

## **UK EXIT FROM EU AND STATUS OF ARCHITECTS**

Issues relating to the status of architects in relation to the UK Exit from the European Union - principally Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications and Citizens Rights - are Reserved to UK Government. Scottish Government officials liaise with UK Government counterparts to present Scottish interests.

### **Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications**

Detail on the system for recognising EU qualifications in the UK in the event of No Deal have been set out by UK Government and are available [here](#).

In summary, this guidance sets out:

#### **Existing Position**

The Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications (MRPQ) Directive enables European Economic Area (EEA) and Swiss nationals a system of reciprocal recognition for professional qualifications to be recognised in an EEA State other than the one in which the qualification was obtained.

#### **Position for existing EEA National architects in the event of a No Deal Exit**

- The MRPQ Directive will no longer apply to the UK and there will be no system of reciprocal recognition of professional qualifications for architects and other professions covered by the Directive.
- EEA national architects that have already registered with the Architects Registration Board (ARB) will continue to be recognised.
- Architects who have submitted applications to the ARB to have their professional qualification recognised before exit day but have not yet received a decision will have their application considered and concluded under the Directive procedure as far as possible

#### **EEA national Architects submitting applications after exit**

- The UK will retain a system of recognition for EEA and Swiss qualifications at exit day that is similar to the current system. UK regulators will continue to recognise EEA and Swiss qualifications that are currently automatically recognised and referred to Directive 2005/36/EC as it has effect on the day the UK exits the EU, provided the applicant has access to the profession in their home state. EEA or Swiss citizenship will not be a requirement for this system of recognition.

#### **Citizens' Rights**

The following lines have been provided by UK Government Department for Exiting the European Union in relation to citizens' rights for EU nationals already in the UK:

*The Prime Minister has been clear that we are committed to protecting the rights of citizens whatever the outcome of negotiations and that this issue will never be used as a bargaining chip.*

*There are over 3 million EU citizens living and working in the UK and over 1 million UK nationals in the EU. In any scenario, we want them to have absolute certainty on their right to live and remain in the UK or EU.*

*The Prime Minister has given an unequivocal guarantee to the 3.2 million EU nationals now living and working here: that they can have absolute certainty of the right to live and remain in the UK. We thank them for their contribution to our society and for their patience.*

Further information

More detailed information on issues concerning architects in relation to the UK's exit from the EU can be found on the ARB website [here](#).