

British Embassy Berlin
Facebook Q&A - 25 May 2020

Important please note: The information in this document was correct on the date it was issued (25-29 May 2020).

Ensure that you have the latest information by checking the living in Germany guide at www.gov.uk/livinginGermany

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Residency

My boyfriend is british and moved to Munich in September 2017 and is registered at the Meldebehörde since then. he is self employed with an UG. We are wondering what the procedure is with Brexit since we didn't here anything from it since corona. Does he have to apply for a visa? Do we wait until the Ausländerbehörde contacts us? Is there anything we can do in advance? Thank you very much

Dear A,

Thank you for your question. Your boyfriend did the right thing in registering at the Meldebehörde. In addition to that, he needs to follow the process at his local Foreigners Authority (Ausländerbehörde) - some of them are proactively contacting UK nationals others will be waiting for UK nationals to get in touch. Don't worry if you haven't heard from them yet – they are waiting for Germany's draft law to be adopted (expected towards the end of the summer).

Germany has adopted a draft law which foresees that UK nationals who live in Germany at the end of the transition period (31 December 2020) will be able to obtain a new residence document confirming their rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. UK nationals will have until 30 June 2021 to obtain this new documentation which will not be a visa but a residence card. Have a look at our guidance on residence documents:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany> and the Ambassador's recent video:
<https://www.facebook.com/BritsInGermany/videos/2772884466094386/>. Also, check our Living in Germany Guide and sign up to our e-mail alerts for up-to-date information:
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany>. All the best to you and your boyfriend!

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<p>Hello, do you know the type of residence permit someone already employed in Germany will get? Also I am British and my wife is Russian, I assume that joining a family member will still apply. I understand we both have to re-apply as well? She currently has a five year residency card.</p>	<p>Dear M,</p> <p>Thanks very much for getting in touch. The Withdrawal Agreement protects the rights of all those UK nationals living and working in Germany by the end of the transition period (31 December 2020) and their family members. Those individuals will be able to obtain a new residence document confirming their rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. You will have until 30 June 2021 to obtain this new documentation.</p> <p>On your family question, the Withdrawal Agreement also safeguards the residency rights of family members of UK nationals, including spouses. Your wife will need to exchange her existing residence permit for a new residence card of family members of UK nationals in scope of the Withdrawal Agreement. Please see our guidance on Foreigners Authorities and consult your local Foreigners Authority to discuss the necessary arrangements in your particular case: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany.</p>
<p>Please explain the state of play for Brits living in Germany who have applied for residency post-Brexit. I submitted paperwork to my local authority and have heard nothing since, which leaves me feeling very anxious.</p>	<p>Dear B,</p> <p>Thank you for getting in touch. I can understand that you are anxious not having heard back from your local Foreigners Authority but don't worry. Germany has just recently adopted a draft law which foresees that UK nationals who live in Germany at the end of the transition period (31 December 2020) will be able to obtain a new residence document confirming their</p>

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	<p>rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. Your local Foreigners Authority is probably waiting until the legislative process is finalised to process residence applications. We expect the legislative process to be completed during the summer and under this law, UK nationals will have until 30 June 2021 to obtain the new residence documentation.</p> <p>Have a look at our guidance on residence documents: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany. Also, check our Living in Germany Guide and sign up to our e-mail alerts for up-to-date information: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany.</p>
<p>Dear sir/madam. I have a 3 year Fiktionsbescheinigung (GBR Nationalpass) given to me this time last year by the Auslanderbeholder, Berlin. Will I be able to renew this in 2 years time? I own a flat in Berlin, but live between Uk and Germany as a freelance musician/music producer and travel around a lot due to my work.</p>	<p>Dear J,</p> <p>Thanks very much for getting in touch. You may be aware that Germany has now adopted a draft law which foresees that UK nationals who are exercising free movement rights in Germany at the end of the transition period (31 December 2020) will be able to obtain a new residence document confirming their rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. UK nationals will have until 30 June 2021 to obtain this new residence card.</p> <p>It sounds like you have already completed Berlin's process (https://www.berlin.de/labo/willkommen-in-berlin/freizuegigkeit-eu-ewr-schweiz/formular.770591.en.php). If you have not done so yet, please do. If you have, we expect that the Berlin Foreigners Authority (now renamed Berlin Immigration Office) will be in touch with you again once the legislative process has been completed (towards the end of the summer) to issue you</p>

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	<p>the new residence document. In the meantime, please keep your Fiktionsbescheinigung. Should you not receive the new card before 1 January 2021, you might need to take the Fiktionsbescheinigung with you when you travel.</p> <p>For further information, please have a look at our guidance on residence documents: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany. Also, check our Living in Germany Guide and sign up to our e-mail alerts for up-to-date information: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany</p>
<p>Once I've registered & got my anmeldung, will I be good to stay after the transit period ends? Thank!</p>	<p>Hi C,</p> <p>Thanks for your question. You first need to register to get your Anmeldebestätigung, that's correct. In addition to that, you need to contact your local Foreigners Authority (Ausländerbehörde) to request a residence card. Germany has adopted a draft law on residence which foresees that UK nationals who live in Germany at the end of the transition period (31 December 2020) will be able to obtain a new residence document confirming their rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. UK nationals will have until 30 June 2021 to obtain this new residence card. Please have a look at our guidance on residence documents https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany, watch the Ambassador's recent video explaining the process</p>

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	<p>https://www.facebook.com/BritsInGermany/videos/2772884466094386/ and check our Living in Germany Guide for up-to-date information https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany.</p>
<p>We have been living in Germany for 10 years we are registered in the normal way but when I enquired at our auslandersburo they have no information on what we need to do to be registered after brexit. Naturally we are concerned as we dont want to get refused reentry to the country after visiting in the UK or elsewhere, jobs home schools etc are all based in Germany.....</p>	<p>Hi L, thanks for getting in touch. No need to worry – your rights are protected under the Withdrawal Agreement and you will be able to continue working and living in Germany as before. You did the right thing in reaching out to your local Ausländerbehörde.</p> <p>However, many Foreigners Authorities are waiting for the legislative process to be finalised on residency for UK nationals. Germany has just recently adopted a draft law on residence which foresees that UK nationals who live in Germany at the end of the transition period (31 December 2020) will be able to obtain a new residence document confirming their rights under the Withdrawal Agreement.</p> <p>As a UK national, you will have until 30 June 2021 to obtain this new residence document. Have a look at our guidance: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany, watch the Ambassador’s recent video explaining the process https://www.facebook.com/BritsInGermany/videos/2772884466094386/ and check our Living in Germany Guide for up-to-date information: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany All the best to you and your family!</p>

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My wife & I have been living and working in Berlin for past 18 months. We are about to relocate to Munich for a new permanent employment opportunity for my wife and have had official residency documentation through a EU Family Reunion Visa. I am a UK citizen and I do not work. My wife is Australian, currently eligible to work in Germany based on my UK citizenship. What is the process to continue our residency in Germany as part of the Withdrawal agreement? Many thanks.

Dear S,

Many thanks for getting in touch. You may be aware that the German government has just adopted a draft law on residence which foresees that UK nationals and their family members who live in Germany at the end of the transition period (31 December 2020) will be able to obtain a new residence document confirming their rights to continue to live and work in Germany under the Withdrawal Agreement. Your wife will be able to exchange her EU family permit for a new residence document as family member of a UK national covered by the Withdrawal Agreement. You will have until 30 June 2021 to obtain these new residence documents. Once the law is adopted by parliament later this year, local Foreigners Authorities will begin processing residency applications.

Since you mention that you are about to relocate to Munich, after your move from Berlin both you and your wife will need to first register with the local registration office (Einwohnermeldeamt) there and then contact your local Foreigners Authority (Ausländerbehörde) in Munich to find out about their process for UK nationals. Please see our guidance for further information:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany> and watch the Ambassador's recent video explaining the process

<https://www.facebook.com/BritsInGermany/videos/2772884466094386/>. You can also check our Living in Germany Guide for

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	up-to-date information: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany
<p>Hi. 4 of our family live here in Germany and 3 of the 4 have dual nationality. The 4th member, our daughter, is angemeldet here but has spent the last 4 years doing her degree in the UK. Now her studies are over she is back in Germany ... but Brexit has happened while she was away. Please can you tell us what she needs to do to get a permanent resident permit (or whatever it is called now)? We live in BaWü, if that helps with the answer. Many thanks in advance!</p>	<p>Hi F, thanks for your question. The Withdrawal Agreement protects the rights of every UK national and their family members who have been living in Germany exercising their right to free movement before the end of the transition period (31 December 2020). Therefore, your daughter's rights are protected under the Withdrawal Agreement. Germany has adopted a draft law on residence which foresees that UK nationals who live in Germany at the end of the transition period will be able to obtain a new residence document confirming their rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. UK nationals will have until 30 June 2021 to obtain this new residence document. Contact your Foreigners Authority to find out more about the process. Also, have a look at our guidance on residence documents: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany, watch the Ambassador's recent video explaining the process https://www.facebook.com/BritsInGermany/videos/2772884466094386 and check our Living in Germany Guide for up-to-date information: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany. Best wishes to you and your family!</p>

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<p>Hi there, I submitted my details online for a residence permit in Feb 2020 (Hamburg) - this was based on the advice from the Embassy meetings. I've not yet heard anything (maybe because of the slowdown resulting from the pandemic). By when should I receive a response?</p>	<p>Hi B,</p> <p>Thanks for getting in touch and submitting your documents, you have done the right thing! Don't worry if you haven't heard back from your Foreigners Authority yet. Germany has just recently adopted a draft law which foresees that UK nationals who live in Germany at the end of the transition period (31 December 2020) will obtain a new residence document confirming their rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. Your local Foreigner's Authority is probably waiting until the legislative process is finalised before they will get in touch with you. We expect it to be completed during the summer. According to this new law, you will have until 30 June 2021 to obtain the new residence document. Have a look at our guidance on residence documents: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany, watch the Ambassador's recent video explaining the process https://www.facebook.com/BritsInGermany/videos/2772884466094386 and sign up to our e-mail alerts for up-to-date information: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany.</p>
<p>I applied using the online form for a residence permit in January 2019. I still haven't heard anything. I live in Berlin. Should I still just wait?</p>	<p>Hi E,</p> <p>Thanks for getting in touch. Don't worry if you haven't heard back from the Berlin Foreigners Authority yet. Germany has only recently adopted a draft law which foresees that UK nationals who live in Germany at the end of the transition</p>

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	<p>period (31 December 2020) will obtain a new residence document confirming their rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. The Berlin authorities might wait until the legislative process is finalised before they get back in touch with you - we expect it to be completed during the summer. According to this new law, you will have until 30 June 2021 to obtain the new residence document. Have a look at our guidance on residence documents: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany. Also, check our Living in Germany Guide and sign up to our e-mail alerts for up-to-date information: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany</p>
<p>I am a masters student in Berlin and will have lived in Germany studying for over 2 years by the time 2020 ends. I am registered at a Bürgeramt as living here and have already filled in the online forms to the Foreigners Office. My studies should end in March next year (after I hand in my thesis). Since I will no longer be a student, what are my rights to still live here?</p>	<p>Hi J, Thanks for your question. The Withdrawal Agreement protects the rights of UK nationals who have exercised their freedom of movement in Germany before the end of the transition period (31 December 2020). As a student you are exercising your freedom of movement and therefore would be covered by the Withdrawal Agreement. Germany has adopted a draft law which foresees that UK nationals who live in Germany at the end of the transition period (31 December 2020) will be able to obtain a new residence document confirming their rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. You did the right thing in filling in the online forms of your Foreigners Authority. Your local Foreigners Authority might wait until the legislative process is finalised to get back to you (expected before the end of the summer). According to the new law, you will have until 30 June 2021 to obtain the new residence documentation. Have a look at our guidance on residence documents: <a 891="" 892="" 912"="" 916="" data-label="Page-Footer" href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-</p></td></tr></table></div><div data-bbox="><p>10</p></p>

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	<p>residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany. Also, check our Living in Germany Guide and sign up to our e-mail alerts for up-to-date information: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany. Good luck with the rest of your studies!</p>
<p>After over 40 years in Germany I retire in Oct. Although I was told I will still be able to stay here by my Ausländerbehörden however they have not contacted (as I was told) me yet. I fall under Groß Gerau office, my friends in Frankfurt have received letter of instructions. Should I contact my office again?</p>	<p>Hi A, Thanks for getting in touch. Don't worry if you haven't heard back from the Ausländerbehörde yet. Germany has only recently adopted a draft law which foresees that UK nationals who live in Germany at the end of the transition period (31 December 2020) will obtain a new residence document confirming their rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. Your local Ausländerbehörde might wait until the legislative process is finalised before they get in touch with you. We expect it to be completed during the summer. According to this new law, you will have until 30 June 2021 to obtain the new residence document. Have a look at our guidance on residence documents: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany. Also, check our Living in Germany Guide and sign up to our e-mail alerts for up-to-date information: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany.</p>
<p>We moved to Hamburg in January to live with my wife's parents. She's from Hamburg and I'm from Scotland, we registered at the local office. Our 2nd son was born in Hamburg in March (our 4 year old has dual nationality). I have</p>	<p>Hi S, Congratulations on your newborn son! To answer your question: In addition to registering with the Meldebehörde in Hamburg, you will need to contact your local Foreigners Authority to apply for a residence permit. Hamburg has</p>

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<p>many questions but my main one is do I need to do anything more in order to stay here after 31st December. I don't qualify for any help so will have to pay for any language and driving courses myself, I'm a HGV driver but haven't driven left hand drive trucks.</p>	<p>introduced an online registration process, please have a look at their website for further information: https://www.hamburg.com/welcome/12272662/brexit/. Germany has recently adopted a draft law which foresees that UK nationals who live in Germany at the end of the transition period (31 December 2020) will be able to obtain a new residence document confirming their rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. The Hamburg Foreigners Authority might wait until the legislative process is finalised before processing residence applications. We expect that to be completed during the summer. According to this new law, you will have until 30 June 2021 to obtain the new residence document. Have a look at our guidance on residence documents: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany. Also, check our Living in Germany Guide and sign up to our e-mail alerts for up-to-date information: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany.</p>
<p>I have lived and worked in Germany since leaving the Army in 2014. I am now single but am staying in Germany because of my kids. What do i need to do to ensure that i can stay living and working in Germany. I don't want ro have to end up leaving Germany and being away from my kids. My local Ausländeramt doesn't seem to have any answers.</p>	<p>Dear C,</p> <p>Thanks very much for your question.</p> <p>Please be reassured that any UK national living and working in Germany at the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020 will be entitled under the Withdrawal Agreement to a residence permit, and they will have until 30 June 2021 to obtain the new residence documentation. They will not be required to leave Germany.</p>

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	<p>Do not worry if your local Ausländerbehörde is not yet sure about the concrete process. The German government has only recently adopted a draft law confirming the rights of UK nationals under the Withdrawal Agreement. Once the German parliament approves it and it takes effect later this year, your local Ausländerbehörde will be able to finalise its own processes.</p> <p>You might find our guidance on residence documents useful: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany. Also, you can check our Living in Germany Guide and sign up to our e-mail alerts for up-to-date information: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany.</p>
<p>I have move to Celle in March 2020 and bought a house there, I have registered with the local stat what else do I need to do, my wife and child are both German so they have no issues, I am 60 and currently on a pension (HMF) have started laying my private krankenkasse, advice would be helpful.</p>	<p>Dear A,</p> <p>Thanks very much for getting in touch.</p> <p>As well as registering your new address with the local authorities, as a British national resident in Germany at the end of the transition period, you will need to obtain a residence document from your new local Foreigners Authority before June 2021. You can identify the responsible local office at the following page: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany.</p> <p>Since the German government has only just adopted the relevant legislation, local Foreigners Authority must currently</p>

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	<p>wait until later this year before they can begin processing these applications. To stay up to date with developments you can check our Living in Germany Guide and sign up to our e-mail alerts at https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany.</p>
<p>Why does our local authority not have any information on residents permits post brexit Kreis unna</p>	<p>Dear L,</p> <p>Thank you for getting in touch.</p> <p>It was only last week that the German government adopted the relevant legislation setting out how eligible UK nationals can obtain a new residence document confirming their rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. Under this law UK nationals will have until 30 June 2021 to obtain this new document.</p> <p>The law must first go through the parliamentary process in Germany before the local Foreigners Authorities can begin to process applications and issue residence permits later this year. You may wish to check in again with your local office over the summer for an update on their particular procedure.</p> <p>We'll also be providing updates to our Living in Germany Guide, so do sign up to our e-mail alerts for up-to-date information: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany.</p>
<p>I am currently pursuing my Bachelors degree and financing my self through a part time job, My question is if the permanent residence application would require me to show a specific amount in my bank account or will the part time job contract suffice? Thank you!</p>	<p>Dear M,</p> <p>Thanks for your question.</p> <p>UK nationals will be entitled to a residence document after the transition period as longer as they are exercising free movement rights at the end of December 2020. For students,</p>

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	<p>this requires having sufficient resources to support themselves, as well as comprehensive health insurance cover.</p> <p>Once the German legislation implementing the residency provisions of the Withdrawal Agreement comes into force later this year, local Foreigners Authorities will begin processing requests for residence documents. You can then consult your local authority regarding the particular process to follow. It will be important when making your request that you can demonstrate that you are able to support yourself financially.</p> <p>For further information please also take a look at our guidance on residence documents: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany.</p>
<p>Hi, I'm currently in my 3rd and final year of my PhD, but will have no income by the end of 2020 whilst I write my thesis. Will the permanent residence application rely upon my having an income?</p>	<p>Dear A,</p> <p>Thanks for your question.</p> <p>UK nationals will be entitled to a residence document after the transition period as long as they are exercising free movement rights at the end of December 2020. For students, this requires having sufficient resources to support themselves, as well as comprehensive health insurance cover.</p> <p>Once the German legislation implementing the residency provisions of the Withdrawal Agreement comes into force later this year, local Foreigners Authorities will begin processing requests for residence documents. You can then consult your</p>

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	<p>local authority regarding the particular process to follow. It will be important that you can demonstrate when making your request that you are able to support yourself financially.</p> <p>For further information please also take a look at our guidance on residence documents: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany.</p>
<p>Hello, What are the conditions of a residence permit (Berlin) post withdrawal agreement period please?</p> <p>When are we likely to be contacted re a residence permit application & appointment?</p> <p>Is there thorough guidance in english for financial support in Berlin due to covid related loss of income? It's extremely hard to navigate the possibilities. Especially if partly self employed.</p>	<p>Hello R, thanks for getting in touch.</p> <p>The Withdrawal Agreement safeguards the right to residency beyond the end of 2020 of any UK national exercising free movement rights in Germany, provided you continue to reside here.</p> <p>The German cabinet has adopted a draft law establishing a so-called declarative process, meaning that UK nationals will be entitled to the document by virtue of law. You will have until at least 30 June 2021 to get the new residence document. Local Foreigners Authorities (Ausländerbehörde) are responsible for issuing residence documents in Germany, therefore the application process can vary from town to town.</p> <p>Berlin has made very detailed information available in English: https://www.berlin.de/einwanderung/en/residence/eu-eea-switzerland/artikel.878757.en.php Please have a look at their FAQs and complete their online form, if you haven't done so yet. Don't worry if you have completed it a while ago and they haven't gotten in touch with you yet – they are waiting for the</p>

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	<p>legislative process for the German law to be finalised before doing so.</p> <p>Please have a look at our recent video from the Ambassador explaining the process. Please also pass this video to friends and family who might be interested. https://www.facebook.com/BritsInGermany/videos/vb.1766520453638506/2772884466094386/?type=3&theater</p> <p>For further information on residence in Germany, please see https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany and sign up for email alerts.</p> <p>For information financial support for people in Berlin, the Berlin Job Centre (Bundesagentur für Arbeit Berlin) has a great site in English explaining what is available. https://www.arbeitsagentur.de/corona-information-migrant We do understand that some of the authorities will not have an English speaking contacts person but try to enlist the help of a friend or neighbour that can help you.</p> <p>Wishing you all the best for the future!</p>
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Healthcare, pensions, working and benefits

<p>I live in Germany, have obtained dual nationality and since last month am in receipt of unemployment benefit and healthcare cover through the German AfA ALG1 system having previously paid NI contributions for the past 49 years. This lapses on 31 May 2021 - 2.5 months before I am eligible for my UK State Pension at age 66.</p> <p>In the Withdrawal Agreement notice Nr 3 as published by the BIE, they mention that under the agreement if not already a UK State Pensioner during the transition period I “may” be able to claim the S1 form from the UK when I reach State Pension age in August 2021.</p> <p>Do you know whether this has now been confirmed and if not, where I can go to seek clarification? I would be most grateful for your advice/thoughts on this matter.</p> <p>Sincere thanks for all of the help and support you give us, it is very reassuring and much appreciated.</p>	<p>Hello R, and thank you for your question. Yes, as a UK national covered by the Withdrawal Agreement who is yet to reach state pension age, you will have the right to apply for a UK S1 once you start drawing your UK state pension, providing you remain legally resident in Germany. At this point you would also be entitled to a UK-issued EHIC valid for travel across the EU. In the meantime, you should continue to access healthcare through the appropriate route here in Germany. Thanks again for participating in our Q&A – wishing you good health!</p>
<p>Hello! I have read from a gov.uk website: Living in Germany guide (and also here in your FB page) a clear statement that if someone is living in Germany before 31st of December 2020, he will be able to count future social contributions towards meeting the qualifying conditions for the UK State Pension; AND if one is working and paying social security contributions in Germany, he could still be able to add UK social security contributions towards the German pension. This can happen if one claims his pension after 31st of December</p>	<p>Thanks for getting in touch, M. We’re sorry to hear you have been having difficulties clarifying your situation. What you say is correct. Under the Withdrawal Agreement, current EU social security coordination rules will continue to apply during the transition period for everyone and in the future beyond the end of the transition period (31 December 2020) for anyone in full scope of the agreement – that is, if you were exercising your freedom of movement in Germany before the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020. The Withdrawal</p>

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2020.

My questions: Are these statements true and are based on a law or agreement that is already in force? And if that is the case, what's the law or agreement called?

My experience with Deutsche Rentenversicherung Bund recently tells a different story. In my Kontenklärung/Rentenversicherungsverlauf/Statement of Pension, they refused to count or acknowledge my 7 years payment of social contributions to the UK as qualifying years, for the moment, because they said, there is no agreement or law yet between EU and UK regarding that matter, if there is, it is still a draft law. I have worked and paid social security contributions in the UK between 2011 and 2018, and I moved here in Germany first quarter of 2018. I find it really unfair if this period will just disappear as qualifying years. Because of Brexit, I have to work 7 years extra to meet the qualifying years here in Germany.

I wrote back to them and expressed my disappointments. From my knowledge, the right to pension and social security system are included and protected in the Withdrawal Agreement. But I did not cite any clause from a law or agreement because it is not clear, and I have just read it from your website, and sadly my case is weak. I hope you can enlighten me in this matter, which rights do I have and where I can get help when the German offices here treat me like this.

Thank you in advance for your response.

Agreement has already been ratified by both sides and entered into force, and therefore is current law.

So assuming that you now live in Germany and will retire here, years paid into the UK pension system can be added to the calculation of your entitlement to a state pension in Germany. Contributions in all EEA countries are counted to reach the minimum threshold in Germany. In Germany, individuals can receive a pension if they have contributed for at least 5 years.

Details of the Withdrawal Agreement can be found here:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/new-withdrawal-agreement-and-political-declaration>

Please let us know should you continue to experience problems.

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<p>I am looking to move to Germany this year with my German wife. I am being medically retired from the armed forces but have to wait to be awarded my pension due to the back log that Vets UK have. It does look like I will be awarded war pension and war disablement pension (although that will not be confirmed until late in 2021 again due to back log). My question is;</p> <p>If I am awarded them and already a resident in Germany will I still be able to get these and not be taxed on them even if they are awarded after withdrawal?</p>	<p>Thanks for your question, D. If you have moved to Germany exercising your freedom of movement rights before the end of the transition period (31 December 2020), you will be in scope of the Withdrawal Agreement. The Withdrawal Agreement protects your right to export benefits, including a war pension. The UK's exit from the EU will not change existing arrangements which prevent double taxation on pensions. The UK has a bilateral double taxation agreement with Germany, which will continue to apply after the end of the transition period. Provisions on taxable income will be the same as now. Please seek the advice of a professional tax adviser for your circumstances. You may also wish to get in touch with the Armed Forces Pension Schemes directly for any questions you might have on the occupational scheme:</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pensions-and-compensation-for-veterans.</p>
<p>I have worked in Germany for many years and have paid into the German system. I plan to retire here. Will I have any problems then ?</p>	<p>Hi J, thanks for participating in our Q&A. If you are living in Germany before the end of the transition period (31 December 2020), you will be covered by the Withdrawal Agreement. Therefore, you will be entitled to a new residence document to continue to stay here.</p> <p>The Withdrawal Agreement also protects any past contributions you made into public pension schemes. With your specific questions about entitlements to a German pension, please contact the Deutsche Rentenversicherung (available in English at: https://www.deutsche-</p>

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	<p>rentenversicherung.de/DRV/EN/Home/home_node.html) for further information. And if you don't already receive updates from the Living in Germany guide, please do consider signing up! gov.uk/living-in-germany</p>
<p>1) Planning on moving to Germany after Transition Period. (2) My wife and Mother are German living in the UK (3) Would it be beneficial if we committed to residency in Germany before the end of the Transition Period in terms of Health, Pension (I'm 59) etc. (4) Can I be resident in a family members home. (5) Can you recommend an advisor in the UK with my proposed move.</p>	<p>Hi S – thanks for the questions. We understand that there is plenty to consider when moving to another country. UK nationals legally resident in Germany before the transition period ends (31 December 2020) are entitled, under the terms of the Withdrawal Agreement, to continue to live and work in Germany after the transition period has ended. In addition, their rights to access healthcare and other public services will be protected. UK nationals who move to Germany after the transition period will be subject to different rules, which at this point in time are still being negotiated.</p> <p>For those who are resident in Germany before 31 December 2020 and in full scope of the Withdrawal Agreement, the EU's social security coordination rules will continue to apply in full. As part of the deal on social security coordination, for those in full personal scope, the Withdrawal Agreement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensures that workers (and their employers), as well as the self-employed, only pay into one social security system at a time. • Provides for the aggregation of social security contributions, meaning those who have paid into a system will have their contributions, and the rights that flow from those contributions, protected. • Provides the right to export relevant benefits to EU Member States and the UK, as under the current EU rules.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides for the uprating of the UK State Pension paid to pensioners in EU Member States and, in accordance with EU rules, provides associated healthcare cover in the EU. • Ensures that where the UK or an EU Member State is responsible for the healthcare of those within scope of the social security coordination part of the Withdrawal Agreement, such individuals will be entitled to reciprocal healthcare cover, including EHIC rights, for as long as they remain in scope. We cannot make specific recommendations about advisors in the UK for your proposed move, but we recommend that you sign up for updates on our Living in Germany guide (www.gov.uk/livinginGermany). Thanks again for your questions, and good luck with your move to Germany.
<p>Hi there. Thanks for listening. I am a british citizen and have lived here in Berlin with my EU wife since March 2019 and registered as self employed from July 2019. My work in the music industry takes me all over the world , Europe and the uk. With clients based in the EU , uk and further afield. Due to CV19 I have not been able to work this year as planned. I filed the residency form on arrival and was waiting for reply until I read these were suspended. Would any residency permit as a Berliner include Schengen access for work? Also what would be required for this residency application ?</p> <p>I haven't claimed any state help during this crisis neither have I applied for unemployment benefits, living as a family from a single salary. I pay my health insurance from savings. I am worried that if I do it will have a negative impact on my residency application in the very near future. Could you advise on the best course of action going forward.</p>	<p>Hi S, thanks for getting in touch. We understand this is an unsettling time, and many people are concerned about the potential impact of the coronavirus pandemic on their right to continue to live and work in Germany. The rights of UK nationals will be protected under the Withdrawal Agreement if they exercised their freedom of movement and were resident in Germany before the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020. This also applies to existing close family members, such as dependant parents, spouses and dependent children. Your right to reside in Germany and to access benefits in the future will continue for as long as you wish to stay here and are accessing benefits now will not affect your right to a residence document. You will be entitled to obtain a new residence document by 30 June 2021. Your residence document will allow you to travel in the Schengen area, but</p>

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	<p>working and providing services in other EU countries is subject to ongoing negotiations. Please see here for more information: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/providing-services-to-any-country-in-the-eu-iceland-liechtenstein-norway-or-switzerland-after-eu-exit</p> <p>You might also find this Facebook post concerning benefits and residence permits useful: https://www.facebook.com/BritsInGermany/photos/a.1766537726970112/2414926348797910/?type=3&theater</p> <p>Last week, the German Cabinet adopted a draft law which will implement the residence provisions of the Withdrawal Agreement in Germany. The exact application process for a residence document will depend on where you live. Please be patient – your local foreigners’ authority will get in touch with you again soon to explain the process once it has been finalised. You can find more information on how to obtain new residence documents in Germany here: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany</p> <p>.</p>
<p>I'm fully registered in Germany and married to a German; if anything should happen to my employment between now and 31st Dec, will my right to stay be affected?</p>	<p>Hello! Thanks for your question. The Withdrawal Agreement protects the rights of UK nationals like yourself who have exercised their freedom of movement in Germany before the end of the transition period (31.12.2020). The scope of freedom of movement also extends to some jobseekers and</p>

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	<p>those with an interrupted employment record. You can find information about freedom of movement on the German Federal Interior Ministry's website (https://www.bmi.bund.de/EN/topics/migration/law-on-foreigners/freedom-of-movement/freedom-of-movement-node.html). Should you have further questions about your personal circumstances, please contact your local foreigners' authority. Thank you again for your question, and please sign up for updates on our Living in Germany guide (www.gov.uk/livinginGermany) if you don't receive them already!</p>
<p>I have been employed in Germany since October 2014. I became unemployed may 1st due to the end of my PhD contract. I am still currently writing my thesis etc but I am receiving unemployment benefits. I wish to stay in Germany. I aim to get a job before the end of the year but this cannot be guaranteed. Is there anything I should do beforehand. Can I apply for a resident permit when I am currently unemployed? Germany is my home now so I do not want to leave. Just want to make sure I have done everything so I do not have to leave for any reason. Thank you. And sorry if this has been covered before.</p>	<p>Many thanks for getting in touch with your question, A. For anyone who is within the scope of the Withdrawal Agreement – this means any UK nationals who exercised their freedom of movement in the EU before the end of the transition period on 31st December 2020 – their right to reside in Germany and to access benefits will continue for as long as they remain in Germany. Please have a look at the Federal Interior Ministry's information on Freedom of Movement: https://www.bmi.bund.de/EN/topics/migration/law-on-foreigners/freedom-of-movement/freedom-of-movement-node.html</p> <p>It sounds as if you are currently receiving contributory job seeker's allowance based on your previous employment (in your case, your PhD contract), which you would continue to receive for a year until May 2021. If this is the case, this will not affect your right to residency, and you will be entitled to obtain a new residence document. You will need to request the new</p>

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	<p>residence document by 30 June 2021. You can find more information on how to apply for residence documents in Germany here: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany</p> <p>We hope this helps, and good luck with your thesis!</p>
<p>I've not been paying taxes because I've earned so little I just can't afford it. I'm now unemployed though and haven't had a great time finding work since I moved here in 2019. If I'm unemployed up until December, can I still stay in Germany? I'm afraid I'll have to earn a certain amount to be allowed to stay.</p>	<p>Hi A, thanks for your question. UK nationals who have exercised their freedom of movement in Germany before 31 December 2020 will have the right to continue to live in Germany for as long as they wish. Please have a look at the Federal Interior Ministry's information on Freedom of Movement: https://www.bmi.bund.de/EN/topics/migration/law-on-foreigners/freedom-of-movement/freedom-of-movement-node.html You may need to demonstrate that you were exercising freedom of movement when you first moved to Germany, which may depend on the length of your unemployment. You might wish to seek advice on this from your local Foreigners' Authority (Ausländerbehörde). You will need to request a new residence document by 30 June 2021. You can find guidance on finding a Foreigners' Authority and residence documents in Germany here: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany</p>
<p>1) My husband and I have been living in Berlin since September 2015 and in full time German employment until</p>	<p>Thanks very much for your question, S. The Withdrawal Agreement protects the rights of UK nationals who have</p>

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<p>March this year. We are now both unemployed. If this continues past 31st december this year, do we have the right to remain in Germany and continue to receive unemployment benefit. 2). Permit registration to stay in Germany. I filled out the form and sent 3/4 times now but no response till yet. Is there any update on this? Thank you.</p>	<p>exercised their freedom of movement in Germany before 31 December 2020. Please have a look at the Federal Interior Ministry's information on Freedom of Movement: https://www.bmi.bund.de/EN/topics/migration/law-on-foreigners/freedom-of-movement/freedom-of-movement-node.html. Receiving contributory job seeker's allowance based on previous employment will not affect your and your husband's right to continued residence in Germany. You will also continue to receive unemployment benefits for as long as you meet the eligibility requirements.</p> <p>Last week, the German Cabinet adopted a draft law which will implement the residence provisions of the Withdrawal Agreement in Germany. UK nationals will have to request a new residence document by 30 June 2021 the latest. The exact application process can differ, depending on where you live. Please do not fill out the registration form repeatedly – your local foreigners' authority will get in touch with you again soon to explain the process once it has been finalised (expected during the summer).</p> <p>Updates on the residence application process can be found here: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany</p> <p>We hope this is helpful!</p>
<p>I have lived in Wiesbaden since 1977 and work in the entertainment industry as a concert stage manager. My work takes me to most EU countries on large tours. My question is: After the transition period, when I re-apply for a</p>	<p>Hi J, thanks for getting in touch with your question. The Withdrawal Agreement protects the rights of UK nationals to continue to live and work in the member state in which they live</p>

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<p>residents/work permit, will that only apply to Germany or will I still be able to work tours throughout the EU?</p>	<p>– in your case Germany. Last week, the German Cabinet adopted a draft law which will implement the residence provisions of the Withdrawal Agreement in Germany. You will receive a residence document confirming your rights under the agreement. The exact application process document will depend on where you live, and you will have until 30 June 2021 obtain the new residence document. You can find more information on how to obtain new residence documents in Germany here: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany</p> <p>Your residence document will allow you to travel in the Schengen area, but working and providing services in other EU countries is subject to ongoing negotiations. Please check here for updates: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/providing-services-to-any-country-in-the-eu-iceland-liechtenstein-norway-or-switzerland-after-eu-exit</p>
<p>There are a great deal of us who are contract workers living in Germany. We have all registered with our local Authorities and were given letters of authority to travel to work (individually, even if we were couples) by our employer. Will they organise work permits for us or will have to take this on ourselves?</p>	<p>Thanks very much for your question, C. It is not clear from your question what exactly your situation is.</p> <p>If you are living and working in Germany, you will be entitled to a new residence document under the Withdrawal Agreement, which protects your right to work in Germany. Please see our guidance on residence documents for further information: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-</p>

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	<p>residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany</p> <p>If you are a frontier worker, who lives in Germany and works in another country, the Withdrawal Agreement protects your right to continue to work as a frontier worker going forward. However, you must apply for a new frontier working document in your state of work. Your employer may wish to do this on your behalf, or be required to do so. We cannot advise you more clearly, as the situation might be different, depending which country you are working in. Please start by checking the relevant Living in Guide on gov.uk for that country. We hope this helps!</p>
<p>This may have been covered by J's question above, but I would like information anyway. I live in Germany, am married to another EU national (not German or UK) and I'm a freelance translator in that other EU language. We have been in Germany for just over a year with his job and want to stay but all my clients are in the other EU state, where I had permanent residence but not citizenship. Will I be able to continue operating my business in the same (or any) way after Brexit? I physically work and pay taxes here in Germany.</p> <p>Thank you for your advice.</p>	<p>Hi J, thanks for getting in touch with your question, which as you say is very similar to J's. The Withdrawal Agreement protects the rights of UK nationals to continue to live and work in the member state in which they live – in your case Germany. Last Wednesday, the German Cabinet adopted a draft law which will implement the residence provisions of the Withdrawal Agreement in Germany. You will receive a residence document confirming your rights under the agreement. The exact application process document will depend on where you live, and you will have until 30 June 2021 obtain the new residence document. You can find more information on how to obtain new residence documents in Germany here:</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany</p>

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	<p>Your residence document will allow you to travel in the Schengen area, but working and providing services in other EU countries after 31 December 2020 is subject to ongoing negotiations. Please check here for updates: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/providing-services-to-any-country-in-the-eu-iceland-liechtenstein-norway-or-switzerland-after-eu-exit. You might also wish to look into the domestic rules in the other EU member state in which your clients are based, as there might already be existing domestic provisions for translators. We hope this has been helpful and wish you all the best</p>
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Passports and dual-nationality

<p>My mother-in-law is German but has had an English passport since just before my husband was born in 1990. Due to EU membership it wasn't necessary for her to apply for dual nationality or dual passport and with EU rules I believe only my husband's older siblings are able to apply for dual nationality or dual passport. With the UK leaving the EU will this ruling be overturned again? I think there is a 1988/1989 cut off due to the UK joining the EU and dual nationality being redundant which is why my husband doesn't apply. However, we are now living in Germany for 2 years and will have to wait another 6 years to apply for naturalisation/citizenship. Also our 5 month old</p>	<p>Dear A, thanks for your question. We understand this may be a worrying time for you. From your message, we understand that you wish to find out if it is possible for your mother-in-law, husband and child to apply for German citizenship.</p> <p>The UK Government allows dual nationality (dual citizenship). This means that an individual can be a UK citizen and a citizen of another country and this will not change with Brexit.</p> <p>Applying for German citizenship is a matter for the German authorities. Germany only allows dual nationality in exceptional cases, including for EU citizens or for those whose parents</p>
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<p>daughter was born here in Germany but will also be British until we can obtain German citizenship.</p>	<p>have different nationalities. The German government has passed a law which allows UK nationals who have applied and met all conditions for German nationality before the end of the transition period to keep their UK nationality when receive their German nationality.</p> <p>If you want to find out if your family members are eligible for German nationality, then we would suggest you contact your local Einbürgerungsbehörde (naturalisation authority) for further advice.</p> <p>You can also find further information on the Federal Ministry of the Interior's FAQs on residency and citizenship here: https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/faqs/EN/topics/constitution/brexit/faqs-brexit.html</p> <p>As a British-only national, you'll need to request new residence documents from your local Foreigner's Authority (Ausländerbehörde) before 30th June 2021. They may write to you with more information, but it's best to get in touch with them or visit their website.</p> <p>Make sure to also sign up for email alerts on our Living in Germany guide where we'll publish the latest citizens' rights information. https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany</p>
<p>Hi, I have dual citizenship with Canada and the UK. I read that you can get the German citizenship (and I meet the requirements) by the end of the transition period and still</p>	<p>Dear A, many thanks for getting in touch with your message regarding dual citizenship (also known as dual nationality). The</p>

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keep your UK citizenship. I'm wondering if it's possible to trade the UK citizenship for the German one and keep dual citizenship with Canada. If not, what sort of options are there to maintaining both non eu citizenships and working and living here?

UK has no restrictions on dual nationality. Germany only allows dual nationality in exceptional cases, and we therefore recommend you to contact your local Einbürgerungsbehörde (naturalisation authority) for further advice regarding your personal circumstances.

However, please rest assured that you don't need German citizenship to continue to live in Germany. The Withdrawal Agreement safeguards the right to residency beyond the end of 2020 of any UK national exercising free movement rights in Germany before the end of the transition period, provided you continue to reside here. The German cabinet has adopted a draft law establishing a so-called declarative process, meaning that UK nationals will be entitled to the document by virtue of law. You will have until at least 30 June 2021 to get the new residence document. Local Foreigners Authorities (Ausländerbehörde) are responsible for issuing residence documents in Germany, therefore the application process can vary from town to town. Please see our guidance on residence for further information:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany> and have a look at this video from our Ambassador <https://www.facebook.com/BritsInGermany/videos/vb.1766520453638506/2772884466094386/?type=3&theater>

Please also pass this information on to friends and family who might be interested.

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<p>Will British-nationals' right under EU law to have a dual nationality in Germany, remain after Brexit? At the moment some of us who have been residing here for a few years, do not yet qualify for a German passport i.e. because of the number of years required to have lived in Germany. If we lose this right, then we will have to give up our British nationality in order to acquire German. Having a German nationality will allow us to vote etc. So need to know if our rights will continue to exist.</p>	<p>Dear Y, many thanks for posting your question regarding dual nationality. The UK has no restrictions on dual nationality. The German government passed a Transitional Brexit Act (Brexitübergangsgesetz) 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. Please see more information here: https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/aussenpolitik/europa/Brexit/brexit-uebergangsgesetz/2119360. After this transition period ends, however, it will not be possible to retain British nationality once you become naturalised as a German citizen.</p> <p>As a British-only national, you'll be entitled to a residence document, which you must request from your local Foreigners Authority (Ausländerbehörde) before 30 June 2021. Please see our guidance on residence for further information: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany</p> <p>Make sure to also sign up for email alerts on our Living in Germany guide where we'll publish the latest citizens' rights information. https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany</p>
<p>With German language tests being cancelled and further delays that make applications for dual citizenship (as well as all the various steps required to meet criteria for eligibility) take even longer, is there anyway that the eligibility for dual</p>	<p>Dear L, many thanks for posting your question. The UK has no restrictions on dual nationality. Germany only allows dual nationality in exceptional cases and you are right that if UK nationals apply for German nationality before the end of the</p>

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citizenship can be extended or, better still, an extension to the transition period, which would, by proxy, also offer an extension? I live in Germany but also travel to Austria and Switzerland with my company and don't want to have my work commutes hampered or made 'not possible' as they currently are, by the fact I'll no longer be an EU citizen.

transition period, they can retain their UK nationality. We recommend you contact your local Einbürgerungsbehörde (naturalisation authority) for further advice regarding your personal circumstances.

Regarding your second question about working across borders, this would depend on your personal situation.

If you are a frontier worker (someone who works in one EEA member state or Switzerland and lives in another) working across borders at the end of the transition period (31 December 2020), your rights to work as a frontier worker will be protected by the Withdrawal Agreement for as long as you retain the status of a frontier worker. You must, however, apply for a new frontier worker card in your country of work.

If you are not a frontier worker, but still working or providing a service in another country, you can continue to do so until the end of the transition period. Future arrangements are still subject to negotiations. Depending on the outcome of negotiations, you may need to get a permit from the other country, depending on the type of work or service. For more information please see our Living in Guides for Austria (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-austria>) and Switzerland (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-switzerland>), and further guidance on providing services here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/providing-services-to-eea-and-efta-countries-after-eu-exit>

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	<p>Be sure to also sign up for email alerts on our Living in Germany guide where we'll publish the latest citizens' rights information. https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany</p>
<p>I spoke about my circumstances on this page some time ago ... essentially, after moving to germany and becoming a resident i was unfortunately bitten by a tick that has left me disabled from lyme disease ... i was not in employment in germany before developing lyme disease and have not worked since ... i have no official place of residence in germany as i have usually stayed in my summer garden ... i have struggled endlessly over the past years trying to navigate the german social system ... at each and every stage they have been uncooperative and unhelpful ... i am currently in the UK due to un-foreseen circumstances and the COVID pandemic ...</p> <p>... is your advice still the same in that i should contact you directly through the "contact us" button on your facebook page ...</p>	<p>Dear M, many thanks for getting in touch. We are sorry to hear of the difficulties which you have been experiencing. It would be helpful to have a few more details about your situation. Could you please send us an email with your contact details to ukingermany@fco.gov.uk ? Many thanks and we look forward to hearing from you.</p>
<p>Hello. Sorry this is not a COVID question, however I am in need of assistance from the embassy in Berlin. However the office seems to be closed. My question is: When will the Embassy services in Berlin expand their offerings again to the normal services?</p>	<p>Dear C, thank you for your message.</p> <p>The British Embassy continues to provide the entire range of consular services which it normally provides. Our website lists the services which are available and the conditions under which we can provide them. If you have not done so yet, please do not hesitate to contact our consular team via our online contact form: www.gov.uk/contact-consulate-berlin. They will</p>

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	be more than happy to arrange an appointment or provide advice, depending on what your precise need is.
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Driving licences

<p>What do I have to do with both my British my wife's British driving licence. She lived in the UK for 6 years. Do I retain my HGV driving licence rights?</p>	<p>In answer to your question regarding (standard) driving licences, if you are living in Germany you will both need to exchange your British driving licences for German ones. This should be done within 6 months of moving to an EU member state and the latest by 31 December 2020. If you go to the UK for short visits you will be able to use your German licence, and if you return to live in the UK you can exchange them for a UK licence without taking a test.</p> <p>Your HGV driving licence, which comes under category CE, can also be exchanged although you will need to provide more documentation such as a medical report (class C/D) and an eyesight test result. You can exchange your licences at the State Office for Transport in Hamburg and can book an appointment online. You can find more information about what documents you need to take and how to book an appointment online here:</p> <p>https://www.hamburg.com/welcome/living/transport-mobility/11864992/foreign-driving-licences/.</p> <p>If you would like more information about being a UK national in Germany, please look at our Living in Germany guide, where you can also sign up to email alerts when new and important information is available: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany</p>
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<p>My question is about my driving licence. I am British but dual resident in Germany and the UK. The UK is considered my primary residence, where I pay my taxes under the dual taxation rules. I know I can't have two driving licences so what should I do? I need to be able to legally drive in both countries.</p>	<p>Hi J, thanks for your question. We understand that you may be concerned about this issue. Rules on driving licence recognition and exchange will not change during the transition period (until 31 December 2020). The UK government is also seeking agreements to ensure mutual driving licence recognition after the end of the transition period, but these are not yet confirmed. Therefore, you can continue to drive on your UK licence in Germany until 31 December 2020, but future rules are not clear yet. Please check this website for further information: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/driving-in-the-eu-after-brexit</p> <p>If you are considered a resident in Germany, you should exchange your UK licence for a German one within 6 months of moving to Germany. The German Transport Ministry define a resident as someone who lives in Germany for at least 185 days a year. You can find more information from the German Transport Ministry in their article on the validity of foreign licences in Germany: https://www.bmvi.de/SharedDocs/EN/Articles/StV/validity-foreign-driving-licences-in-germany.html. You will be allowed to drive on your German licence if you travel to the UK on future short trips. If you still have concerns about this issue, we suggest that you contact the Driver and Vehicle Licence Agency (DVLA) or the relevant German authority. We wish you all the best.</p>
<p>I'm 100% British living here in Germany and want to know what will happen to my British driving license after Brexit? Can I</p>	<p>Hi S, thanks for reaching out to us. In answer to your first question, you don't need a German passport in order to have a</p>

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apply for the German license although I do not have a German passport? Can I keep both or do I have to give up my British driving license? If I go home to see family can I drive and in Britain with a German driving license?

German driving licence. In fact, if you are resident in Germany you should exchange your UK driving licence for a German one before the end of the transition period. This should be done within 6 months of moving to an EU member state. Unfortunately, you will not be able to keep your British driving licence once you acquire the German one. However, you can still use your German licence in the UK for short visits or exchange it back for a UK licence without taking a test if you return to live in the UK. You can find more information on living in Germany in our Living in Germany guide: www.gov.uk/livinginGermany

Withdrawal Agreement

My question is, would they be able to boot us out of Germany if we do not match the certain federal criteria in each state. There has been no clarification whether we'll have a constitutive or declarative system in place, most Ausländerbehörden won't take in applications since there aren't any regulations in place. Will we be given an adequate grace period for our applications since it takes months to get an appointment in some states. It's a bit confusing with the WA being signed to supposedly protect us, but still being able to fall through the cracks and possibly be deported. Unfortunately it sounds like the WA will be interpreted federally instead on a national level, how will we be protected if each state can decide differently on our rights. This

Hello M, thanks so much for getting in touch with us!

The Withdrawal Agreement safeguards the right to residency beyond the end of 2020 for any UK national exercising free movement rights in Germany by 31 December 2020, provided you continue to reside here. This is regardless of how long you have been here in Germany, whether 1 month or 20 years.

Last week the federal government adopted a draft law which will establish a declaratory system when passed, meaning UK nationals will be entitled to a residence document to confirm

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is even more concerning considering how many have been made redundant during this pandemic or younger people just starting their lives here, we would never meet the income requirements to remain if Germany decides to take a constitutive approach.

And from what I understand the WA is supposed to protect our rights for life. I've heard many say that for those who have been living here less than 5 years and do not possess a Niederlassungserlaubnis, will be given a permit until we reach 5 years of residency. Then apply for Niederlassungserlaubnis, our 5 years of residency and employment will be taken in consideration and then a decision reached. If we do not meet the requirements (also periods of unemployment due to this pandemic or uncertainty about our future rights), will we be deported despite the WA protecting us?

their rights. The final procedures for local authorities are currently being finalised.

You will need to get a new residence document by 30 June 2021 to confirm your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. This is different from a Niederlassungserlaubnis. Because this is a declarative procedure, if you miss the deadline, you would still be entitled to the document if you contacted the Ausländerbehörde later, but it is strongly advisable to do it as soon as possible. No one who is covered by the Withdrawal Agreement will be asked to leave the country.

Local Foreigners Authorities (Ausländerbehörden) are responsible for issuing residency documents in Germany, therefore the application process can vary from town to town. You can consult our guide of Foreigners Authorities (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany>) to identify your local office, and then contact them to find out about their process. Some authorities also have informative websites.

You might wish to have a look at detailed video, where the Ambassador explains the process. Please also pass this video to friends and family who might be interested. <https://www.facebook.com/BritsInGermany/videos/vb.1766520453638506/2772884466094386/?type=3&theater>

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	<p>Be sure to sign up to email alerts on our Living in Germany guide, as we'll be posting important information on there when it becomes available! https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany</p> <p>All the very best for the future!</p>
<p>What is latest position on documentation of WA rights for the 30,000+ UK nationals who reside here via German or other EU citizenship, and so won't do residency permit or other Ausländerbehörde process? We obviously need to know this as soon as possible and well in advance of 31.12.2020. Thank you.</p>	<p>Hi V, welcome to our latest Facebook Q&A! Thanks for getting in touch.</p> <p>As a dual national (whether you hold the German nationality or another EU nationality), you will not need a new residence document to continue to live in Germany after 31 December 2020. However, you might still be able to claim rights under the Withdrawal Agreement, which you would have to claim with the relevant public authority for the specific right you wish to claim.</p> <p>What is important though, is that you make the local authorities (registration office or Bürgerbüro) aware of your other EU citizenship, if they are not yet aware. They will then update their systems.</p> <p>Be sure to sign up to email alerts on our Living in Germany guide, as we'll be posting important information on there when it becomes available! https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany</p> <p>All the very best for the future!</p> <p><u>RESPONSE TO FOLLOW UP QUESTION</u></p>

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	<p>It has not yet been confirmed how UK nationals in Germany, who also hold German or another EU nationality, and who will therefore not require a new residence document, will be able to evidence their rights flowing from the Withdrawal Agreement. However, the Withdrawal Agreement does protect these rights for you. This is an issue that we continue to pursue in our discussions with the German government, who are responsible for implementing the Withdrawal Agreement here. We will update the Living in Germany guide as we have further information on this issue.</p>
<p>Assuming the draft legislation passes, it seems clear that not all UK nationals resident in Germany will be able to be processed and given evidence of their status before the transition period expires. What evidence will those who have not been given a document by this date be able to give to employers of their legal right to work and reside in Germany? (Especially important to freelancers working on a contract-to-contract basis, like myself - and it's wildly unrealistic to assume HR or equivalent in every company/organisation will be familiar with the state of play, or willing to do the research themselves, so we will definitely need to be able to show something official on 01/01/21).</p>	<p>Hi K, Thanks very much for getting in touch.</p> <p>Let us reassure you, the Withdrawal Agreement safeguards the right to residency beyond the end of 2020 of any UK national exercising free movement rights in Germany before the end of the transition period, provided you continue to reside here. This is regardless of how long they have been here in Germany, whether 1 month or 20 years. The German cabinet has adopted a draft law establishing a so-called declarative process, meaning that UK nationals will be entitled to the document by virtue of law. You will have until at least 30 June 2021 to get the new residence document. Local Foreigners Authorities (Ausländerbehörde) are responsible for issuing residence documents in Germany, therefore the application process can vary from town to town. When you get in touch with your foreigners authority, you will be issued a certificate of application (Fiktionsbescheinigung) which you can show to relevant stakeholders such as your employers while you wait to obtain the residence card.</p>

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	<p>The Withdrawal Agreement is already in force (available here: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/840655/Agreement_on_the_withdrawal_of_the_United_Kingdom_of_Great_Britain_and_Northern_Ireland_from_the_European_Union_and_the_European_Atomic_Energy_Community.pdf) and we expect the German law to be passed before the end of the summer. Those will be two laws that UK nationals can refer HR departments of companies to.</p> <p>Please see our guidance on residence for further information: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany and have a look at this video from our Ambassador https://www.facebook.com/BritsInGermany/videos/vb.1766520453638506/2772884466094386/?type=3&theater</p> <p>Please also pass this video to friends and family who might be interested.</p> <p>We hope this was helpful and wish you all the best.</p>
<p>I have submitted my application for residency, we are told we would get them once the outcome of the talks on trade had concluded. Time is ticking and this government seem to be taking no action due to corona. It seems the UK government have forgotten about it's citizens living abroad. If there is a deal what will we be given? Has this been agreed yet?</p>	<p>Hi C, thanks for reaching out to us.</p> <p>It's great to see that you've submitted something to your local foreigner's authority. You might find that they are not replying or processing these at the moment. The COVID response might well be a factor but they might also be waiting for the German parliament to adopt a law which establishes the process for UK nationals here in Germany. This is expected to be completed during the summer.</p>

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	<p>As you might be aware, the Withdrawal Agreement between the UK and the EU is already in force. This means it is a legal treaty which can't be changed. Please take a look at this post which explains the "two deals" and the "possible no deal". A potential failure to agree a future relationship agreement will not affect citizens' rights here. https://www.facebook.com/BritsInGermany/photos/a.1766537726970112/2321826641441215/?type=3&theater</p> <p>The Withdrawal Agreement safeguards the right to residency beyond the end of 2020 of any UK national exercising free movement rights in Germany, provided you continue to reside here. You will need to get a new residence document by 30 June 2021 to prove your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. Please have a look at the Ambassador's recent video explaining the process: https://www.facebook.com/BritsInGermany/videos/vb.1766520453638506/2772884466094386/?type=3&theater Please also pass this video to friends and family who might be interested.</p> <p>For further information, please see our guidance on residence in Germany https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany and sign up to email alerts on our Living in Germany guide, as we'll be posting important information on there when it becomes available! https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany</p> <p>All the very best for the future!</p>
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COVID-19 questions

I am aware that partners are now able to visit German nationals, I was wondering if we require any evidence of relationship, or if there would be any issues at the boarder?

Dear A,

Many thanks for your question. We imagine this is a difficult time for you and your partner.

As things stand at present, the Federal Interior Ministry is still advising against non-essential inward travel. However, while travellers still need a valid reason for entering Germany, the scope of valid reasons for entering at its internal land borders has been expanded to include more family and personal reasons for travel. Please see the Interior Ministry website for further details:

<https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/faqs/EN/topics/civil-protection/coronavirus/coronavirus-faqs.html#doc13797140bodyText3>. If your partner was travelling from the UK or an EU/Schengen area state which does not share a land border with Germany, they would need to have an urgent reason for travel.

In either case, any traveller must carry appropriate documentation with you. If you have no appropriate documentation then this should take the form of a self-declaration. The relevant form can be downloaded and printed

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	<p>from the website of the Federal Police at www.bundespolizei.de. Bear in mind, however, that false information and fraud are subject to punishment in line with national provisions.</p> <p>The decision whether to allow entry at the border is at the discretion of the border official. Please also be aware that travellers entering Germany must obey the quarantine rules of the relevant federal state.</p> <p>Please consult our Travel Advice for Germany for the latest updates https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/germany.</p>
<p>One thing that would make travel and being in the UK easier with older members of the family would be access to an antibodies test. Do you have any information if this is to be made available in Germany, and when, and secondly/alternatively if this test was being offered to the UK population in general would expats visiting from Germany be able to access it through the NHS (I understand there will be a long list of front line workers deserving of priority)? I have read various reports of an antibody test being rolled out in the UK but in Germany I have seen less information (despite Roche being more local) and that this could be delayed until September or later being introduced in Germany. The longer it is left, the more people are tempted by these offers of unofficial private antibodies tests on the internet.</p>	<p>Dear R,</p> <p>Many thanks for this question.</p> <p>There is growing interest in the availability of antibody testing in Germany and the UK. As you rightly say, antibody tests are currently under development, but there remain certain obstacles in distinguishing between antibodies for the current coronavirus (COVID-19) and other coronaviruses which can trigger flu-like symptoms in people. Studies are also still underway to ascertain whether proof of coronavirus antibodies necessarily signifies immunity in a person. The latest German Health Ministry advice is therefore to stay clear of the various antibody testing products at present.</p> <p>For more information you might find it helpful to consult the German Health Ministry guidance (https://www.zusammengengencorona.de/en/ - which includes useful tips and FAQs in English), the Federal Government</p>

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	<p>Commissioner for Migration, Refugees and Integration's information on coronavirus (https://www.integrationsbeauftragte.de/ib-de/amt-und-person/informationen-zum-coronavirus?fbclid=IwAR2LSQGAug5xl6YXna6x7DrmwFt7wsZXiSolPpuldumx0DyktWitjny5_v0) and the Robert Koch Institute (www.rki.de).</p>
<p>What does self isolation actually mean if arriving for a visit home to the UK from Germany after June 8th in practice? Does this mean if staying with the family I would have to stay in entirely separate quarters of the family home (in this case occupied by an over 75 year old), or would sharing a house be ok but not leaving the property? If indeed that you can confirm the 14 day isolation applies to expats if they return home for a spell, presuming this is permitted(?)</p>	<p>Hi R,</p> <p>Many thanks for this question. We hope we can provide some clarity at this uncertain time.</p> <p>From 8 June arrivals in the UK, whether visiting or returning to their residence, must provide journey and onward contact details in advance via an online form (this will soon be available at www.gov.uk/uk-border-control). You might be required to demonstrate that you have completed this form on arrival in the UK.</p> <p>You will then be required, as you mention in your question, to 'self-isolate' i.e. not leave the place you're staying for the first 14 days except under very limited circumstances. The Government will use the information provided on the contact form to check that you are self-isolating during this period.</p> <p>In practice, you would need to travel directly to the place you will be staying upon arrival, and once there you may only leave to seek urgent medical treatment or support from social services, to acquire food or medicine which cannot be</p>

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	<p>delivered, or if there is an emergency (e.g. a fire at the place you are staying). You cannot have visitors, including friends and family, unless they are providing essential care. If you were to be staying with friends or family, avoid contact with them and minimise the time spent in shared areas.</p> <p>After 14 days, if you do not have coronavirus symptoms, you can stop self-isolating and will then be subject to the same rules as people who live in the UK. Check the rules for the nation (England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland) you are staying in.</p> <p>We hope that helps.</p>
<p>If I want to return the the UK from Germany for two or three weeks, is this permitted?</p>	<p>Many thanks for this question.</p> <p>Both the British and German governments advise against all but essential travel.</p> <p>For those that do decide travel to the UK is essential, the Home Secretary announced on 22 May new public health measures for all arrivals in the country, which will come into effect on 8 June. They include 14 days self-isolation for anyone entering the UK, bar a short list of exemptions.</p> <p>Therefore, if a UK national resident in Germany needed to return to the UK, that is possible, but they will need to self-isolate for 14 days upon arrival.</p>

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	<p>These measures will be reviewed every three weeks, so there may be changes in the coming months. Please regularly check www.gov.uk/uk-border-control for further updates.</p>
<p>I live in Berlin with my German girlfriend and we planned to move to the UK this year. Her employer has agreed to her relocation to our UK office but because of the travel restrictions we have been unable to travel to the UK to view houses and now the 14 day quarantine rules will become effective 8th June this is unlikely to allow us to do this anytime soon. Is there any special circumstances where we can travel to the UK in the foreseeable future but before Brexit makes it more difficult and before her work offer expires?</p>	<p>Hi P,</p> <p>Many thanks for your question and congratulations to your girlfriend on her job offer in the UK. We understand that this is an unsettling time for you both.</p> <p>On Friday 22 May, the UK announced new measures for all UK arrivals, which will come into effect on 8 June. They include 14 days self-isolation for anyone entering the UK, bar a short list of exemptions. Unfortunately, this does not extend to your case. You would therefore need to self-isolate for 14 days before looking for a permanent residence.</p> <p>These measures will be reviewed every three weeks, so there may be changes in the coming months.</p> <p>Please regularly check: www.gov.uk/uk-border-control for further Updates. We hope that you will be able to relocate even under these circumstances.</p>
<p>I intend to move to Germany in June with my partner. We do not yet have a place of residence, as we will be flat-hunting when we arrive. Will we be able to enter the country under current Coronavirus restrictions?</p>	<p>Dear S,</p> <p>Many thanks for your question. We understand that this is a very unsettling time.</p> <p>The BMI (Federal Interior Ministry) has set out guidance on compelling reasons to enter the country. Unfortunately, these</p>

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	<p>do not extend to your case. The German Government will regularly review the current restrictions, which will remain in place until 15 June.</p> <p>Please keep checking our Travel Advice (https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/germany) and the German Government's guidance (https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/faqs/EN/topics/civil-protection/coronavirus/coronavirus-faqs.html). You may also find it helpful to consult our Living in Germany Guide: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany.</p>
<p>Whats the situation if I arrived in Dublin, Ireland from Germany, and then a ship to the UK, would i still have to go into self quarantine either in Ireland or the UK?</p>	<p>Hi I,</p> <p>Many thanks for reaching out to us.</p> <p>Please check Foreign Office Travel Advice for entering the Republic of Ireland here: https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/ireland/entry-requirements.</p> <p>As concerns your question about onward travel from Ireland to the UK, all journeys from within the Common Travel Area will be exempt from the measures set out by the Home Secretary on 22nd May 2020. The new UK public health measures will come into effect on 8th June and will be reviewed every three weeks.</p> <p>You can expect changes in the coming weeks and months. Please also regularly check: www.gov.uk/uk-border-control for further updates.</p>

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