

British Embassy Berlin
Facebook Drop-In Session - 1 September 2020

Important! Please note: The information in this document was correct on the date it was issued (1 – 4 September 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

Are British nationals residing in Germany currently able to apply for non-Withdrawal Agreement related documentation that they qualify for already (e.g Blue Card, a spouse visa) now? This may be due to fears of delays of implementing the Withdrawal Agreement's permits as a result of COVID and the potential for travel disruption when the transition period expires and no rights-confirming documentation to re-enter Germany

Dear J,

Thanks very much for your question, we do recognise the challenges around residence documents.

During the transition period, UK nationals continue to benefit from free movement rights within the EU. After the transition period, UK nationals who fulfil the relevant requirements will be able to apply for the EU Blue Card and status under the Long-Term Residence Directive. This includes UK nationals who also have rights under the Withdrawal Agreement in their Member State of residence and it will be possible to hold more than one status.

To confirm your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement in Germany, you should request a new residence document. The process for doing so is not yet open, but we will update the Living in Germany guide, when it goes live.

In regard to travel after the transition period, UK nationals in scope of the Withdrawal Agreement will continue to have the right to enter their Member State of residence and are exempt from ETIAS and visa requirements when entering that country. You can use your residence document to evidence your status under the Withdrawal Agreement when crossing the border. If you have not yet received your new residence document before any travel in 2021, you can ask your local Foreigners

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	<p>Authority for a so-called Fiktionsbescheinigung (certificate of application) which would allow you to re-enter Germany after January 2021.</p> <p>To stay up to date, please sign up for email alerts at https://www.gov.uk/email-signup/?topic=/world/living-in-germany.</p> <p>Many thanks for your question and all the best!</p>
<p>As a tax paying resident in Germany, is there anything else I need to do beyond Anmeldung and health insurance, in order to stay in Germany indefinitely? If I have a work contract which ends after the transition period is over, but only a British passport, is there anything else I need to do before 31 December 2020? What are the latest developments regarding the processing of this form, for UK nationals to register in Berlin?</p>	<p>Dear G,</p> <p>Thanks very much for your questions. The Withdrawal Agreement protects your rights to continue to live and work in Germany, but you will need to get a new residence document to confirm your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. You will have at least until 30 June 2021 to request this new residence document.</p> <p>The German parliament is due to consider the relevant legislation shortly. This is a necessary step before local Foreigners Authorities such as the Berlin Immigration Office can issue residence documents to UK nationals and their families. Since you have already registered with the Berlin authorities, you can expect them to be in touch with you once the legislation is in place with the offer of an appointment so that you can obtain your residence document.</p> <p>You can find more information in our Living in Germany guide at https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany. There is also further information about the situation in Berlin on the Berlin Immigration Office website at</p>

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	<p>https://www.berlin.de/einwanderung/en/residence/eu-eea-switzerland/artikel.878757.en.php. We will update the Living in Germany guide when it is possible to obtain the new document. Please sign up for email alerts: https://www.gov.uk/email-signup/?topic=/world/living-in-germany. All the best.</p>
<p>As a tax paying, freelance resident, with Anmeldung and healthcare, is there anything else I need to do to stay in Germany indefinitely?</p>	<p>Dear T, Thanks for getting in touch. The Withdrawal Agreement protects the rights of UK nationals living in Germany before 31 December 2020. Towards the end of this year you will need to obtain a new residence document to confirm your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. You can find more information here: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany. We will update the Living in Germany guide when it is possible to obtain the new document. Please sign up for email alerts: https://www.gov.uk/email-signup/?topic=/world/living-in-germany. All the best.</p>
<p>What documents must be shown to prove residency? Just passport and Meldebestätigung or also health care, work contracts, tax payments, rental contract, etc etc etc.</p>	<p>Dear A, Thanks for your question. The most important step is to ensure that you are properly registered at your local citizens office in Germany (<i>Bürgeramt</i>) before the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020. This registration is mandatory for everyone living in Germany</p>

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	<p>and will help you prove you are legally resident in Germany before the end of the transition period. You then qualify for rights under the Withdrawal Agreement.</p> <p>To confirm these rights, you will also need to obtain a residence document. The German parliament is due to consider the relevant legislation shortly. This is a necessary step before local Foreigners Authorities can begin the process of issuing residence documents to UK nationals and their families. When your local Foreigners Authority begins this process, they will let you know which other documents they require. Please ensure you have a valid passport alongside your registration document.</p> <p>We will update the Living in Germany guide when further information becomes available. Please sign up for email alerts: https://www.gov.uk/email-signup/?topic=/world/living-in-germany.</p> <p>All the best.</p>
<p>What absences are allowed in accumulating your 5 years? I was told at an event that Germany would look at previous residency if the gap between was less than 2 years. Is this correct and do the authorities maintain Anmeldung information back that far?</p>	<p>Dear A,</p> <p>Thanks very much for your question.</p> <p>In general terms, absences of up to six months during a 12-month period are acceptable without interrupting continuity of residence, though in specific circumstances a 12-month absence is also acceptable.</p> <p>When you come to obtain your new residence document, your local Foreigners Authority will consult the record of your registered periods of residency and consider the length of (and possible reasons for) any period of absence. Depending on their records, the Foreigners Authority may ask for further</p>

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	<p>information from you concerning the duration of periods of absence.</p> <p>If it turns out that the Foreigners Authority decides that your previous residency was interrupted by periods of absence, it is important to bear in mind that, going forward, you will still be able to continue accumulating continuous residency and will be entitled to a permanent residence document once you have reached five continuous years of residency.</p> <p>All the best.</p>
<p>1) I move to Germany next week. After I have gained my residency permit ect, will I have to revisit and renew after Jan 01 2020? Will people who were living in Germany before this date be able to continue as they were or will we potentially have to deal with getting new documents ect?</p> <p>2) Also, what is the situation with driving licenses being swapped after the 2021 date? Many thanks!</p>	<p>Dear C,</p> <p>Many thanks for your questions, and good luck with your move preparations.</p> <p>On your first question, once you arrive in Germany it will be important that you register your new address with your local residents office (usually called Einwohnermeldeamt or Bürgeramt). This registration is mandatory for everyone living in Germany and will help you prove you are legally resident in Germany before the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020. You then qualify for rights under the Withdrawal Agreement.</p> <p>To confirm these rights, you will also need to obtain a residence document from your local Foreigners Authority. You can find your local authority on this website: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany. The German parliament is due to consider relevant legislation shortly, after which local Foreigners Authorities will begin the process of issuing residence documents to UK national and their families. We will update the Living in Germany guide when it is possible to obtain the new</p>

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	<p>document. Please sign up for email alerts: https://www.gov.uk/email-signup/?topic=/world/living-in-germany</p> <p>On your second question, you should exchange your UK driving licence for a German one within 6 months of moving to Germany in Germany. Exchange processes will remain the same until 31 December 2020, but might be different next year. Please see this Facebook post for more information: https://www.facebook.com/BritsInGermany/photos/a.1766537726970112/2487044714919406/?type=3&theater.</p> <p>All the best.</p>
<p>I have seen comments on various facebook posts that suggest that a UK citizen would need to be living in Germany at least 6 months prior to the end of the transition period to be considered "resident"...possibly a tax resident, as well as needing to complete the Ameldung at their local council office. Is this correct? Or are UK citizens theoretically able to relocate right up until December 31st to be covered by the Withdrawal Agreement (provided they have registered for the Ameldung in time)?</p>	<p>Dear M,</p> <p>Thank you very much for getting in touch. This information is not correct, there is no minimum length of time living in Germany as prerequisite for being considered a resident. As long as you are in Germany exercising your freedom of movement before the transition period ends on 31 December 2020, you will be able to stay. Please ensure that you are properly registered at your local residents office (Einwohnermeldeamt or Bürgeramt) before the end of the transition period (31 December 2020). This registration is mandatory for everyone living in Germany and will help you prove you are legally resident in Germany before the end of the transition period and therefore qualify for rights under the Withdrawal Agreement.</p> <p>To confirm these rights, you will then also need to obtain a new residence document from your local Foreigners Authority. You can find your local authority on this website: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany. The German parliament is due to consider relevant</p>

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	<p>legislation shortly, after which local Foreigners Authorities will begin the process of issuing residence documents to UK national and their families.</p> <p>You will need to check the precise process in place at your local Foreigners Authority. We will update the Living in Germany guide when it is possible to obtain the new document. Please sign up for email alerts: https://www.gov.uk/email-signup/?topic=/world/living-in-germany</p> <p>All the best.</p>
<p>Hi, I'm living in Germany since 1st of May 2019, and I have my Meldebescheinigung. I applied 3 times for the "Brexit: Antrag auf Ausstellung eines Aufenthaltstitels" through the website since September 2019 however, I have not received any reply. Could you please advise me if I need to do something else or when I should receive an answer?</p>	<p>Dear D,</p> <p>Thank you for getting in touch. I understand that you may be concerned that you have not received a reply.</p> <p>Before residence documents can be issued, the draft residence law must be adopted by the German parliament. The German parliament is due to consider relevant legislation shortly, after which local Foreigners Authorities will begin the process of issuing residence documents to UK national and their families. If you have already completed an online form, the relevant Foreigners Authority will get in touch with you once the process opens.</p> <p>We will update the Living in Germany guide when it is possible to obtain the new document. Please sign up for email alerts: https://www.gov.uk/email-signup/?topic=/world/living-in-germany.</p> <p>All the best.</p>

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<p>Hi I currently come under the kreis Lippe area, and have emailed Detmold foreign office a few times without reply. I've been asking how and when we can apply for residency permits. Have they defined a process yet? If so what is it, otherwise is there a target date set for informing all British Nationals of the process</p>	<p>Dear T,</p> <p>Thanks for getting in touch. I understand that you may be concerned that you have not received a reply.</p> <p>Before residence documents can be issued, the draft residence law must be adopted by the German parliament. The German parliament is due to consider relevant legislation shortly, after which local Foreigners Authorities such as the Detmold Foreigners Authority will begin the process of issuing residence documents to UK national and their families.</p> <p>We will update the Living in Germany guide when it is possible to obtain the new document. Please sign up for email alerts: https://www.gov.uk/email-signup/?topic=/world/living-in-germany.</p> <p>All the best.</p>
<p>We registered for residency 18 months ago and are still waiting for our interview. Are we still waiting until the final 31st December leave date? Is there a facility to request an interview by email, rather than by letter. Thank you.</p>	<p>Dear L,</p> <p>Thanks very much for your question and I understand that this must be a frustrating situation for you. Before residence documents can be issued, the draft residence law must be adopted by the German parliament. The German parliament is due to consider relevant legislation shortly, after which local Foreigners Authorities will begin the process of issuing residence documents to UK national and their families.</p> <p>We will update the Living in Germany guide when it is possible to obtain the new document. Please sign up for email alerts: https://www.gov.uk/email-signup/?topic=/world/living-in-germany.</p> <p>All the best.</p>

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<p>When are we going to be able to get the new residence permits? In Starnberg we have applied several times over the past couple of years and are still getting the message back that 'we will contact you in due course' and so have still not received an invitation to go for an interview. This is an on going problem for Brits here even for those who have lived here for more than ten years and have all necessary documentation which has already been given with previous application forms</p>	<p>Dear F, Thank you for your question. I understand that this must be a frustrating situation for you. Before residence documents can be issued, the draft residence law must be adopted by the German parliament. The German parliament is due to consider relevant legislation shortly, after which local Foreigners Authorities will begin the process of issuing residence documents to UK national and their families. We will update the Living in Germany guide when it is possible to obtain the new document. Please sign up for email alerts: https://www.gov.uk/email-signup/?topic=/world/living-in-germany. All the best.</p>
<p>Will they allow a person who has stayed here for 6 years a permanent residence or passport? I know it's not 8 but I'm hoping that will make an exception under these circumstances.</p>	<p>Dear N, Thank you for your question. You do not need to be a German citizen to continue to live in Germany. If you are a UK national exercising your freedom of movement and living in Germany before the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020, your right to continue to live in Germany is protected by the Withdrawal Agreement. However, you will need to take steps to secure your residency rights. Please visit the website for more information: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany. Deciding whether to apply for citizenship is a personal choice. If you are interested in becoming a German Citizen please check these websites for more information:</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany#applying-for-german-citizenship• https://www.bamf.de/EN/Themen/Integration/ZugewanderteTeilnehmende/Einbuengerung/einbuengerung.html• https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/faqs/EN/topics/constitution/brexit/faqs-brexit.html <p>All the best!</p>
<p>I'm about to arrange to move from the UK to Germany (Hamburg) with a view to establish residency in October/November. As an individual and as part of a firm looking to establish company presence in Germany, we are conscious of our timings with the pending Withdrawal agreement conclusion. What process will I go through to set up residency this side of Christmas, to then be extending it in the Spring? Will I establish residency under the current arrangements advised and then in the Spring go through a newly advised re-registering process when this is confirmed? Are we making a sensible decisions to establish residency this side of the Withdrawel Agreement conclusion? Our views was residency for myself was best done now while things appear more straight forward, to then be re-registered in the Spring, as starting the whole process after the Withdrawel Agreement conclusion appears a little unclear.</p>	<p>Dear A,</p> <p>Many thanks for your question.</p> <p>As you are planning to move to Hamburg this year, it is important that you ensure that you register at your local residents office (Einwohnermeldeamt or Bürgeramt) when you arrive. This registration is mandatory for everyone living in Germany and will help you to prove you are legally resident in Germany before the end of the transition period and therefore qualify for rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. The website of Hamburg's Registration Office might be useful for you: https://www.hamburg.com/welcome/entry-residence/general-regulations/11725242/registration/</p> <p>To confirm these rights, you will then also need to obtain a residence document from your local Foreigners Authority. You can find further information here: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany. The German parliament is due to consider relevant legislation shortly, after which local Foreigners Authorities will begin the process of issuing residence documents to UK national and their families.</p> <p>As soon as the process opens we will update the Living in Germany guide. Please sign up for email alerts:</p>

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	<p>https://www.gov.uk/email-signup/?topic=/world/living-in-germany.</p> <p>More background information from the city of Hamburg you will find here:</p> <p>https://www.hamburg.de/innenbehoerde/allgemein/13606298/informationen-brexit-englisch/.</p> <p>Wishing you all the best for a successful move to Hamburg.</p>
<p>I know I'm late but I hope you can still help me. Thank you for supporting us all</p> <p>After hours of independent research I'm still at a loss of the right direction to take.</p> <p>I am Australian with dual nationality also with Great Britain. Currently I'm working in Germany due to my British passport, and have been since January 2013. I'm also engaged to a German (marriage plans on hold due to COVID-19), with whom I have a 5 year old son together.</p> <p>Without fast tracking the official civil marriage ceremony before 31/12/20, and without applying for my German citizenship (I have B1 level German however I definitely do not want to give up my Aussie passport) is there any other way/possibility that I can stay in Germany and have the rights to live and work as I do now within the WA?</p>	<p>Hi M,</p> <p>Thanks for getting in touch with us. You do not need to be a German citizen to continue to live in Germany. As you are a UK national exercising your freedom of movement and living in Germany before the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020, your rights to continue to live and work in Germany are protected by the Withdrawal Agreement. However, you should obtain a new residence document to confirm your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. Please visit the website for more information:</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany and consider signing up for email alerts to the Living in Germany guide: https://www.gov.uk/email-signup/?topic=/world/living-in-germany</p> <p>All the best!</p>

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Healthcare, pensions, working and benefits

<p>I receive S1 funded health care and know this will continue while I remain resident in Germany. But for how long can I live in the UK (say for family care reasons) and still be able to return to Germany and still receive S1 funded health care? What I have read suggests I will lose my S1 rights if I return to the UK for more than 3 months, i.e. become normally resident in the UK, even if my residency rights in Germany allow longer periods of absence.</p>	<p>Dear A, Thanks for your question.</p> <p>As a UK-insured individual legally resident in Germany on 31.12.2020, if you move to the UK you will still be covered by the Withdrawal Agreement when moving back to Germany, as long as you do not allow your German residency to lapse (such as by being outside of the country for longer than 6 or 12 months if you have temporary residence or a consecutive 5 year period if you have permanent residence). This means that a temporary return to the UK will not affect your rights to S1 coverage while living in Germany, as long as you remain in scope of the Withdrawal Agreement.</p> <p>We hope this information is helpful. To stay up to date on any future developments, please sign up for updates to our Living in Germany guide at: gov.uk/living-in-germany.</p> <p>Wishing you good health!</p>
<p>On the advice on EHIC it says from the 1st January 2021 healthcare can still be accessed if you are "A UK student studying in The EU before the end of 2020 until your course finishes". Question 1: Does this apply to only University students or does it also include students, for example, in a private language school? Question 2: Is this referring to access</p>	<p>Dear D,</p> <p>Thanks for your questions on healthcare access for students and apologies for the delay with our response. If you are a UK student applying to a course or study period at an establishment accredited or financed by the host State which</p>

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<p>to healthcare in the EU state the student lives in, or in travelling to other EU states on holiday, or maybe even both?</p>	<p>begins before 31 December 2020, you will be entitled to use of a student EHIC for the duration of your course. However, from 1 January 2021, this cover would be restricted to your country of study, in this case Germany, unless continued use of EHICs is negotiated in the ongoing negotiations between the UK and the EU.</p> <p>There might also be administrative steps for you to take, so please sign up for email alerts to the Living in Germany guide, which will be updated when further information becomes available: https://www.gov.uk/email-signup/?topic=/world/living-in-germany</p> <p>With best wishes for your health (and studies)!</p>
<p>Will Germany and the UK continue to have a reciprocal healthcare agreement, meaning that healthcare taken in Germany (or the UK) would cover someone in the other country; or will travel insurance be required when returning to the UK.</p>	<p>Dear T,</p> <p>Many thanks for your question.</p> <p>Regarding reciprocal healthcare, people who have settled in the UK or EU before 31 December 2020 will continue to have life-long reciprocal healthcare rights, provided they remain in scope of the Withdrawal Agreement (e.g., remain a registered resident). This means existing healthcare arrangements will not change for UK nationals who are resident in EU and EU citizens in the UK before 31 December 2020, for as long as they are living in that country and covered by the agreement.</p> <p>Regarding travel insurance, the Government always advises that anyone travelling overseas, whether to the EU or elsewhere in the world, should take out comprehensive travel</p>

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	<p>insurance to cover treatment not included on the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC). This remains our advice.</p> <p>Reciprocal healthcare arrangements for individuals not covered by the Withdrawal Agreement and travelling to the UK after 1 January 2021 are still subject to negotiations.</p> <p>When traveling to the UK, Accident and Emergency services and services that are deemed urgent or immediately necessary will always be provided free at the point of delivery first in the UK, with entitlement to NHS care determined afterwards. UK nationals living in the EU will be eligible for NHS care without charge if they return to settle in England and are ordinarily resident.</p> <p>We hope this is helpful. To stay up to date on any future developments, please sign up for updates to our Living in Germany guide at: gov.uk/living-in-germany.</p> <p>Wishing you good health!</p>
<p>I am concerned that Hamburg on the relevant website do not appear to recognise the continuation of S1 health care rights after December 31st 2020.</p>	<p>Dear P,</p> <p>Many thanks for your message, we understand your concern. Some local authorities are in the process of updating their websites, and this may take a little time.</p> <p>Please rest assured that if you are an existing S1 holder receiving an exportable UK State Pension or other exportable</p>

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	<p>benefit, and are resident in Germany, healthcare arrangements will not change for as long as you are still living in Germany and covered by the Withdrawal Agreement. This means the UK will continue to fund your healthcare and you will continue to be entitled to a UK EHIC which will be valid when travelling across the EU. As an S1 form holder, if you visit the UK you will also still be able to access free NHS care when temporarily visiting England as you can now.</p> <p>We hope this is helpful. To stay up to date on any future developments, you can sign up for updates to our Living in Germany guide at: gov.uk/living-in-germany.</p>
<p>Will it still be possible to be health care wise covered over the s1 form when you and your family have been sent to work in Germany?</p>	<p>Dear K,</p> <p>Many thanks for your question regarding health care access for so-called 'posted workers', who have been sent by their UK company to work in Germany.</p> <p>Your and your family members' entitlements to healthcare via a S1 form will not change before the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020. The UK's participation in the S1 scheme from 1 January 2021 is subject to the ongoing UK-EU negotiations.</p> <p>While the rights of posted workers who were on a posting before 31 December 2020 are not protected by the Withdrawal Agreement, if the posted worker can continue with their posting under either a future relationship agreement between the UK</p>

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	<p>and the EU or under the Member State's immigration rules, then their social security coordination position will not change. This is because the posted worker's social security coordination position will be protected by the Withdrawal Agreement.</p> <p>UK workers posted in Germany before 31 December 2020 will therefore need to consider their circumstances and make the best decision for them. This may include registering for residency in Germany or returning to the UK.</p> <p>We understand that these are uncertain times and hope this information has been helpful.</p> <p>To stay up to date on any future developments, please sign up for updates to our Living in Germany guide at: gov.uk/living-in-germany.</p> <p>Wishing you good health!</p>
<p>Will S1 form allowing healthcare funded by UK be resolved before the end of the year? Currently some healthcare Krankenversicherung (TK) will only provide insurance via S1 E106 until 31st December</p>	<p>Thanks for your question.</p> <p>UK nationals who have settled in the EU before 31 December 2020 will continue to have life-long reciprocal healthcare rights provided they remain in scope of the Withdrawal Agreement.. This means that if you are legally resident in Germany before 31 December 2020, your healthcare coverage via the S1 form</p>

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	<p>will not change, for as long as you are living in Germany and covered by the agreement.</p> <p>It has not yet been confirmed whether S1 holders will need to take any administrative action regarding their S1 form in Germany. Please sign up for email updates to our Living in Germany guide at: gov.uk/living-in-germany to stay abreast of any future developments.</p> <p>Thanks again for the question and best wishes for your health!</p>
<p>Is there any agreement in place, or expected regarding Posted Worker status for Germany resident UK citizens working in different EU countries?</p>	<p>Dear M, thank you for your question. The rules on posted workers will not change until 31 December 2020. Beyond that date, unfortunately, the EU did not agree with the UK's position that posted workers should be protected by the Withdrawal Agreement, but this topic is subject to the current UK-EU negotiations, as is the question of travelling to other EU member states for work or to provide services. However, if the posted worker can continue with their posting under either a future relationship agreement between the UK and the EU or under the Member State's immigration rules, then their social security coordination position will not change. This is because the posted worker's social security coordination position will be protected by the Withdrawal Agreement. The UK will not differentiate posted workers from other workers, so those posted workers in the UK by the end of the transition period will be able to apply for a UK immigration status that allows them to stay. Please sign up for email alerts on www.gov.uk/livinginGermany where we will publish further information for posted workers when it becomes available.</p>

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<p>I currently live and work full-time in Germany but in my job we very occasionally (a few times a year) go to other EU countries like Austria for a half a day or day for face-to-face customer meetings, or to give a presentation as part of the sales process.</p> <p>I understand the WA guarantees us the right to continue to live and work in Germany, but what will the situation be for German-based UK citizens and this sort of occasional visit to customers in another countries?</p>	<p>Dear D,</p> <p>Thank you very much for reaching out to us.</p> <p>It is correct that 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.</p> <p>During the transition period you will be able to travel to other EU Countries like you did before. After 31 December 2020, UK nationals will still be able to travel visa-free to other Schengen countries for short-term trips of up to 90 in 180 days. Please check with your destination country what kind of activities you are allowed to undertake on a short-term visit. You might also find this guidance helpful: https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/providing-services-to-eea-and-efta-countries-after-eu-exit. We hope that this answers your question and wish you all the best!</p>
<p>I am a national of both the UK and Germany. Lived in Germany since 2015. I've paid into the British State pension system only for 33 of 35 years. I have made no pension contributions in Germany. I'm paying class 3 NI in the UK to cover the two remaining years to qualify for the full UK state pension. I reach retirement age in 2026 and would then, under current arrangements qualify for the state pension and S1 health cover living in Germany. I'm planning to continue living in Germany at present (may change, of course). Will the current arrangements apply if I remain resident in Germany?</p>	<p>Dear M,</p> <p>many thanks for your questions. The answer is yes, if you remain resident in Germany, you are protected by the Withdrawal Agreement. This means than when you retire and draw on your UK state pensions, you will be able to apply for an S1 form from the UK to cover your health insurance. Please remember to request the new residence document to confirm your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement in Germany. For further information, please see www.gov.uk/livinginGermany. We wish you all the best!</p>

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<p>What are the rules around working remotely from Germany for a UK-based company? Will working for a UK-based company impact someone's right to remain in Germany post Brexit?</p>	<p>Dear E,</p> <p>many thanks for your question. The Withdrawal Agreement protects the rights of UK nationals living in Germany before the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020. If you are legally resident in Germany before then, your rights to work are protected by the Withdrawal Agreement, irrespective of where your employer is based.</p> <p>However, your social security situation might change after the end of the transition period. Please discuss the options with your employer.</p> <p>Lastly, please remember to request the new residence document to confirm your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement in Germany.</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 consider signing up for email alerts: https://www.gov.uk/email-signup/?topic=/world/living-in-germany</p>
<p>If I keep paying into my voluntary contributions pension in The UK, will I be able to claim a full state UK pension plus the full Star German pension upon completion?</p> <p>I would have amassed almost "70 years" of contributions in this case.</p>	<p>Dear A,</p> <p>Thank you very much for your question. If you are paying into the German statutory pension, you do not need to pay voluntary contributions in the UK for the same year. This has not changed due to the UK leaving the EU. Under the</p>

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	<p>Withdrawal Agreement, your German and UK contributions will be 'aggregated' to calculate your final amount. You will receive a payment from both the UK and Germany with your years from both countries used to calculate your entitlements.</p> <p>You may wish to undertake a 'Kontenklärung' with the German Statutory Pension Authority, so they can already see your UK contributions and include them in their calculations: https://www.deutsche-rentenversicherung.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/Broschuere/national/kontenklaerung.html</p> <p>For further information on other important topics for UK nationals in Germany, please see www.gov.uk/livinginGermany and sign up for email alerts.</p> <p>We hope this information has been helpful and wish you all the best!</p>
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Rights under the Withdrawal Agreement

<p>I am moving to Darmstadt in a month to start a masters programme. Currently I don't need a student visa if I move there and register as a resident before December 31. However, I want to confirm if this is the case moving forward as long as I</p>	<p>Dear M, thanks for getting in touch. If you are resident in Germany on or before the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020, your right to study in</p>
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<p>am still registered as a resident before December 31 and successfully complete the application before June 2021?</p>	<p>Germany will remain the same, as long as you remain resident in Germany. Please ensure that you request the new residence document to confirm your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement. Further information can be found here: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany Wishing you all the best for your masters programme.</p>
<p>Is there any news regarding travelling around Europe from Germany. Will British passport holders need some sort of visa to travel? And will there be a cost?</p>	<p>Hi S, thanks for reaching out to us. The rules on travel will not change before the transition period ends on 31 December 2020.</p> <p>In order to travel to other EU or Schengen countries after 1 January 2021 as a tourist, you will not need a visa for short trips. You'll be able to stay for up to 90 days in any 180-day period. For any longer stays, to work or study you may however need a visa or permit. Check each country's travel advice page for relevant information: https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice.</p> <p>You should take your valid British passport with you on any travel, in addition to your new German residence document confirming your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement.</p> <p>For further relevant information and to stay up to date, please sign up for email alerts at www.gov.uk/livinginGermany</p>

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<p>Am I right to assume that under the WA my elderly parents can still join me here (from UK) next year?</p>	<p>Hi J Thanks for your question and yes, that's correct. UK nationals residing in Germany under EU law before the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020 will have the right to bring existing close family members to live with them in Germany even after the transition period ends under current EU rules.</p>
<p>I moved to Germany last month, and have my Anmeldung but currently nothing else is offered by Dusseldorf in terms of the next steps. I know when the agreement is in place I will have to go to the auslanderbehörde but their appointments are already going for next April. Will this mean I will have trouble travelling in and out of the country without my new certificate? When are we expected to be able to start appointments with our local governments?</p>	<p>Hi A Thanks for getting in touch. We understand the uncertainty this has caused for you.</p> <p>Most local Foreigners Authorities will only start issuing residence documents to UK nationals once the German government has passed the relevant legislation, which we expect to happen later this year.</p> <p>UK nationals will have until 30 June 2021 to request the new residence document.</p> <p>If you can't get an appointment and do not receive your new residence document by January 2021 and would like to travel after the end of the transition period, you can request a so-called 'Fiktionsbescheinigung' from your local Foreigners Authority. This will facilitate your re-entry into any Schengen country when travelling. In addition, you must take your valid UK passport.</p> <p>Have a look at our guidance on residence documents and sign up for email alerts. We will update this as soon as the application process for the new residence documents opens: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany</p>

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<p>Considering the statistics about the EU Settlement Scheme and in particular Surinder Singh decisions by the Home Office in the attached article. What certainty is given to my NON-EU dependants about their rights to come live with me in the UK before March 2022? My dependants have been given their German EU-Aufenthaltskarte. The lack of transparency of my rights and the criteria in determining such cases via the EU Settlement Scheme (the website tells me to email the contact centre) is not in the spirit of the Withdrawal Agreement. https://www.freemovement.org.uk/eu-settlement-scheme.../</p>	<p>Hi R, thanks for reaching out to us. As a UK national who has exercised your right to freedom of movement in an EU Member State before 31 December 2020, if you return to the UK before 29 March 2022 your family members will be able to join you in the UK and apply for settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme. For more information on the EU Settlement Scheme please see https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families, there is a section specifically for non-EU family members, or https://www.gov.uk/family-permit/surinder-singh.</p> <p>If you are applying for the EU Settlement Scheme from outside the UK please read the following guidance: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/eu-settlement-scheme-applying-from-outside-the-uk.</p> <p>If you return to the UK after this date, your family members without UK citizenship or settled status will have to apply for a relevant permit under the future UK immigration rules.</p>
<p>Same question I always ask, please. What is the latest position on the documentation of Withdrawal Agreement coverage to be supplied to the 30,000+ UK nationals that do not need a residency permit (usually because our residency is based on German or other EU nationality)? I for one will need this from 1 January and time is getting short. It is a serious matter for some of us.</p>	<p>Hi V, thanks for your question. We understand that this is a very important issue for you and many others living in Germany. As a dual national (whether you hold the German nationality or another EU nationality next to your British nationality), you will not need a new residence document to continue living in Germany after 31 December 2020. If you are a dual national you might, however, still have rights in other areas flowing from the Withdrawal Agreement. We are in contact with the German</p>

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	<p>authorities about how to assert these rights and will update the Living in Germany guide when further information is available. You can also sign up for email alerts, which let you know when new information is added to the Living in Germany Guide: https://www.gov.uk/email-signup/?topic=/world/living-in-germany</p>
<p>I have been resident in Germany since May 1996. Currently I do not plan to take dual nationality. With the Aufenthaltserlaubnis will I be able to travel freely with in the EU/Schengen countries??</p>	<p>Hi I, thanks for reaching out to us. The German residence document will be proof of your identity within Germany, but in order to travel to another EU or Schengen country you will need to take your UK passport with you as well as the German residence document. If you're a tourist, you will not need a visa for short trips to EU countries, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. You'll be able to stay for up to 90 days in any 180-day period. You may need a visa or permit to stay for longer, to work or study, or for business travel (for information on business travel see here: https://www.gov.uk/visit-europe-1-january-2021/business-travel-extra-requirements). Check each country's travel advice page for further information: https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice If you have not received your new residence document by January 2021 and would like to travel after the end of the transition period, you can request a so-called 'Fiktionsbescheinigung' from your local foreigners authority. This will facilitate your re-entry into any Schengen country when travelling. In addition, you must take your valid UK passport. Please have a look at our guidance on residence documents and sign up for email alerts. We will update this as soon as the application process for the new residence</p>

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	<p>documents opens: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany</p>
<p>I am resident in both the UK and Germany, but work for a UK company and pay UK income tax. How does this affect my rights under the withdrawal agreement?</p>	<p>Dear B, many thanks for your question. You cannot be resident in two countries but as a British citizen you can return to the UK at any time. The Withdrawal Agreement protects UK nationals who are legally resident in Germany before the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020. Provided you are lawfully resident in Germany before the end of the transition period, you will be protected by the Withdrawal Agreement and should follow our guidance on residence in Germany once the process opens (https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany). The double taxation agreement between Germany and the UK is unaffected by leaving the EU. However, it could have implications on your entitlements to healthcare and other benefits in the UK. You may not maintain the same access to benefits and services in the UK. UK nationals in doubt about the implications for them of taking up residence in a Member State should seek specialised professional advice. We hope this has been helpful and wish you all the best!</p>

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<p>I am in a very similar situation as this. I work on the UK and live there 4-5 days a week. My wife (German) and children (Dual British and German) live in Germany all the time. I live most weekends (3-4 days a week) and any time off work at my family home in Germany.</p> <p>I pay UK tax and NI. I am registered in Germany at my family home.</p> <p>Can we be classed as resident in both countries? And as Brian Flemming has asked, how does the withdrawal agreement us?</p> <p>It's a very confusing time in this situation.</p>	<p>Dear L, many thanks for your question.</p> <p>The Withdrawal Agreement protects UK nationals who are lawfully resident in Germany before the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020. Provided you are lawfully resident in Germany before the end of the transition period, you will be protected by the Withdrawal Agreement and should follow our guidance on residence in Germany once the process opens (https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany).</p> <p>You cannot be resident in two countries but as a British citizen you can return to the UK at any time. This includes the right to live or work in the UK in the future. Your existing right to work in the UK is unaffected by the UK leaving the EU. The double taxation agreement between Germany and the UK is also unaffected by the UK leaving the EU.</p> <p>Further information on your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement and returning the UK can be found on gov.uk (https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-europe).</p> <p>We hope this has been helpful and wish you all the best!</p>
<p>If i was to go back to NI would my husband and son still not be able to go back my son now has a german passport after having a british 1 and his dad is from germany can he still apply for a settlement status if so how much and what does he need</p>	<p>Hello D, thank you for your message. UK nationals, including dual nationals such as your son, can return to live in the UK at any time.</p>

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to do what do i need to do to not to be able to live in the eu anymore to go back to my homeland NI

As a UK national who has exercised your right to freedom of movement in an EU Member State before 31 December 2020, if you return to the UK before 29 March 2022 your family members will be able to join you in the UK and apply for settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme. For more information on the EU Settlement Scheme please see <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>. There is no application fee for this status.

If you return to the UK after this date, your family members without UK citizenship or settled status will have to apply for a relevant permit under the future UK immigration rules.

Dual nationals who hold British nationality and another EU nationality, will not need a new residence document or settled status to continue to live in either the Germany or the UK after 31 December 2020.

You might also be interested in our guidance on Foreigners Authorities in Germany:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/germany-residence-information-after-eu-exit/foreigners-authorities-in-germany>.

For further guidance on UK nationals planning to return to the UK, please see: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/returning-to-the-uk>.

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Passport/Dual nationality

<p>My son was born in Hamburg in March. As yet we do not have his German or British passports. What is the protocol for obtaining his British passport and his dual nationality.</p>	<p>Hi S, congratulations to your new-born son! You can apply for a first child passport for him, it costs £49 and you will need a digital photo of your son (or a device that takes digital photos) as well as supporting documents and a credit or debit card. Please visit the below website which will walk you through the application process and give more information on first child passports. https://www.gov.uk/get-a-child-passport/first-child-passport</p> <p>Regarding your question on dual nationality, please contact your local German naturalisation office. In the UK there are no restrictions on dual nationality, Germany however only allows dual nationality in exceptional cases. The FAQs of the Auswärtiges Amt on nationality might also be helpful: https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aamt/zugastimaa/buergerservice/faq/-/606854?openAccordionId=item-606642-4-panel</p> <p>All the best to you and your family!</p>
<p>Hi I'm trying to apply for my uk passport but it says I should wait and try and apply again next time because they are dealing with urgent cases . My passport will expire soon and I need to know when the best time to do the application.</p>	<p>Dear T, thanks for your question. Due to COVID-19, it is unfortunately currently taking longer than usual to process passport applications. We cannot advise on the best time to do the application, Her Majesty's Passport Office (HMPO)</p>

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	<p>recommends that you only apply if you are travelling soon or if you urgently need a passport for compassionate reasons. Please note that if you're abroad, need to travel and cannot get a passport in time, you can also apply for an Emergency Travel Document (ETD). For further information please visit the following page: https://www.gov.uk/emergency-travel-document.</p> <p>You will need a valid passport when requesting your new residence document to confirm your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement, but you will have until June 2021 to do so.</p> <p>All the best!</p>
<p>My husband is from the isle of man and has to change his name in his passport as we got married and now has a double barrelled name. He s been living in Bavaria since 2016. On your page it says though due to Corona only in urgent matters or if we are travelling anywhere soon we can change it.</p> <p>Could you please tell me what we can do as we would like to change it before the brexit. Thank you</p>	<p>Dear J,</p> <p>thanks for your question and congratulations to your marriage! That's correct, since your husband's name changed, he will need to apply for a new passport. Her Majesty's Passport Office can currently not confirm when a passport will be received, since it is currently taking longer to process applications due to COVID-19. With regard to Brexit, there is no need to worry for you or your husband: You will need a valid passport when requesting your new residence document to confirm your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement, but you will have until June 2021 to do so.</p> <p>If you need to travel and cannot get a passport in time, you can also apply for an Emergency Travel Document (ETD). For further information please visit the following page: https://www.gov.uk/emergency-travel-document.</p>

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	All the best!
I'm an english citizen with 2 children. 1 born in England and my 2nd daughter here in Germany. This is already confusing because for appointments for my daughter they are asking for her passport and I've no idea which one to get especially because the UK is leaving the EU. To top this off I would also like to know when I can get this residence permit. Part 1 citizenship part 2 reidency	<p>Hi L, thanks for your question. If your daughters have never had a passport before, you can apply for a first child passport on their behalf. This website https://www.gov.uk/get-a-child-passport/first-child-passport will walk you through the application process. You will need a digital photo of them (or a device that takes digital photos), supporting documents and a credit or debit card.</p> <p>For German citizenship, please check with the German local authorities if your daughter is eligible for German citizenship. If so, you will be able to apply for a German passport for her, too. The FAQs of the Auswärtiges Amt on nationality might also be helpful: https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aamt/zugastimaa/buergerservice/faq/-/606854?openAccordionId=item-606642-4-panel</p> <p>The German authorities have not yet confirmed the process to obtain a residency document. The German parliament is due to consider relevant legislation shortly, after which local Foreigners Authorities will begin the process of issuing residence documents to UK national and their families. We will update the Living in Germany guide when it is possible to obtain the new document. Please sign up for email alerts: https://www.gov.uk/email-signup/?topic=/world/living-in-germany.</p>

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	<p>Before obtaining the residence document, please ensure that you are properly registered at your local residents office (Einwohnermeldeamt or Bürgeramt). This registration is mandatory for everyone living in Germany and will help you prove you are legally resident in Germany before the end of the transition period and therefore qualify for rights under the Withdrawal Agreement.</p> <p>You will also need your valid passport when requesting a residence document.</p> <p>All the best to you and your girls!</p>
<p>My passport expires early October. According to passport renewal, services are extremely delayed due to the pandemic.</p> <p>I've read about people waiting months to get their passports back.</p> <p>What can one do to speed up this process, especially as expedited service are not available at this time, it looks like the U.K. is determined to go for a hard exit, and also because travel is still necessary due to family concerns?</p> <p>Thank you.</p>	<p>Dear P, thanks for your question. As you say, due to COVID-19, it is unfortunately currently taking longer than usual to process passport applications. We cannot advise on the best time to submit your application, Her Majesty's Passport Office (HMPO) recommends that you only apply if you are travelling soon or if you urgently need a passport for compassionate reasons. Please note that if you're abroad, need to travel and cannot get a passport in time, you can also apply for an Emergency Travel Document (ETD). For further information please see: https://www.gov.uk/emergency-travel-document. You will need a valid passport when requesting your new residence document to confirm your rights under the Withdrawal Agreement, but you will have until June 2021 to do so.</p> <p>All the best!</p>

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Professional qualifications and driving

Can you confirm the latest position of English qualified legal professionals as I understand the recognition of professional qualifications is still being negotiated?

Hi A,

Thanks for your important question. If you have a professional qualification from the UK, which has already been recognised in Germany, this qualification will remain valid. This will cover the European Professional Card, qualifications recognised under the Professional Qualifications directive for the purpose of establishment (but not for the temporary and occasional provision of services), lawyers practising under host state title approved statutory auditors, and persons engaged in the trade and distribution of toxic products

If it has not been recognised in Germany yet we recommend you start the recognition process now. Recognition procedures will remain the same during the transition period but might be different in the future. For UK nationals in scope of the Withdrawal Agreement who have submitted an application for recognition of their professional qualifications before 31 December 2020, their application will still be decided according to EU law, even if a decision on recognition is only taken after the end of the transition period. You can find information on where to request a recognition of your qualifications in Germany from this website; (<https://www.erkennung-in-deutschland.de/html/en/index.php>). We recognise the importance of the right for lawyers to practise under home title.

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	<p>The Government has been clear that we want EU citizens in the UK and UK nationals in the EU to be able to continue their lives broadly as now. Many thanks and all the best to you!</p>
<p>I changed my UK driving license to a German license about a year ago. Will I still be able to drive in the UK when I come to visit?</p>	<p>Hi D, thanks for your question. You will be able to drive in the UK for visits up until the end of the transition period (31.12.2020). Arrangements for January 2021 onwards will publicised in due course. If you have not already, please sign up to our Living in Germany Guide to stay up to date with the latest news regarding driving licences; (https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-germany). Many thanks and all the best!</p>

COVID-19

<p>I am considering travelling to the UK next week to visit family. Am I right in assuming that if I transit through, Holland, Belgium and France to reach the Eurotunnel without stopping I have no need to quarantine in the UK. I am travelling from Hamburg. Thanks.</p>	<p>Dear M, thanks for getting in touch at a confusing time for many. As things stand at present your assumption is correct in that you have no need to quarantine upon arrival in the UK. Transit stops in France and the Netherlands generally require arrivals in the UK to enter quarantine, but as you will be driving through both countries you are exempt, provided that no new people enter your vehicle and you do not mix with other people when you are outside your vehicle. You will be best placed to assess whether this is realistic or possible. You must still fill in and be able to present to UK border officials a copy of the UK</p>
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	<p>passenger health locator form on arrival. As entry requirements are subject to change we recommend you keep a close eye on the gov.uk website for the latest developments. Good luck and bon voyage!</p>
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