

EUROPE

Weekend Talks Between EU and U.K. to Continue Monday, Says EU

Latest Brexit negotiations produce no breakthrough, say diplomats



EU Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier arrives at EU headquarters in Brussels on Friday for a meeting with EU ambassadors.

PHOTO: KENZO TRIBOUILLARD/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

By Laurence Norman

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BRUSSELS—Intensive negotiations between the European Union and the U.K. will continue on Monday, with diplomats warning that a weekend of talks had produced no breakthrough.

“A lot of work remains to be done,” the EU’s chief negotiator Michel Barnier team said Sunday evening.

The statement came after Mr. Barnier briefed officials from the EU’s 27 member states negotiating with Britain.

Several diplomats said there had been no breakthrough on the key issue of how to avoid a physical border in Ireland, including how to avoid the need for customs checks there after Britain leaves the EU.

That leaves little time to clinch a Brexit deal ahead of a summit of EU leaders on Thursday and Friday in Brussels.

Earlier Sunday, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson updated his cabinet on the talks, reiterating that a pathway to a deal could be seen but that “there is still a significant amount of work to get there,” according to a government spokesman.

“We must remain prepared to leave on October 31,” he added.

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