

12 October 2017

### **Brexit negotiations: No progress - millions risk being thrown under the Brexit bus**

British in Europe, the coalition of UK citizens' groups, says Britons across the EU fear that the Prime Minister's promise to secure citizens' rights is nowhere near being fulfilled.

British in Europe chair, Berlin based lawyer, Jane Golding said: "Following the results of the round today, we are increasingly worried that those negotiating about our rights are simply unable to deliver what Mrs May promised in her Lancaster House speech and Mr. Barnier promised us in May.

"We feel let down. In the UK party politics seem to be taking priority over people, with renewed talk of no deal."

After the fifth round the Brexit negotiations, there has been no progress on the fundamentals: free movement for UK citizens in the EU and no move away from the current proposal on settled status for EU citizens in the UK or on the scope of economic rights and professional qualifications. And yet, just twenty days ago in her much-vaunted Florence Speech, Theresa May said: "It has been, and remains, one of my first goals in this negotiation to ensure that you can carry on living your lives as before. I am clear that the guarantee I am giving on your rights is real."

"In fact, we are no further forward than we were after the referendum last year so how can we believe that?", Jane Golding added. "There is now a very real fear that the UK may crash out with no deal, and that we will be thrown under the Brexit bus. On top of that, Theresa May admitted herself two days ago on LBC that she had no idea what would happen to us in this case - despite repeatedly claiming that it was her priority to protect our rights. And it is deeply disappointing to hear Michel Barnier talk about free movement for UK citizens in the EU as part of the future relationship when our livelihoods and families depend on these rights now."

[ends]

**[www.britishineurope.org](http://www.britishineurope.org)**