



College of Europe
Collège d'Europe



European Political and Governance Studies
Academic Year: 2021-2022
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'UNDERSTANDING BREXIT: CAUSES, CONSEQUENCES AND CHALLENGES'

Hussein Kassim

This workshop will enable students to develop a detailed understanding of Brexit. It discusses the considerations that led David Cameron to promise the British people an 'in'/'out' referendum on EU membership, situates the vote in the context of the UK's troubled relationship with the EU, and examines the domestic aftermath. It looks at how the EU and the UK approached the negotiations, considers the terms of the two agreements, and sets the resulting UK-EU relations in comparative perspective. It considers the impact of Brexit on the UK as a Union of nations, the possibility of a united Ireland, and executive-legislature relations, as well as the effects on party politics, the economy, policy and regulation, and ambitions of a 'Global Britain'. It examines how Brexit has affected the EU, including policy and policy making, and the EU's management of relations with its 'noisy neighbour'. It also considers the effects of Brexit on the domestic politics of EU member states, including on Eurosceptic parties and opinion.

The workshop critically assesses the main theoretical and conceptual approaches applied to key aspects and elements of Brexit, makes use of the most important empirical studies, and introduces students to authoritative sources of analysis. It is a multimedia workshop, using a range of materials, including social media, and podcasts.

Indicative timetable:

Monday 18 October

1. Introducing Brexit: debates and perspectives
2. The UK and the EU: a troubled history?
3. The UK referendum
4. Negotiating the UK's withdrawal from the EU and the future relationship
5. EU-UK relations

Tuesday 19 October

6. UK politics and polity after Brexit
7. UK policy after Brexit
8. The EU after Brexit
9. The EU member states after Brexit

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