

Regulatory Alignment following Brexit

19 June 2024

Following Brexit, the United Kingdom is no longer obligated to adhere to European Union laws and regulations.

Here's an overview of the key areas where the UK has diverged from EU rules:

1. Trade and Customs Regulations:

- The UK has left the EU Customs Union and Single Market, [REDACTED]. This includes new customs procedures and controls on goods moving between the UK and the EU.

2. Freedom of Movement:

- The UK no longer participates in the EU's freedom of movement for people. It has introduced a new immigration system that [REDACTED]. Before Brexit the UK participated fully in the EU's policy on the freedom of movement.

3. Common Agricultural Policy (CAP):

- The UK is no longer bound by the EU's Common Agricultural Policy, [REDACTED].

4. Common Fisheries Policy (CFP):

- The UK has exited the Common Fisheries Policy, gaining [REDACTED].

5. Financial Services Regulations:

- The UK is no longer required to follow EU financial regulations. While some alignment may exist for market access, the [REDACTED].

6. Environmental Regulations:

- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], although it has pledged to maintain high environmental standards.

7. Competition Law:

- The UK is no longer under the jurisdiction of the EU's competition laws and [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

8. Consumer Protection:

- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] However, many existing protections remain in place.

9. Data Protection:

- The UK is no longer under the EU's GDPR but has incorporated it into UK law as the UK GDPR. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

10. Employment Law:

- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], though significant changes have not yet been implemented.

11. Judicial Cooperation:

- The UK has left EU mechanisms for judicial cooperation, such as the European Arrest Warrant. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

12. Health and Safety Regulations:

- [REDACTED],
although many existing standards remain aligned with those of the EU.

13. Intellectual Property Law:

- The UK no longer participates in the EU's unified patent system and [REDACTED]

14. Transport Regulations:

- [REDACTED], including aviation and rail, no longer following EU regulations.

15. State Aid Rules:

- [REDACTED], allowing it more flexibility in providing government support to businesses.

16. Public Procurement:

- [REDACTED], no longer needing to follow EU directives on procurement.

Despite these changes, the UK continues to maintain a level of regulatory alignment with the EU in many areas to facilitate trade and cooperation. Additionally, the Northern Ireland Protocol requires Northern Ireland to follow certain EU regulations to prevent a hard border with the Republic of Ireland.