

# BRITISH IN EUROPE

## THE COALITION OF UK CITIZENS IN EUROPE

### IN BRIEF:

**End of August:** we meet DExEU and EU before negotiations re-start.

**6 September:** we respond to the third round of talks, welcoming progress on frontier workers, healthcare and social security.

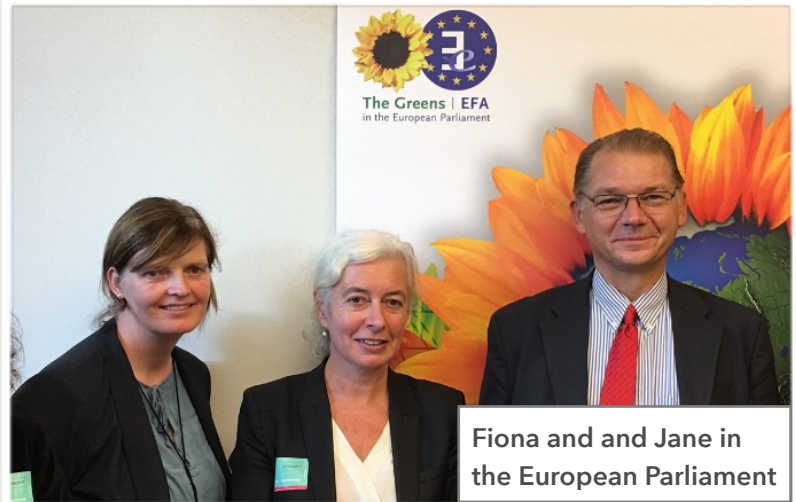
**13 September:** successful mass lobby in Westminster. We meet 80 MPs and 100 sign our pledge. Our e-lobby reaches 400 MPs. **Jane Golding** speaks at a rally in **Trafalgar Square**.



**20 September:** we meet DExEU before the critical September/October negotiation rounds.

**22 September:** After **Theresa May's** Florence speech, we write to her, criticising her failure to move on citizens' rights.

**12 October:** Our verdict on the current deadlock: 'millions risk being thrown under the Brexit bus'.



Fiona and Jane in the European Parliament

## OUR ROLE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS

The core BiE advocacy team consists of lawyers **Jane Golding** and **Fiona Godfrey**, backed up by steering committee members like **Jeremy Morgan QC**. Over the last few months we have held regular meetings with the **UK government** (DExEU, and the Home Office) and the **European Union** (EU Commission and EU Council).

Along with **the3million** (EU citizens in the UK) we are **key interlocutors for both sides**. We supply information and case studies, raise queries about issues such as frontier workers and press the case for full citizenship rights for life for the four million people affected. At each stage of the process, we have produced **extensive documentation** which has fed into official thinking. Two examples are our analysis of the second round of negotiations and our report on the injustice and negative impact of limiting further movement rights on UKinEU citizens and definitions of frontier workers.

As well as meeting MPs and MEPs regularly we organise **grassroots lobbying campaigns** aimed at Westminster and Brussels to get our point across: we want to maintain current citizenship rights for life in a ring-fenced agreement enforceable under international law and the **European Court of Justice**.

## BiE Coalition News

New groups: **British in the Netherlands; UK Citizens in Austria; British in Sweden.**

**Brexipats - Hear Our Voice** win the **European Citizen's Prize 2017**. Congratulations!



**British in Italy** in Florence:



**EuroCitizens** meets the UK ambassador to Spain:



**Sue Wilson of Bremain in Spain** meets **DExEU, Gina Miller** and other groups in London.



## WHERE ARE WE NOW?

**Jane Golding** on the fifth round of negotiations: “we are increasingly worried that those negotiating about our rights are unable to deliver what **Mrs May** promised in her Lancaster House speech and **Mr Barnier** promised us in May”. Michel Barnier’s words that “Brexit should not alter the nature of people’s daily lives” now look increasingly hollow.

Some progress has been made and **the 3million** and **British in Europe** can take some credit for this. There has been agreement on most aspects of social security payments and **healthcare coverage**, including the S1 scheme for pensioners living outside the country where they worked plus the aggregation, export and uprating of **pensions**. There is also movement on current family members being covered for life. The UK has agreed to the citizenship provisions of the withdrawal agreement being fully incorporated into UK law (and has made a conditional proposal on the **lifelong right to return**).

But key issues are outstanding. For many UK in EU citizens the most important is the EU’s limiting of ‘**further movement rights**’ after Brexit. We would have our rights guaranteed in one country, but be unable to travel and work freely in other EU27 countries. Other areas are restrictions on recognition of **professional qualifications** and the exercising of **economic rights** throughout the EU27, plus **family reunification**, the lifetime **right to return** and **voting rights**.

Last week’s talks ended in deadlock with no progress on fundamentals and renewed rumours of the UK crashing out of the EU without a deal. So now is the time to renew our efforts. This week, BiE steering committee members, **Roger Boaden** and **Christopher Chantrey**, are giving evidence to a **House of Lords Select Committee** on healthcare and Brexit. In the next few weeks, we are planning a renewed **grassroots e-lobbying campaign of MEPs** and to organise meetings with key officials in EU27 countries.

If you would like to volunteer, please write to:

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