

Proposal for Skopje Spring Congress 2020

Proposal
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LYMEC Spring Congress, April 3 to 5, 2020 in Skopje

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Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The Skopje Spring Congress 2020 may decide:

1 **Resolution on the situation regarding the border between** 2 **Northern Ireland and Ireland**

3 Noting that:

- 4 • after the 2016 United Kingdom European Union membership referendum, the UK left the
- 5 EU on 31 January 2020.
- 6 • Northern Ireland is a member of the UK thus, it is no longer part of the EU.
- 7 • Ireland, which is not part of the UK, remains a member of the EU.
- 8 • the border between Northern Ireland and Ireland became not only a border between the
- 9 EU and an external country but also the only land border between the UK and the EU.
- 10 • because of the Troubles, a 30 years-long conflict between the two countries, it is still a
- 11 sensitive issue
- 12 • the UK is in a transition period until December and has to negotiate a new trading
- 13 relationship with the EU until 31 December 2020.

14 Considering that:

- 15 • during the Brexit negotiations, the topic was discussed and the European Union
- 16 (Withdrawal Agreement) Act deals with it, there are still components that are not decided.
- 17 • the Withdrawal Agreement contains the following resolutions:
- 18 • Northern Ireland continues to follow EU rules on agricultural and manufactured goods
- 19 along with enforcing the EU's custom checks
- 20 • The rest of the UK does not follow the rules any longer.
- 21 • The Agreement is not temporary, unless the Northern Ireland Assembly votes otherwise.
- 22 • exact details of how trade across the Irish border and between Great Britain and Northern
- 23 Ireland will work, are not set:
- 24 • to what extent goods have to be checked
- 25 • what paperwork is required, for instance, customs declarations
- 26 • how different the regime for goods going from Great Britain to Northern Ireland compared
- 27 with the ones going in the other direction
- 28 • tariff rebate system will also have to be designed and be ready for implementation

29 LYMEC claims for:

- 30 • Carrying out a new trading deal between the EU and the UK until 31 December 2020
- 31 which:

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- avoids the prospect of a reestablished hard border with Ireland;
 - at the same time does not treat Northern Ireland significantly different, then the rest of the UK.
 - The currently existing trading deals and models can serve as examples, but some adjustments need to be made.
 - Based on the Norwegian model: The UK accepts Single Market rules and parallel institutions but negotiates a new arrangement on freedom of movement and greater input on devising regulation.
 - Based on the Canadian model: the aim is better access for services and provisions for enhanced regulatory co-operation to minimise trade barriers.
 - Based on the Ukraine model: participation in the Single Market is allowed in those sectors which are aligned and subjected to oversight.
 - ? to consider the reception of the suitable elements of these models in order to create an ideal trade deal between the United Kingdom and the European Union.

Attention: This is a preview! The official text is printed in the proposal book for Skopje Spring Congress 2020 03 - 05 April 2020.