

ANALYSING THE IMPACTS OF BREXIT SARAH OVERTON AND JOËL RELAND

TO MAKE THE MOST OUT OF THIS SCRIPT, YOU COULD:

- Stick it in your book as a record of watching Sarah and Joël's animation
- Pause the animation and make notes as you go
- Add your own illustrations to the sheet
- Create your own animation to accompany it
- Add notes from classroom discussions
- Make notes of areas you will investigate further
- Make notes of key words and definitions
- Add questions you would like answered – you can message Sarah and Joël through the comments box at the bottom of their article:

www.futurumcareers.com/analysing-the-impacts-of-brexit

SCRIPT:

On the 23rd of June 2016, the people of the UK voted in the Brexit referendum to decide whether the UK should leave the European Union, also known as the EU, or remain a member.

Before people went to the polling booths, there were hard-fought campaigns on both sides, as voters were persuaded of the merits of 'Leave' and 'Remain'.

In the end, the UK voted to leave the EU by 52% to 48%. After several years of negotiations, the UK formally left the EU on 31st January 2020.

Sarah Overton and Joël Reland are members of UK in a Changing Europe, a research organisation which provides impartial research and analysis about Brexit and its effects on the UK and EU. Along with the rest of the team, they are working to understand more about the consequences of Brexit.

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Researchers study official statistics about the labour market to assess the effects of Brexit on the economy, they analyse polling data to understand how the public views the impacts of Brexit, and they read policy documents to identify policy changes and developments.

So, what have the impacts of Brexit been?

The UK has regained a degree of sovereignty from the EU, so now has more freedom to make its own decisions.

However, the ending of free movement between the UK and EU has created challenges for the many EU citizens who live, work and study in the UK, and the many UK citizens who live, work and study in the EU.

The number of EU students enrolling at UK universities has halved and fewer EU citizens now come to work on British farms during the harvest season, meaning there are not enough workers to harvest crops. Some British farmers have lost significant proportions of their income as they can no longer receive financial support from the EU. However, these EU subsidies favoured large landowners and had negative impacts on smaller farms, and so Brexit has provided opportunities for farming reform in the UK.

Brexit is also having consequences on the union of the UK. Calls for Scottish independence are growing and new checks on goods moving between Northern Ireland and Great Britain have seen some disruption to trade.

There is still much we do not yet know about how Brexit will affect the lives and livelihoods of those living in the UK and EU. Political researchers like Sarah and Joël are essential for ensuring thorough and impartial analysis is conducted into political topics.

What could you achieve as a political scientist?