
Brexit: EP Steering Group insists on need for Ireland/Northern Ireland backstop

Statement of the EP Brexit Steering Group

European Parliament [Brexit Steering Group](#) chaired by [Guy Verhofstadt](#) issued the following statement this Monday 15 October:

“We have followed very closely the developments of the last 24 hours.

It is our very strong view that the Withdrawal Agreement must include a workable, legally operational and all-weather backstop for the Ireland/Northern Ireland border fully in line with the Joint Report of last December and the Prime Minister May’s letter to President Tusk of 19 March 2018.

Without such a backstop, the European Parliament would not be in a position to give its consent to the Withdrawal Agreement.

We reiterate our full support for the Chief Negotiator and his negotiating strategy.”

Composition of the Brexit Steering Group:

- Guy Verhofstadt, Brexit coordinator and Chair
- Elmar Brok
- Roberto Gualtieri
- Philippe Lamberts
- Gabriele Zimmer
- Danuta Hübner

Further information

[More information on the Brexit Steering Group](#)
[EP News page on Brexit](#)

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