

GERMAN INDUSTRY UK

THE VOICE OF GERMAN INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED KINGDOM



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PRESS RELEASE

German companies meet Minister to discuss opportunities and challenges of Brexit

Heads of German companies in the UK are looking forward to discussing their Brexit Statement with the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State in the Department for Exiting the EU, Mr Robin Walker MP, on Thursday 21 September in London.

The UK is the third most important market for German business worldwide after the US and France and one of its most important locations. Some 2,500 companies operate in the UK today, employing 500,000 people in energy, financial services, life sciences, manufacturing, retail, transport and others.

In order to build a successful future for the UK as a country where German companies want to invest further:

We would like continued free access without tariff and non-tariff barriers to the UK market for our exports to the UK.

We hope for continued free access without tariff and non-tariff barriers to the European Single Market for our exports onwards from the UK.

We would also like the UK Government to clarify the rights of German and other EU citizens living and working in the UK for us.

Minister at the Department for Exiting the EU, Robin Walker, said:

“We want the UK to remain one of the best places in the world to do business. That’s why we are committed to working hand in hand with industry to ensure we draw on companies’ expertise, and represent their interests, in the Brexit negotiations.

The UK and Germany are two of Europe's biggest economies with strong trade links in both directions and we enormously value German investment in the UK. So it is no surprise that the Government and GERMAN INDUSTRY UK’s positions on many of these key issues are almost as one - we both want to see that trading partnership thrive.

We want a new deep and special economic partnership with the EU, that includes a bold and comprehensive free trade agreement that is of great scope and ambition.

We also want to provide as much certainty as possible to the three million EU citizens in the UK and around one million UK nationals in the EU, and have set out a fair and serious offer on citizens’ rights. I look forward to discussing these important issues with German industry.”

End

Note to Editors:

GERMAN INDUSTRY UK, the voice of German industry in this country, founded in 1975, is a private organisation of some 100 members of the board of industrial companies (manufacturing, trading, servicing) in the UK with a German majority shareholding who represent 250 companies of which 150 are selling and 100 are manufacturing in the UK, employing 250,000 people.

GIUK published the Brexit Statement of German industry on 30 January 2017 - ‘Key German Business Priorities for the Forthcoming UK-EU Negotiations for Brexit’ in cooperation with Airbus, Bayer, Boehringer Ingelheim, BOC, BSH Home Appliances, DB Schenker, DHL, E.ON, Mercedes-Benz, Miele, Siemens, ThyssenKrupp, Volkswagen and Helaba.

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