

French business warns Emmanuel Macron that no-deal Brexit is a 'major threat' to the country

- Normandy business leaders said they would need millions in no deal subsidies
- French President Emmanuel Macron is a major stumbling block to doing a deal
- Theresa May facing threats the DUP could collapse her government over Brexit

By [KATE FERGUSON, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT FOR MAILONLINE](#)

PUBLISHED: 10:22 GMT, 11 October 2018 | **UPDATED:** 15:24 GMT, 11 October 2018

-
-
-
-
-
-
-

[e-mail](#)

55 shares

758

[View comments](#)

French businesses have warned [Emmanuel Macron](#) that a no deal [Brexit](#) would harm the country amid reports the French President is holding up an agreement.

Leading figures in Normandy said that if the UK is allowed to crash out without a deal then it would pose a 'major threat' to the economy across the Channel.

It comes as [Theresa May](#) is facing a crunch point on Brexit today amid warnings her DUP allies could pull their support and topple her government over the negotiations.

Hervé Morin, the chairman of the regional council, and ten leading business figures penned the public letter.

They warned the French President not to become obsessed in trying to use a no deal Brexit to lure financial trade away from London, and be more concerned with the harm it could cause other areas of the economy.




• French businesses have warned Emmanuel Macron (pictured giving a speech in Armenia today) that a no deal Brexit would harm the country amid reports the French President is holding up an agreement

RELATED ARTICLES

- [Previous](#)

- [1](#)

- [Next](#)

-  [DUP calls for Theresa May to be SACKED over Brexit row](#)



[as...](#) [Tony Blair leads fresh Remainer assault urging MPs to block...](#)

SHARE THIS ARTICLE

Share

The letter, which has the backing of port and ferry operators, states: 'Financiers tend to see it as an opportunity for economic expansion, a view shared by much of Mr Macron's administration, while a range of other sectors, from wine exporters to ferry lines, see it as a danger.'

'France has started to dream,' the letter says. 'It is dreaming of Brexit as though it were an opportunity, notably for the financial sector in Paris.'

'But for the regions next to the channel, and notably here in Normandy, the diagnosis is very different.'

'A Brexit without an agreement ... represents for our economy, and especially for the economy of our ports, a major threat.'

Mr Morin warned that if Britain crashes out without a deal then France will need millions of euros poured into it to weather the economic shock.

Their intervention comes as the PM is under massive pressure as she scrambles to thrash out a package that can be accepted on both sides of the Channel.

Sir Amyas Morse discusses the possible impact of a no deal Brexit

Loaded 0%

Previous 0%

0:00

Previous

Play

Skip

Mute

Current Time0:00

/

Duration Time3:15

Fullscreen

Need Text



•
Theresa May (pictured today at the Southbank centre in London) is facing probably the biggest test of her premiership, with just six days to go until a crucial EU summit

But Mrs May's position is hanging by a thread after the DUP threatened to tear up the deal which sees its 10 MPs prop her up in power.

They are livid that a so-called 'backstop' proposal for the Irish border could see single market checks imposed between Northern Ireland and mainland Britain - something they say would split the UK.

Meanwhile, Brexiteers have accused the PM of being 'stitched up' by the EU as the plan would effectively keep the whole UK in the customs union until a future trade deal is agreed.

They demanded Mrs May tear up the backstop and seek a looser Canada-style free trade arrangement, encouraged by EU negotiator Michel Barnier again bluntly dismissing her Chequers blueprint.

The wave of outrage has left Mrs May facing probably the biggest test of her premiership, with just six days to go until a crucial EU summit.

Father, 31, reveals he faced a backlash working in France in the immediate aftermath of Brexit

- Nazir Wilks, 31, emigrated to France in 2012 to be with girlfriend Marie
- But now he claims he cannot find work due to Brexit and has had to return to UK
- Mr Wilks said he was turned away from a job 'because he was British'
- He is now 'couch surfing' in London with two-and-a-half-year-old son Quentin

By [JOSEPH CURTIS FOR MAILONLINE](#)

PUBLISHED: 14:58 GMT, 9 March 2017 | **UPDATED:** 16:49 GMT, 9 March 2017

-
-
-
-
-
-
-

[e-mail](#)

41 shares

118

[View comments](#)



•
Nazir Wilks, pictured with son Quentin, two-and-a-half, said he has had to return to the UK from France because he 'cannot find a job due to Brexit'

A father who emigrated to [France](#) after falling in love has blamed Brexit as the reason he was 'forced' to return to the UK to look for work.

Nazir Wilks, 31, had lived and worked in France since 2012, and claims a backlash against the [Brexit](#) vote saw French employers stop hiring Brits.

He grew up in Britain, but moved to Montpellier with girlfriend Marie in 2012 before she gave birth to son Quentin, now aged two-and-a-half.

The restaurant worker left his job to undertake a forklift truck driving course, but when he returned to his old boss looking for a job last July - weeks after the vote - he was turned away and told to go back home.

He claims his former employer told him that they would never hire British workers again because of Brexit.

Mr Wilks said he was forced to use his savings to pay for a flight home for him and his young son, and is now couch-surfing with friends and family in Woolwich, south east London, where he previously lived for 12 years.

He said: 'I moved to France with Marie in March 2012, because she wanted to be with her friends and family.

RELATED ARTICLES

- [Previous](#)

- [1](#)

- [Next](#)



No10 refuses FOUR TIMES to say Budget tax raid on the...



Will more immigrants be allowed to move to Scotland

after...

SHARE THIS ARTICLE

Share

'I'd always done seasonal work in restaurants, but took a year out to do a forklift truck driving course.

'But then all this talk about Brexit came along, and after the vote, everyone in France's view on British people completely changed.



•
Mr Wilks, 31, pictured with Quentin, said he was turned away from a job in a restaurant by a former employer because they 'would no longer hire British'

'No-one wants to hire British people now, and most of them think we've left the EU already.

'It's going to be really costly for them to hire British people, so I just couldn't get any work at all.

'Marie and I split up because of personal reasons and she can't look after Quentin, so I was on my own with him.

'The French government were helping me until December with 200 Euros a month child support, but then they cut me off completely and I've been forced to come home.'

The pair landed back in Britain on Christmas Eve, and have been homeless since, because the government will not give them any sort of benefits until they have been here for three months.

They have been staying with relatives, but have now run out of places to go - and are facing life on the streets if help does not come soon.



© Joe Newman SWNS.com

•



•
Mr Wilks emigrated in 2012 to be with girlfriend Marie, whom he has since split with. He and his son, left and right, are now 'couch surfing' in London

He added: 'Me and my son can't live like this for much longer.

'The council said I can't get a home until I get income support, but I need to pass a habitual residency test for that - which I can't do, because I've been out the country for three years.

'Last week, they told me that I've failed it again.

'This test is for people who have been away and they need to determine whether I'm going to stay, but I have nowhere else to go.

'I want to settle in Woolwich - my siblings and friends are here, it's where I went to school - but they won't help me.

'I can't believe it, and neither can anyone else.

'People can't keep letting us stay, and I was lucky last night that I bumped into someone I knew.

'But today, I've been ringing around and I don't know where I can stay.'



•
Mr Wilks, pictured with Quentin, said he could not claim benefits because he has only been here three months and 'faces life on the streets'

The council have allegedly told Nazir that they cannot help him because he has a child, and so can't stay in a homeless shelter.

He says Social Services told him that they cannot provide housing, and that they 'didn't understand that I have nowhere to go'.

Mr Wilks added: 'No one can deal with people with children.

'Social Services said they would take my son and I could find a separate solution but I want to look after my child, I just need somewhere for us to stay.

'I want us to get settled so I can get a job and work.

'I'm not angry, I'm just in total disbelief. I don't know what else to do.'

Greenwich Council have been contacted for a comment but declined to say anything.

Europe may still REJECT Britain's bid for a new Brexit extension - because it wouldn't 'solve the problem', French minister warns

- French European minister said even a six-month extension wouldn't help Britain
- Amelie de Montchalin said a delay 'without changing anything' was futile
- French foreign minister Jean-Yves Le Drian added that No Deal was most likely
- It comes as Remainers are seeking to block a No Deal Brexit on October 31

By [DAVID CHURCHILL BRUSSELS CORRESPONDENT FOR THE DAILY MAIL](#)

PUBLISHED: 02:08 GMT, 6 September 2019 | UPDATED: 07:38 GMT, 6 September 2019

-
-
-
-
-
-
-

[e-mail](#)

278shares

2.3k

[View comments](#)

[France](#) yesterday warned Remain-supporting British MPs trying to thwart a No Deal [Brexit](#) that it could block another extension request.

French European affairs minister Amelie de Montchalin said another delay would not solve the UK's Brexit 'problem'.

She even suggested that a six-month extension would not be long enough for Britain to sort out the mess.

Her colleague Jean-Yves Le Drian, the country's foreign minister, added that a No Deal Brexit on October 31 is the 'most likely scenario'.

It comes after pro-Remain MPs defeated the Government by approving a bill which would force Boris Johnson to ask for a Brexit extension at an EU summit on October 17 if a new deal cannot pass the Commons.



•
French European affairs minister Amelie de Montchalin (pictured) said another delay would not solve the UK's Brexit 'problem'.



•
Britain's Liberal Democrat leader Jo Swinson is among a raft of Remain MPs trying to force Boris Johnson to ask for an extension to the Brexit negotiation

However, any extension request would be subject to the remaining 27 EU member states unanimously agreeing to grant it.

Yesterday Ms de Montchalin said delaying the process again, 'without changing anything', would not solve Britain's Brexit 'problem'.

She said: 'It's not because a problem is complicated that by diluting it over time and delaying it for three months without changing anything, it will be resolved.

'When I hear the British saying 'give us three months more and we will solve the problem', we can see that another six months would not solve the problem, nor another three months.

RELATED ARTICLES

- [Previous](#)
- [1](#)
- [Next](#)

-



'You should be in Brussels negotiating, not in Leeds!'



Boris...

Labour's secret 'Stop Boris' deal with the Scots:...

SHARE THIS ARTICLE

Share

'They have to be able to tell us what they want. We know what they don't want but we are still struggling to understand what they do want.'

Yesterday senior Brussels Brexit negotiator Guy Verhofstadt hit out at Mr Johnson's description of the MPs' anti-No Deal legislation as the 'surrender bill'.

He said: 'Opposing a no deal is not 'surrender'. This is the language of Europe's dark past. It implies Britain's European allies and neighbours are enemies.'

'I refuse to believe the majority of British people think this is the case.'

It came as EU member state diplomats held talks in Brussels on preparations for No Deal yesterday, with the bloc having ramped up measures.

MPs vote Brexit delay bill through to the House of Lords

Loaded 0%

0:00

0:00

Previous

Play

Skip

Mute

Current Time0:00

/

Duration Time0:51

Fullscreen

Need Text



•
Remainers are seeking approval for a bill to force Boris Johnson (pictured in the Commons on Wednesday) to ask for a Brexit extension at an EU summit on October 17

The bloc's chief negotiator Michel Barnier has told member states that talks with Britain over the controversial Irish border backstop are stuck in 'paralysis'.

However, a Downing Street spokesman hit back, insisting talks between Mr Johnson's chief negotiator, David Frost, and Brussels on Wednesday were 'constructive'.

Mr Frost, who will visit again today, told Mr Barnier's team that the backstop must be abolished for there to be a deal with the EU.

It came as Ireland admitted that it will not carry out checks on the border with Northern Ireland in the event of a No Deal Brexit.

Theresa May warns her Cabinet that French President Emmanuel Macron thinks Brexit can be stopped

- PM is said to have warned ministers France could be a Brexit stumbling block
- France's Europe Minister warned that time is running out for a deal to be done
- Theresa May is said to be preparing new concessions on the Irish border
- She is in a race against time to get a Brexit deal done amid a backbench mutiny

By [KATE FERGUSON, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT FOR MAILONLINE](#)

PUBLISHED: 19:09 GMT, 4 October 2018 | **UPDATED:** 20:42 GMT, 4 October 2018

-
-
-
-
-
-
-

[e-mail](#)

42shares

712

[View comments](#)

[Theresa May](#) has warned her Cabinet ministers that [Emmanuel Macron](#) is a major stumbling block to a [Brexit](#) deal as he thinks it can be stopped.

The Prime Minister told her senior team that the French President thinks a second referendum could be held which stops the UK quitting Brussels.

Her warning, reported in The Times, will fuel concerns that [France](#) is the major stumbling block to getting a Brexit deal thrashed out in time.

France's Europe minister Nathalie Loiseau yesterday said the country would prefer Britain crash out of the bloc without a deal rather than accept a compromise which undermined the EU.

She said that 'no deal would be better than a bad deal', and warned that 'time is running out' for Mrs May to strike a deal with Brussels.



•
Theresa May has warned her Cabinet ministers that Emmanuel Macron (pictured in Paris today) is a major stumbling block to a Brexit deal as he thinks it can be reversed.

The Prime Minister is facing a race against time to get a deal thrashed out amid a Tory backbench mutiny and EU opposition to her Chequers Brexit plan.

She has to show that she has made substantial progress by the time a crunch EU summit is held in just a fortnight's time.

And there are signs today that she is preparing to make further concessions to Brussels in a bid to unblock the Brexit talks.

She is reportedly drawing up a new plan on the Irish border backstop to try to win EU leaders over.

RELATED ARTICLES

- [Previous](#)
- [1](#)
- [Next](#)

-



Jean-Claude Juncker condemns 'mindless populism



and...

of a...

Tusk boosts Brexiteer rebels by repeating his offer

SHARE THIS ARTICLE

Share

The proposals - thought to involve the UK matching customs union rules - are said to be a 'step in the right direction' by EU negotiators.

Mrs May appears set to promise Brexiteers the agreement would be replaced in time by a comprehensive trade deal but are needed to fulfil the 'backstop' until then.

The Prime Minister will have to convince her DUP allies it does not put a border down the Irish Sea and Brexiteers it will not be a permanent solution that stops Britain signing trade deals.

An EU source told Reuters it is 'a step in the right direction' and 'make finding a compromise possible'.

DUP Westminster leader Nigel Dodds warned last night his party would rather have a no deal Brexit than accept any version of what the EU is currently offering, the party's Westminster leader warned today.

Emmanuel Macron throws out Chequers deal at EU summit in Salzburg

Loaded 0%

Completed 0%

0:00

Previous

Play

Skip

Mute

Current Time0:00

/

Duration Time0:36

Fullscreen

Need Text



•
Concessions from Theresa May (pictured yesterday at Tory conference) on the Irish border make a Brexit deal 'possible', EU sources have revealed today



•
Nigel Dodds (pictured last night on Peston) said failure to strike an agreement would be better than adding a customs or regulatory border down the Irish Sea

The Prime Minister is starting a two week diplomatic offensive today ahead of a crucial EU summit on October 18 that is meant to secure a deal.

The Telegraph said today her concession is to keep Britain de facto in the customs union and allowing Northern Ireland to follow single market rules.

When a full trade deal is finalised the agreement would cease, according to the proposal, as it is only intended to meet the 'backstop' clause of the divorce deal.

Getting the plans through will be politically difficult as Mr Dodds said failure to strike an agreement would be better than adding a customs or regulatory border down the Irish Sea.

But Mr Dodds told ITV's Robert Peston the idea would not work - despite rumours Britain is prepared to make concessions to get closer to the EU position.

He said: 'No deal is better than a bad deal. A catastrophic deal for us would be a border down the Irish Sea, which over a period of time could lead to a continuing divergence between Northern Ireland and the rest of the United Kingdom.'

'That's catastrophic in economic terms for our economy, never mind the constitutional and political implications of all of that.'

Brexiteer Steve Baker told MailOnline: 'Any "backstop" which threatened the future of either the Union or our independent trade and regulatory policy would be unacceptable.'

'We can give guarantees to the people of Northern Ireland unilaterally without committing to damaging treaty law.'

French mother killed herself over worries about Brexit after living in the UK with her British husband for 50 years

- France Davies, of Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, also upset about death of pet
- She walked out of her home on March 18 this year and was not seen again
- Her body was found in the flooded field in early hours of March 20 this year

By [LARA KEAY](#) and [HARRY HOWARD FOR MAILONLINE](#)

PUBLISHED: 08:30 GMT, 8 September 2019 | **UPDATED:** 08:50 GMT, 8 September 2019

-
-
-
-
-
-
-

[e-mail](#)

80shares

33

[View comments](#)



France Davies, 76, drowned herself in a flooded field over worries about Brexit and how it would affect her planned move to France, an inquest heard

A coroner has blamed Brexit for someone's death for the first time after an elderly French woman living in the UK killed herself.

France Marie-Louise Davies, 76, had lived in Britain for more than 50 years.

She and her British husband Peter, 74, were planning to move to France but Mrs Davies had 'worries and anxiety' about the UK leaving the EU.

She walked out of her home in Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire on March 18 this year and was never seen again.

Her body was found in a flooded field two days later - nine days before the original Brexit date of March 29, an inquest at Gloucestershire Coroner's Court heard.

Mr Davies told the hearing: 'Six months ago, my EU partner of over 48 years died in tragic circumstances.

'She had lived here peacefully, respectfully and legally for over 50 years. Today the coroner recorded that it was suicide, citing among other reasons her worries about Brexit.'

Senior Gloucestershire coroner Katie Skerrett read out a statement Mr Davies made at a previous hearing, which said he was 'distraught and overwhelmed' at the death of his wife.

The couple have a son named Benoit and Mrs Davies had been 'expressing anxiety over current events', the hearing was told.

Mrs Davies, who had a history of depression, had been previously treated for pneumonia and her mobility was in decline, the inquest heard.



•
Mrs Davies, of, Tewkesbury (pictured), Gloucestershire, was also upset about the death of a much loved family pet

The court was told she had been to the vets the day she vanished but was brought home in a 'distressed state' after the family pet died.

The coroner said: 'She was also grieving over the death of a family pet.

'She had recently suffered from pneumonia and her mobility had been declining.'

'The day before she died she was still very worried about Brexit and in the evening she went out and tragically did not return,' the coroner added.

'Her husband raised the alarm and the police and the Severn Area Rescue Association conducted a search for her.

RELATED ARTICLES

- [Previous](#)

- [1](#)

- [Next](#)



- [Boris Johnson opens up 14 point poll lead over Labour as](#)



[he...](#) [Boris Johnson 'will "sabotage" a Brexit delay and force a...](#)

SHARE THIS ARTICLE

Share

'Her body was found in a flooded field off Gander Lane in the early hours of March 20th.

'This lady had a history of depression and low mood and she was anxious about Brexit and had recently lost a beloved family pet.'

A post-mortem examination revealed she died from the effects of drowning.

The coroner returned a verdict of suicide.

She told of how Mr Davies's online statement announcing his wife's death was met with an outpouring of grief, with people branding it 'absolutely appalling and 'utterly tragic.

For confidential support call the Samaritans on 116123 or visit a local Samaritans branch, see www.samaritans.org for details.



•
She walked out of her home on March 19 this year and was not seen alive again, the inquest at Gloucestershire Coroners court (pictured) heard. Ms Davies's body was found in a flooded field in the early hours of March 20th
