The Civil Society Brexit Project: Information

GUIDE TO OUR RIGHTS AFTER BREXIT

About the Civil Society Brexit Project
The Civil Society Brexit Project is funded by the Legal Education Foundation. We give information and advice to organisations about Brexit.

www.hrcscotland.org/brexit

Who is this Civil Society Brexit Project: Information for?
This guide is written for people with learning disabilities who live in Scotland.

The UK left the European Union on the 31st January 2020. This is known as Brexit.

During 2020, there will be discussions between the UK and the European Union about a possible new agreement.

It is important that any new agreement protects peoples’ human rights.
There are certain rights that come from EU laws. It is possible that after Brexit, the UK might lose some of these rights. For example:

**Rights in work**

Many of our worker rights came from the European Union. For example:

- Rights for people working part-time to be treated fairly
- Rights about how much time you can be made to work
- Rights to have paid holidays from work
- Rights to be kept safe at work
The new possible agreement between the UK and the European Union needs to protect peoples’ rights at work.

We do not want workers in the UK to have fewer rights after Brexit.

Rights about accessibility for disabled people

The European Union plans to make a new law on accessibility. This new law will be called the European Accessibility Act.
The new law will make sure that people with disabilities can access technology such as cash machines, ticket machines, TV programmes and online shopping websites.

Some people are worried that this new European law will not apply to the UK.

Many disabled people’s organisations are telling the UK Government that they want laws to be fairer to people with disabilities to make things more accessible.
Being able to get healthcare and support

Many people who are support workers come from other countries in the European Union. Many people working in hospitals also come from other European Union countries.

From 2021 people from countries in Europe who want to live and work in the UK will need to have found a well-paid job in the UK before coming.

Some people are worried that this will mean there will be less support and healthcare workers after Brexit.

Disabled people might lose out because there are fewer people to be health or support workers.
Human rights

The European Convention on Human Rights gives us our basic rights such as:

- The right to a fair hearing in court
- The right to marry who you choose
- The right not to be tortured

The European Convention on Human Rights is not part of the European Union. This means that it is not directly affected by Brexit.

But some people are worried that Brexit makes it easier for the UK to choose to come out of the European Convention on Human Rights.

The European Union want human rights to be part of any new possible agreement with the UK. The UK Government does not want this but they may change their mind.
Many disabled people’s organisations are telling the Government that they want more rights. They do not want fewer rights.

They are also telling them that they want the European Convention on Human Rights to be part of any possible agreement with the European Union.

Many people with a disability are worried that after Brexit they will not be able to use the Blue Badge Parking Scheme when they drive abroad. This would make it more difficult to live a normal and fulfilling life.

There is a European law that guarantees that when people with disabilities travel by air, they get help through airports and getting on and off planes. After Brexit there is no guarantee that these services would continue.
If the UK Government wants to stop following EU laws it will need to think about new laws that protect people’s rights. These laws must protect people with a learning disability at least as much as EU laws.