law to apply to matters of succession to their estate, under the Regulation.

That means, for example, that your brother living in France, if/when he creates a will, can choose UK law to apply to succession to their estate. If it were to come to you selling the property, the double taxation treaty between the UK and France avoids you being taxed on the same income in both countries. However, you would need to seek independent tax advice on the details.

Also, does the withdrawal agreement cover all rights, or might British people living in Europe be at a disadvantage in some areas, akin to third country citizens? For example, if we buy property, will we be subject to higher taxes than EU citizens?

Hi Jack, thanks for your question. The Withdrawal Agreement secures the rights of residence, right to work or study, access to healthcare, benefits and education, lifetime protection of pensions, and the right to bring existing close family members to live with them in France. You fall in scope if you are a UK national living in France at the end of the transition period for as long as you remain resident in France. There are issues not covered by the Withdrawal Agreement, such as the right to vote in French or European elections. Property tax is a separate issue, but will not be affected. UK nationals will become Third Country Nationals but they are treated the same as EU citizens in regards to property tax.

I've owned a home in France for very nearly 5 years and live there full time whilst not working. My Company is based in the UK where I pay my business taxes. I work overseas on assignments. I'm hoping to start an additional business in France in 2021. I have not registered at my local commune for a CDS. Is it possible to stay in France under my current conditions? (Paying all my taxes in the UK) What are the next steps I should take? Thanks

Hi John, thanks for the question. As you are living in France now, you will be covered by the Withdrawal Agreement and need a residence permit linked to this special status. You will need to apply online to the residency application website which will open from start of July 2020. This is the case for all UK nationals living in France. You should seek independent tax advice for the workings of your companies. There is a bilateral treaty on double taxation between the UK and France but we cannot advise on where you should be paying tax. Hope that helps.

Thé WA discusses family reunification after the transition. Please confirm that an elderly U.K. parent can join their U.K. family resident in France, after transition, with the S1 and with the same legal residency requirements as pre end of transition.

Hi Julie, the WA does indeed cover family reunification. The definition of a close family member includes spouses, civil partners, unmarried partners, children under the age of 21, grandchildren and dependent children and parents and grandparents. We are waiting for the French authorities to confirm what criteria, if any, those family members would need to meet in terms of residency, and how their healthcare would be covered. I realise that doesn't give you complete clarity at the moment, but we will share more details as soon as we can.

Pensions, Social Security

Questions	Answers
Hello, I've been living in France for 26	Thanks for your question, Richard. Member
years, I've paid all of my social charges	States will take into account all contributions
here since then. I'm self employed and my	paid into their respective social security
declared income is up and down. I worked	systems by UK nationals within scope of the
in the Uk from a young age, I have	Withdrawal Agreement and regardless of
qualified for a Uk pension. Where do I	when the contributions were made, before or
stand here??? And where do I stand with	after the end of the transition period. As now,
my Uk Pension in future. I'm 51 years old	the amount of State Pension to which you will
	be entitled as a result of the contributions you
	have made, will be determined according to
	each state's social security legislation.
What will be the minimum income	Hi Marianne, thanks for joining us. The French
requirement for a couple of pensioners in	authorities are in the process of designing the
France to get full residency rights?	residency criteria. We are working with our
	colleagues at the French Interior Ministry to
	help them understand concerns around
	minimum income and expect they will take a
	flexible approach. We will update the Living in
	France Guide as soon as we have more
11: 6 11: 5	information.
I live full time in France. At present I do	Hi Scott, thanks for your question. It's not clear
not pay social charges as my pension is a government pension. Will this change or is	from your question whether the pension you
it to be decided?	refer to is French or British.
	I can tell you that the current structure of EU
	rules and regulations will continue to apply
	during the transition
	Period, and this will continue for UK nationals
	living and/or working in the EU at the end of
	the
	transition period, for as long as they remain in
	scope of the Withdrawal Agreement.
	As now, the amount of State Pension to which
	those individuals will be entitled as a result
	of the contributions will be determined
	according to each state's social security
	legislation.
Hellowe are resident in France and no	Hi Gail, thanks for your question. If you
longer have a UK address, but my husband	wanted to have your pension paid into a
and I both have UK bank accounts, into	French account then you could do that.

which our pensions are paid. Will we be allowed to maintain these accounts after withdrawal?

Otherwise you can continue as now to have the payments made into a UK account.

there are suggestions the new residency will be valid for 5 years and we will have re-apply. as the uprating of state pensions is only guaranteed until 2023, there may be a need for repatriation of many thousands of poor pensioners. Can we have a statement on what will happen to pensions after 2023?

Hello, thanks for your question. As long as you are living in France by 31 December 2020, you are covered by the Withdrawal Agreement, meaning that you will get your UK State Pension uprated every year for as long as you continue to live in France. You'll find further information here https://www.gov.uk/guidance/benefits-and-pensions-for-uk-nationals-in-the-eea-or-

switzerland#living-in-the-eea-or-switzerland-

by-31-december-2020.

We are pre retired, have small private English pensions from UK and waiting for our state pensions as we're not 66 yet (UK found it very funny to hike my SPA from 60 to 66 with no warning). Our monthly incomes are under 1000€ a month for the 2 of us. Will this be enough for us to be allowed to stay in France?

Thanks for the question, Jane. As we mentioned to others, the French authorities are in the process of designing the residency criteria. We are working with our colleagues at the French Interior Ministry to help them understand concerns around minimum income and expect they will take a flexible approach. We will update the Living in France Guide as soon as we have more information.

Can you clarify what happens to UK accrued rights to a state pension and S1 for people who do not hold UK citizenship under the WA? This is particularly relevant for those already in reciept of those.

Hi Deborah, good question. The UK state pension continues to be paid worldwide to all those eligible.

Generally speaking, the Withdrawal Agreement applies to UK nationals living in the EU and EU nationals living in the UK, when talking about residency rights. However, it is possible to be in scope of the WA only for social security coordination.

This means they will continue to accrue aggregated social security contributions, meaning those who have paid into a system will have their contributions, and the rights that flow from those contributions, protected.

This aspect is quite complicated, but hopefully this reassures you.

Please can you explain how to access French pension from the UK - when the time comes - for someone in their early 50s who lived here for 18 years but has now returned to the UK? Hi Ros, thanks for the question!
Under the Withdrawal Agreement, the EU's social security coordination rules will continue to apply in full to UK nationals living and/or working in the EU at the end of the transition period, for as long as they remain in scope.
This is maintained if you have previously exercised your free movement rights and now returned to the UK. Therefore, any years you contributed to the French system would count towards a UK State pension. You would need to speak to DWP to make the transfer.

I have worked in France for 3 years paying into the system and will continue to work there for approx a further 15 years. I have just under 30 years contributions in the U.K. so will I be able to combine both pensions and continue to live in France? I am on CDI contract. We are looking to buy a property upon the sale of our U.K. house.

Hello, the EU's social security coordination rules will continue to apply to UK nationals living and/or working in the EU at the end of the transition period, for as long as they remain in scope of the Withdrawal Agreement. This means that Member States will have to take into account all contributions paid into their respective social security systems by UK nationals within the scope of the Withdrawal Agreement, whether made before or after the end of the transition period.

All the best with your property search.

Our rights are protected under the WA providing we stay in France. If we decide to move to say Spain in 2025, what protected rights would we lose? Would we still get uprated state pensions and S1's etc?

Hi Trevor. You are correct that the Withdrawal Agreement (WA) is designed to protect your current situation, i.e. living in France. Onward movement was not included in the Withdrawal Agreement. Therefore, if you were to move to Spain from 1 January 2021 you would need to meet the entry requirements and residency criteria for third country nationals if you wanted to settle there. We are waiting for confirmation from the European Commission as to whether your social security coordination rights such as uprated state pensions and reciprocal healthcare (a separate chapter in the WA) would be able to accompany you if you move countries. We will share any updates online once we have more information.

1) I have for many years lived and worked in France, currently I am on an ALD (absence longue durée) from work. Today Assurance Maladie still pays indemnities for the time I spend in the UK (or other qualifying countries) e.g. if I am visiting elderly parents. Will this arrangement continue with the UK beyond the end of the transition date?

Hi Warren, If you are in scope of the social security coordination section of the Withdrawal Agreement, the right to be able to export relevant benefits to other EU27 Member States and the UK will generally continue, as under current EU social security coordination rules, for as long as you remain within the scope of the Withdrawal Agreement.

We have owned our french home for 16 yrs. We plan to retire there in 2 and a half yrs and live off my military pension. How will Brexit affect our plans?

Hi Neil, thanks for participating. As you may know, rules on moving to an EU country (known as free movement) remain the same until 1 January 2021, so you could retire to France as now, and be covered by the Withdrawal Agreement. Since you have a home already in France, you might like to look at the options for becoming resident here during this calendar year. See more on the Living in France Guide [LINK]. If you choose to officially move after 1 January 2021, you would need to meet the requirements for third country nationals to settle in France. This will still be possible, but the criteria will differ to those in place for UK nationals before the end of the transition period. You can see more here: https://www.service- public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/N19804.

My wife has worked for 2+years in France and the bulk of her full time career in the UK contributing to state pensions in each country. Now retired from full time work she is approaching pension age and wishes to combine the two elements as a European Pension. Will the right to do this continue to exist and how should she proceed, please?

Hi Paul, I'm not sure from your question whether you are resident in France or the UK, but the answer is yes: EU's social security coordination rules will continue to apply to UK nationals living and/or working in the EU at the end of the transition period, for as long as they remain in scope of the Withdrawal Agreement. This means that Member States will have to take into account all contributions paid into their respective social security systems by UK nationals with the scope of the Withdrawal Agreement, whether made before or after the end of the transition period.

Healthcare

Questions	Answers
We have European health cards that were issued in uk, they run out this year. Do we still apply to uk for renewal? Thank you	Thanks for your question, Pamela. If you're a UK state pensioner, accessing healthcare in France through an S1 form, then you are covered under the Withdrawal Agreement and you will retain your right to a UK issued EHIC as it is the UK who will continue to fund your healthcare and this will be for as long as you remain resident in France. If you don't fall into this category, then a UK issued EHIC may not be valid after 31 December 2020.
I have been living here full time with my husband for the past 2 years, we have recently just had a son born here in France. We both currently have our carte vitale & private top up insurance- will we still receive French medical care? Will my son be entitled to French nationality at some point? He will be going to school here. This is our home and we would like to feel that we are safe here long term. Our current CDS expires in March what do we do then? Thank you. We reach state pension age in 2022, will we still get an S1 and a UK EHIC card?	Thanks for your question, Joanna. As you are currently living in France, you are covered by the Withdrawal Agreement which protects your access to healthcare in France, as long as you remain resident. Therefore, your carte vitale will remain valid and you will continue to be able to receive care in France as now. Regardless of when your CDS expires, you will need to make a fresh application to the new residency application portal, which is expected to open at the start of July 2020. See more information on our Living in France Guide. As for nationality, this is not a subject that the British Embassy can advise on, but you can check the French website: https://brexit.gouv.fr/sites/brexit/accueil/vous-etes-britannique/droit-au-sejour.html . I hope this helps. Hello Trevor, you'll have the right to apply for a UK S1 once you start drawing your UK state pension, providing you are resident in France by the end of the transition period and remain living in France. This will also mean that as the UK will fund your healthcare, you
	by the end of the tr remain living in Franc

Do you have any updates on whether the UK government intends to remain in the EHIC? This is a valuable benefit for UK citizens, particularly those with preexisting conditions for whom travel insurance is not an option

Thanks, Richard. If you're resident in France and already hold a France issued EHIC (CEAM), then you can continue to use this for needs arising healthcare within the EU and UK beyond 31 December 2020. The Withdrawal Agreement does not cover future EHIC arrangements for people not covered by the Agreement, though the UK and EU have agreed to continue discussing these arrangements. People with pre-existing or long-term medical conditions can also check the Money and Pensions Advice Service website, which has information for people about their options for purchasing travel insurance

https://www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk/en/ articles/travel-insurance-for-over-65s-andmedical-conditions.

bonsoir please could you help me i am on sick health benfet in france now since ten years will this keep going for me and will i be able to have my old age pension in france as i have been here and working since 1976 thank you for a reply

Hi Colin, if you are ordinarily resident in
France at the end of 2020 and remain so, you
will have full social security (including
pension) coordination
rights, for as long as you remain in scope.

We are meant to have until 31
December for the WA?? So is it not illegal for the CAF to stop my adult daughters money for AAH (disability) as of 1.02.2020 as she is no longer European ??

What happened to protecting our rights and it stays as it is?

The website doesn't open until July for starting CDS claim so she exists on fresh air until then ????

How is this correct ???

Have already rung the embassy someone from Malaga answered ??!!!!! And basically did not help one bit so would Hi Sarah, thank you bringing this to our attention. I am sorry that you feel you did not get the support you needed when you called us. Please could you send us your details via our contact form so we can speak to you directly about CAF: www.gov.uk/contact-consulate-paris. You can mention that you joined this event. AAH should not be stopped just because of nationality so we can look into if there are any other reasons why this may have been stopped.

You like to assure me that you are
working for the interests of the English in
France ??? One by the way who did not
get a vote in this as that was taken away
from me and my
Daughter too

Working in France, frontier workers

Questions **Answers** I was working in geneva since 2012 Hi Nicky, and lost my job in 2019, and am In order to guarantee your rights to work currently unemployed in France. I in France under the Withdrawal bought an apartment in 2017 in Agreement, you need to apply for a bordering France to Switzerland. I residence permit via the online portal (launching July 2020) before 30 June changed my visa from Swiss resident to frontalier from July 1st 2017. 2021. However, this would only protect your ability to live and work in France, not Before Switzerland I was working in Spain for over 5 years and have across the whole EU. worked all over Europe, except actually in France. My contacts are therefore spread far an wide. The French unemployment are encouraging me to become self employed or register a business while still claiming benefits (apparently it is like this in France). If I set up a company in France, consulting, would I then be able to work across borders? My wife and I invested in a small Hi Philip,

My wife and I invested in a small seasonal holiday business in France in 2013 which operates from May to September (5 months each year). We return to UK for the 7 winter months. Can we still run our business in France from 1st January 2021?

Unfortunately, this is rather a complicated subject! If your main residence were in France and you spent more than six months here each year, you would qualify under the Withdrawal Agreement and this business would be protected. However, if you maintain your permanent residence in the UK and only come over to run your business over the summer period, you should seek legal / business advice about the nature of your business and whether you can continue to run it while not being resident in France.

Can you tell us how the French Govt will be monitoring non-residents stopping in France. Eg someone has a holiday home here but is in France for more than 180 days in any 12 month period. Will they be logging entries and exits at ports and keeping a running total so they know if someone has gone over the limit? Also, if so, will they bar entry until a visa has been obtained?

Hi Bob, thanks for your question. You're right that, from 2021, according to current rules for visiting the Schengen zone for third country nationals, you would only be able to visit France for 90 days out of 180. We would expect them to carry out border controls and checks in line with French and EU law.

For a 90 day visit you would not need a visa, but for a longer stay this would be the case.

You may wish to investigate, depending on your personal circumstances, whether it would be more convenient for you to become resident in France before the end of 2020, which would entitle you to a Carte de Sejour under the Withdrawal Agreement. The process will be launched in July. See https://brexit.gouv.fr/sites/brexit/accueil/vo

us-etes-britannique.html for more information

I was at a DIT event in Liverpool today and one of the DIT staff (a French lady based with you in the Paris Embassy) told me I'll be able to work in France as normal for 90 in 180 days without a visa after 2020. What hope is there when British Government staff give incorrect information!

Hi Andrew, it looks like there has been a bit of a mix up here: what I can tell you is that you will be able to visit France and the rest of the Schengen zone for 90 days out of 180 without a visa.

Future working visa arrangements are a matter for the French Government.

Whilst working towards 5 years residency can you work for half the year then spend less than 6 months abroad then come back and take another job?

Hi Jennetta. In short, yes, you can leave France for up to six months each year while building up your five years towards permanent residency. And, yes, you can change job.

Please note though that you will need to be living in France before 1 January 2021 and make your application via the online portal which will open in July 2020. The deadline for applications is 30 June 2021. What category does service civique fit Hi Jennetta, thanks for the question. into for getting a residency card? It's Service civique looks like voluntary work. not clear if it fits into either studying or It would be for the prefecture to decide work how to categorise you. When you come round to making your residency permit application via the online portal from July 2020, pick whichever one fits best according to which supporting documents are required. We expect there will be an option to add any extra information so you would be able to explain at that point. If ever you needed to submit additional documents, you would be able to do this when the prefecture writes to you. I hope this helps. Hi I've lived in France since 2003. I Hi Emma, thanks for your question. was 9 years old. I've done all of my Whether or not you have a Carte de studies and currently work in France Séjour or have made an application, you (CDI). Do I need to do a declaration will need to make a new application for a with my employer? I asked for a carte new residence permit to keep your right de séjour before the 31/01/2020, do I to live and work in France after this year. need to have it to regularise my You can do this via the online portal that will launch in July 2020, and you need to situation with my employer? do this before the 30 June 2021. **Thanks** In terms of your employer, I'm not sure exactly what kind or declaration you mean, but you can be assured that you have the right to work here now, and you will in the future if you apply for residency. Hi Abdala, Yes, UK nationals can move to Can a British national move and start work Or start a business in France and work in France until the end of this during the transition period? If so, can year. If you arrive before 1 January 2021, they apply for Carte de Sejour within you can apply for a new residence permit that will give you the right to live and work that period? in France for as long as you remain resident. You will need to apply via the online portal that will launch in July 2020, and before the deadline 30 June 2021. Hi Ros. Under the Withdrawal How likely is it someone working part time would be granted a CDS? Agreement, UK nationals living and working in France before the 31 December 2020 are eligible to apply for a new residence permit via the online portal which will launch July 2020.

We are waiting for the French authorities to confirm the exact criteria for these new residence permits, but we have seen no evidence to suggest that part time workers would not qualify. We will update our Living in France Guide when the French authorities have made these criteria public.

Will frontier workers in possession of a one year or 5 year G permit who live in France but work in Switzerland be able to renew that permit after its expiry even if they are no longer in the job it was originally issued for? Is this the same for the TCN spouse of the British citizen who also has a G permit?

Thanks.

Hello Guy. The rights of Frontier workers are protected by the Withdrawal Agreement. You will be able to continue with your current working arrangement and reside in France as long as you remain within scope of the WA and apply for a residence permit before July 1 2021.

G permits are issued by the Swiss Government, both to EU and third country nationals, so this question would best be directed to the Swiss authorities.

I work on seasonal contracts, and if I've understood correctly for this season i dont have to do anything. However what do i have to do after? Apply for a cds? Being i have lived here for 15years.

Hi Tess, thanks for your question.

As a UK national, your rights to live and work in France do not change during this calendar year.

You will need to apply for a new residence permit via the online portal that will open in July 2020 to make sure you have these rights in future. You'll have until 30 June 2021 to do this. As you have lived here for more than 5 years already, you should be eligible to apply for a permanent residence permit.

Many frontier workers do not have a regular work pattern eg. Not returning home every weekend, yet their family and centre of interest is here in France. Will they be eligible for the frontier worker's 'document' and will they and their family still continue to benefit from present day cross border social security arrangements?

Hi Julie, the rights of Frontier workers are protected by the Withdrawal Agreement. You will be able to continue with your current working arrangement and reside in France as long as you remain within scope of the WA and apply for a residence permit before July 1 2021.

However, there may be many unique and complex arrangements that UK workers hold in terms of cross-border working. Some may qualify as cross-border, and

	some may qualify as provision of services, the arrangements for which will be discussed as part of the upcoming negotiations.
I live and work in France, but work a month each summer in a different European city. Can I continue to earn my living this way after December 31 2020?	Hi Julie, in order to guarantee your rights to work in France under the Withdrawal Agreement, you need to apply for a residence permit via the online portal (launching July 2020) before 30 June 2021.
	However, this would only protect your ability to live and work in France, not across the whole EU. After 1 January 2021, you would need to apply as a third country national for the relevant visa to work in another EU country.
Do you have any updates on types of visas that might be available for those of us who are UK tax resident but need to work in France for more than 90 days at a time (but still under 180 days)? Thanks.	Hi Richard, this is a matter for the French Government to decide in due course. It may be worth looking at the types of visas currently on offer to third country nationals: https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F16162
When applying for a Carte de sejour this summer, will a permanent Swiss contract of employment be considered a valid income source for those living in France and working as un travailleur frontalier? For those of us who own bars and restaurants will we still be able to hold	Hi lan, thanks for joining. There is no reason why you would not be able to use income from outside of France for your residency permit here. Make sure you are registered with the Swiss authorities as a frontier worker. Hi lan, the Withdrawal Agreement protects your ability to carry on working
a licence to sell alcohol how may this be addressed?	and living – including running a business as now.

Education

Questions	Answers
Can my daughter, who moved to France	Hi Sarah, thanks for the question. The British
with us 15 months ago, at the age of 14	Embassy cannot advise on nationality, but
apply for French nationality as soon as	,
she's 18 or can she not apply until she's	you can find information here:
been here five years like us? She's	

considering whether to study at university in the UK or France. If she defers going to university for a year or more and becomes a French national in the meantime, would she lose those rights if she then studies in the UK?

https://brexit.gouv.fr/sites/brexit/accueil/vous-etes-britannique/droit-au-sejour.html

On the university question, as a UK national living in the EEA or Switzerland, she will be eligible for home fee status and student support for courses starting up to seven years from the end of the transition period on 1 January 2021.

Since Higher Education is devolved, UK nationals living in the EEA or Switzerland previously resident in Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland, should contact the relevant student funding body for more information.

- Scotland: https://www.saas.gov.uk/
- Wales:
 https://www.studentfinancewales.co.
 uk/
- Northern Ireland:https://www.studentfinanceni.co.uk/
- England:
 https://www.gov.uk/student-finance

I am a UK citizen and am applying to university in France this year. During the transition period, do I apply as an eu citizen or as a non eu citizen?

Dear Jaz,

Thanks for your question. You can apply as an EU citizen during the transition period.

Passport and Travel / Pet Passports

Questions	Answers
We moved to France in 2018 and I have	Hi Sarah, we'll try to answer these for you!
lots of questions. One is whether, if we	The new residency permit (linked to the
get a carte de séjour to allow us to stay	Withdrawal Agreement) for which you will
in France, it will allow us to travel freely	need to apply online from July 2020, will
within the EU, or will we be treated as	allow you to travel to other Schengen
British citizens when it comes to other	countries for 90 days in any 180 days without
countries? We need to travel within the	a visa. During such visits you would be able to
EU for business as well as pleasure and	attend business meetings, but if you wanted
we need to know how straight forward	to work or provide services, you would need
this will be.	to check if you need a work visa for each
	country you visit. You should be able to check
	this online. All will depend exactly on how
	your work is set up. Hope this helps.
On the 25 July 2018, I applied to Nantes	Hi James, many thanks for your question.
to change my british driving license for a	We would recommend you take a look at our
french one. Despite having sent several	Living in France guide in the first instance:
emails since then, I have not received	https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-
any information telling me when I will	<u>france#driving-in-france</u> . If you fall into one
have the french license. All I ever receive	the urgent cases mentioned in our living in
are automatic emails telling me that	guide, please contact us via our online tool
Nantes is very busy. Could you please	below and we will raise your case with the
help with the exchange of licenses.	relevant authority. https://www.contact-
Thank you	embassy.service.gov.uk/?country=France&po
	st=British%20Embassy%20Paris%20
Is it true that after March 2022 expats	Hi David, in a word, no! UK nationals can
with residency living abroad will have to	return to work and live in the UK at any point
apply for a visa to return to the uk?	in time by virtue of their British passport – no
	need for a visa. You may have heard that if
	you wanted to return with non-British spouse
	or partner, you would have to do so by 29
	March 2022 in order for them to be able to
	apply to the EU Settlement Scheme. After
	this, they would need to meet the new
	immigration rules. Hope this helps clarify
	matters.
On a more prosaic note: can you tell me	Hi Karen,
if our car insurance green card still valid	Yes, provided your Green Card hasn't
in the UK this year? Will there be a	expired, it will be recognised in the UK and
reciprocal agreement put in place for the	the UK's exit from the EU does not affect this.
following years please?	
And ditto for our French-issued CEAM	

card: can we still use it when we visit the UK?

If you are already living in France and therefore covered by the Withdrawal Agreement, you will be able to continue to use your CEAM when travelling to the UK (and other EU countries) for as long as you remain resident in France. As we always advise, make sure you also have comprehensive travel insurance as CEAM only covers needs-arising urgent treatment.

First subject - Driving Licences:
What is the current situation and your advice for transferring UK Driving
Licences to French ones? We've avoided making our applications to transfer them due to the delays. Will they need to be transferred by the end of the transition period?

Second subject - right to work:
Regardless of what your current
situation is, we currently have the right
to live and work in France due to having
our British passports. Will all the new
Titres de Séjour that will be issued, give
you the same right to work? - so, for
example, if you don't have a job at the
moment but want to get one next year
after the transition period, will the Titre
de Séjour that you apply for this year
give you the right to go and get a job
next year?

Third Subject - EU/Non-EU lines:
Once we have a French Titre de Séjour,
will we be able to use the EU
passport/immigration lines in ALL EU
countries or only when entering France?
So if we flew into Belgium, would we be
able to join the EU line?

Adam,

Many thanks for your question on driving licences. I would recommend you take a look at our Living in Guide pages — in the driving section (https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-france which should hopefully answer your question.

As for your question on work, it depends on how long you have been here and what criteria the French authorities will test as part of the residency application process. If you are covered by the Withdrawal Agreement (by virtue of being resident in France before 1 January 2021) you maintain the right to live and work in France. The French authorities have suggested on their most recent website update that if you are not working, you would either need to enrolled at your local job centre ("pole emploi"), or be able to prove that you have sufficient resources to support yourself. The Withdrawal Agreement allows you to switch between categories of residence (i.e. in your case from selfsufficient to worker). Alternatively, you might consider applying for residency as a family member of your partner (difficult to fully understand the situation without more information from you). On your final point, you can continue to use EU lines during the transition period, but it's not yet clear after that.

I am British but have lived in France for eleven years I have no home in the UK. and understand what I need to do to stay.

My son is currently living in Thailand, normally when he comes to visit he stays three to six months (for example he came to help with the house and dogs when I had a hip replacement). Will he still be allowed to stay and is there any limit to the length of time he could stay?

Hi Chris, thanks for participating. During the transition period (which lasts until 31 December 2020) the current rules continue to apply. The rules on UK nationals visiting France from 1 January 2021 will be subject to future negotiations. It is possible that visafree visits would be limited to 90 in 180 days and he would need a Schengen visa for longer visits. However, we don't have confirmation just yet. We will update our Travel Advice pages when we have more detail.

What will the position be at the borders after the transition period. Will UK citizens still be able to use the e-gates at the frontier and will the juxtaposed controls remain. It appears as if the UK border is set up to offer this to EU citizens (as well as other countries).

Hi Kev, all great questions, but difficult for us to say at this point as this is subject to future negotiations. We know it's an important question for travellers so will share more information once we have it. If you're living in France, make sure you sign up to alerts on our Living in France Guide.

After December 2020, before receiving CDS, how will travel between the UK and France be affected. Especially coming back into France from the UK

Thanks for joining us, Lesley. The French authorities have clearly stated that UK nationals living in France will not need to hold a new residency permit under the Withdrawal Agreement until 1 July 2021. Therefore, we are expecting some kind of grace period between January and June next year. We will be working with the French Interior Ministry to make sure this is clear to all parts of the French system, including colleagues at the border.

Hi British Embassy Paris, I have lived in Paris for nine years and have been working for six years. I am waiting for the online portal to launch to apply for a Carte de Séjour. I know travelling doesn't change during the transition period. I renewed and received my new British passport last year in 2019. While waiting for the Carte de Séjour, is it still recommended/necessary to carry documents with us when travelling to prove we have settled in France to ensure things run smoothly at airports when leaving and returning to France? If

Hi Joyce, the French authorities have said you only need to carry your valid passport for the time being. You'll need to apply for the new residency permit under the Withdrawal before 1 July 2021, and after that date will also need that document, or proof that you have applied. Hope that helps. Please make sure you are signed up to alerts on the Living in France Guide.

so, what documents do you recommend we carry?

Hello, I am a french citizen who lived in the UK for 25 years (returned to France in 2015) and my daughter was born in the UK, so she has a British passport. She is 13 now and she lives in France with me and goes to school here. I am going to get her the french nationality too so she has both. Is there anything else I ought to do for her so she can continue to live in France with me please? My second question is, I did my driving test in the UK and have a UK/EU licence, do I need to change it to a french one? Many thanks in advance.

Hi Arielle, thanks. You don't need to do anything for your 13 year old child to continue living with you in France. She will need a residency permit under the Withdrawal Agreement once she turns 18 (if she does not have French nationality).

As for your question on driving, UK licences will continue to be recognised during the transition period. You will need to exchange it at some point for a French licence but the French authorities are currently only accepting urgent exchanges. Please see our Living in France Guide driving section for more information (https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-france

Voting

Questions Answers

How does the much vaunted "nothing will change for a year" statement fit with the immediate withdrawal from UK citizens of the right to vote in France, the day after Brexit? I am horrified. I have lived and worked in France for 18 years, was on my local council and now I find myself deprived of any voting rights. I can no longer vote in the UK, although the UK government taxes my teaching pension at source, despite my paying my taxes in France. How can it be possible to disenfranchise us? We live in a

disenfranchise us? We live in a democracy, don't we? Isn't there anything the UK government can do about this scandalous state of affairs?

Hi Karen – thanks for getting in touch. We understand how important this is for you and many others. We have asked for a bilateral agreement that would enable UK nationals in France to vote. However, as voting rights are not included in the Withdrawal Agreement, ultimately this is a decision for the French.

In the UK, the Government is committed to scrapping the rule that prevents British citizens who have lived abroad for more than 15 years from participating in UK parliamentary elections. The intention is to do this before the General Election in 2024 – the government will make an announcement on its plans in due course.

In February 2021 we will have lived in	Hi Nigel, voting rights are an important issue
France for 15 years. Under the current	that we are regularly asked about and I can
rules we will have no right to vote in a	assure that citizens' rights have always been
UK election, nor a European election nor	a priority for the UK in the EU negotiations.
for the local Marie. My wife pays UK tax	We have now reached bilateral agreements
on a government pension and we both	with Spain, Portugal and Luxembourg on
pay French tax on our old age pensions	local voting rights and have asked for a
and private pensions. Would you say	similar agreement with France. However, as
that was taxation without	voting rights are not included in the
representation? We have not changed	Withdrawal agreement, it will be for the
anything in our status but the	French to decide if this is something they can
Conservative government has cut us	agree to.
adrift even though we have followed UK	
and European rules for the last 64 years,	Regarding the 15- year rule, the Government
thats how much a UK government values	is committed to removing it ahead of the
it's citizens.	General Election in 2024. We are expecting
	the government to make an announcement
	in due course.
When will the right to vote be reviewed	Hi Victoria – the Government is committed to
for UK citizens who have been abroad for	scrapping the 15 - year voting rule ahead of
more than 15 years? Brexit means I have	the General Election in 2024. Exactly timings
no democratic rights anywhere now.	will depend on the Parliamentary calendar –
	the government will announce its plans in
	due course.
As a French resident, 2 questions	Hi Clive, thanks for getting in touch.
A/ when will we get the municipal vote	A/ We would like to reach a bilateral
restored, its removal is criminal	agreement with France that would enable UK
	nationals to vote in the municipal elections –
B/ when will freedom of travel for those	as we have done with other EU countries
living within the Schengen area be	such as Spain, Portugal and Luxembourg.
confirmed	However, as voting rights are not included in
	the Withdrawal agreement, it will be for the
CHJones	French to decide. We are aware, however,
	that affording local voting rights to UK
	nationals would require a change to the
	French constitution.
	B/You will continue to be able to visit
	countries within the European Union without
	needing a visa for 90 days in a period of 180

days. However, you may need a visa if you want to live and work in another country as freedom of movement is not included in the Withdrawal Agreement.

We hope this helps.

Politics/Commentary

Questions Answers

Bonsoir. For 3 years we have had a lot of unuseful rhetoric from the British Government ("queue jumpers" etc) about EU citizens. At the same time the spin put on negotiations, after barely 2 weeks, indicates already the government's wish to demonize the EU.

While legal agreements and treaties secure our rights, the fabric of daily life (in France or any other country) is under written by tacit good will between people. The continual scape-goating of the EU as a belligerent negotiating partner--when in reality they are simply remaining within the Withdrawal agreement and political declaration that the British government has signed--is likewise deleterious to the lives of Brits in France.

I want to know what specific representations the Ambassador has made to the British Government about the latter's flippant and puerile use of pejorative and demeaning terms and media spin on both the citizen and national level.

If there aren't any, why not? If no substantial answer are we to understand that the Embassy is in favour of such language and positioning?

Hi John, Thanks for getting in touch. We know that there is a lot of media speculation about the UK's approach to the negotiations and we regularly speak to the French government, organisations and journalists to explain the UK's position.

However, the Government has been clear that it wants to find a comprehensive free trade agreement with the EU. The EU will remain an important partner and the Government wants to negotiate a new relationship based on friendly co-operation – as was stated in Parliament only yesterday.

With that in mind, the role of the Embassy and Ambassador in France is to promote a strong partnership between the UK and France and we will continue to do this over the coming months and years.

I notice the Embassy has NOT replied to any posts, poor attitude not to reply until the date they state in their post, it must be possible for an official to answer as the come up? Hi Kevin – as well as responding to your questions, the team are also working with the French authorities on the rights of UK nationals after the transition period, which ends in December. We want to be able to properly consider all the questions we receive and we sometimes consult Departments in London or French ministries – which is why there is a gap between the questions and answers. We also find that lots of the questions have similar themes so it often helps the enquirer to read the answers to other questions at the same time as receiving the answer to theirs!

Thanks for your support. Much appreciated. ac

How can I get involved in careers at the embassy or within the foreign office? I'm a BSc (Hons) Economics with Politics graduate, enrolling in a MSc this September. I applied for an internship with the British Embassy Paris last summer without success, but I am still seeking graduate programme information and advice on suitable choices for further education to pursue this career path. Thanks very much.

Thanks for the shout out Steve!

Hi Sean – all vacancies in the UK service are advertised on the basis of open and fair competition and there is no requirement to have studied a certain degree at University.

You can read more about working for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office here: https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/foreign-commonwealth- office/about/recruitment

Jobs specific to the British Embassy in Paris will be advertised here:
https://fco.tal.net/vx/appcentre-ext/candidate/jobboard/vacancy/1/adv/

Good luck!

> 50% of the population don't want Brexit; 100% of the population did not vote for Mogg's / ERG's / Johnson's / Cummings' hard Brexit.

Who is protesting about this in Westminster?

Where is the Pro-European version of ERG?

Hi Peter – we recognise the uncertainty felt by many British nationals living in France.

The Government continues to be clear that citizens' rights is a priority in the context of the EU negotiations. That is why it was one of the first issues discussed as part of the Withdrawal Agreement between the UK and the EU. The Agreement protects the majority

of rights for UK nationals living in the EU. It Whilst the country loses influence, doesn't cover everything – such as onward prosperity, security, and real movement. But we are working closely with independence in the world, we the individual member states on outstanding citizens are losing much more: we are issues, where they can be resolved with losing our freedom of movement and bilateral agreements. our citizens' rights. The team in the Embassy continue to work closely with the French authorities on Who is doing anything at all in citizens' rights and feed back to London on a Westminster (or in Brussels?) to fight for regular basis - you definitely haven't been our rights and freedom? forgotten. WHO? For clearly the Mogg/Cummings/Johnson machine is aiming to be the 51st state of the USA. Please can I become French? Being Hi Jacqueline – that's a question for the British is downright embarrassing. French government! But you might find the Ministry of Interior website useful: https://www.immigration.interieur.gouv.fr/ Pissed off actually never get a reply Hi Joe – we will reply to everyone who asked think it's another scam to say you care a question on the thread when it was open, we promise! However, we want to be able to answer each question properly, which is why there is a gap between questions and answers. With the best will in the world, I can't Hi Jane, citizens' rights continue to be a see you being able to answer any priority for the government. The Withdrawal questions. Because this current Agreement between the UK and EU means government has no plan. For those of us that you will be able to continue living in living in France and wanting to stay, the France. You are right that the process of how only answers will come from the French to secure your rights in France is a matter for ministry of the interior. the French authorities – just as the UK Government has put in place a straightforward process for EU nationals in the UK. But we continue to work closely with them on this and share information as it becomes available. The next thing you should look out for is the residency website going live in July 2020 so you can apply for your residency permit. Sign up for updates on our living in France guide for more information as

it is published.

Will the government ensure that British citizens living in France will not be used as pawns in forthcoming trade discussions?

Hi Clare, citizens' rights continue to be a priority for the EU and the UK. That is why it was one of the first issues discussed as part of the Withdrawal Agreement. The Withdrawal Agreement is a legal treaty that has been ratified and is completely separate from the upcoming trade talks. Just as we are clear that we want EU nationals living in the UK to stay, the French government have said the same about UK nationals living in France.

I hope this is reassuring!

Lots of questions but no answers....

Hi Suzi – we will reply to everyone! We want to be able to properly consider all the questions we receive – which is why there is a gap between the questions and answers. We also find that lots of the questions have similar themes so it often helps the enquirer to read the answers to other questions at the same time as receiving the answer to theirs!

2) My Father is in a care home in England that relies heavily on staffing by carers from Eastern Europe, but today I read that Priti Patel said there will be no visas for low-skilled workers. How will the government prevent a mass exodus and therefore shortfall in care home carers who I see as vulnerable under this policy (risk of being classified as low skilled workers and/or not meeting min. salary requirements). I am very worried that the care of my Father and others will suffer as a result. For example, will care home workers be one of the roles labeled as in-demand, so would not be restricted by the government's immigration policy?

Hi Warren, thanks for getting in touch. We can fully understand that your concern that your Father is properly looked after.

Firstly, the EU Settlement scheme means that all EU care workers currently in the UK can stay working and living in the UK —and we would encourage them to do so.

The new immigration system means that those taking jobs in the social care sector at skills level above RQF 3 (A level and above) will be able to come to the UK under the new skilled workers route.

The Department for Health and Social care is working to ensure the social care sector is properly resourced to meet increasing demands. The department is also providing councils with access to additional £1.5 billion for social care in 2020/21 to help meet rising demand.

	We hope this gives you some reassurance.
Article 20 (1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union	Hi Ben, thanks for your question.
states that: "Every person holding the nationality of a Member State shall be a citizen of the Union. Citizenship of the Union shall be additional to and not replace national citizenship." Thus, when the UK joined, each UK citizen became	As the UK has now left the European Union, UK nationals are no longer European Union citizens. Preserving EU citizenship for UK nationals who wish to remain in the Union has never been a part of the negotiations.
an EU citizen, which - as stated in the treaty - is additional to their UK citizenship. The treaty, to my knowledge, does not define revocation. What are the government doing to protect the EU citizenship rights of its citizens?	However, citizens' rights remain a priority for the UK and the EU. The Withdrawal Agreement means that UK nationals living in the European Union before the end of the transition period (31 December 2020) will enjoy many of the same rights in their country of residence as they do today.
	Our team in the Embassy continue to work closely with the French authorities on the rights of UK nationals living in France.
Any other outreach meetings coming up in Eastern France? Thanks.	Hi Rachel, we are hoping to do an event in Strasbourg soon - keep an eye here for updates.
	https://www.gov.uk/government/news/infor mation-and-events-for-british-citizens-in- france