

TAKING UP A PROACTIVE DIPLOMATIC ROLE

- Implement the **vision statement of the Government of Flanders for the Brexit negotiations**, which advocates for a trade-friendly Brexit with far-reaching cooperation in non-economic areas.
- Extend the employment of the temporary Brexit experts within the Department of Foreign Affairs and the General Representation of the Government of Flanders to the UK and Ireland, and continuation of the government wide Brexit Taskforce.
- Taking up an active role within relevant Belgian decision making fora to ensure Flemish interests are reflected within the formal Belgian position.
- Taking up direct contacts with the EU-institutions via the General Representation of the Government of Flanders to the EU to ensure coordination with EU decision makers.
- Ensure close cooperation between Belgian regional and federal levels.
- Inform and involve relevant stakeholders.

A BREXIT COMPENSATION MECHANISM WITHIN THE MFF POST-2020

- Advocate for Brexit compensation mechanisms for severely affected countries/regions within the future Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027.
- Oppose the decrease of the collection fees of customs, currently fixed at 20%.

ATTRACT INVESTMENTS

- Develop a proactive investment strategy towards foreign investors.
- **Position Flanders as a hub of Anglo-European trade.**
- Continue the enforcement of the FIT-office in London.
- Promote relevant Flemish support mechanisms.

PROVIDE TAILOR-MADE ASSISTANCE TO COMPANIES

Raising Awareness

- Encourage relevant civil society partners to promote Brexit preparedness within companies
- Develop a Brexit communication campaign

Providing information

- Continue to update and promote the extended Brexit webpage and Brexit brochure of Flanders Investment & Trade
- Launch of a '**Brexit roadshow**' in all Flemish provinces in close cooperation with Voka and Unizo
- Promotion of partner-initiatives

Strategical/financial support

- **Brexit Helpdesk:** centralized assistance for Flemish exporters, in particular SMEs. The helpdesk gives companies tailor-made advice and leads them to relevant financial support instruments and relevant Flemish/federal government agencies.
- **Enforcement of existing financial instruments** to boost the internationalization of Flemish entrepreneurship (top-up of EUR two million).



Flanders
State of
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Brexit Action plan of the Government of Flanders

Whatever the eventual outcome of Brexit will be, it is clear that the withdrawal of the UK from the EU will have negative consequences for Flanders, in particular the export-driven Flemish economy. In order to increase the resilience of the Flemish economy to the consequences, the Government of Flanders launches a "Brexit Action Plan". For the implementation of this plan, the government provides an amount of two million euros.