

PRESS RELEASE

London, UK

Friday, August 30th 2019

The Federation of International Employers ([FedEE](#)) writes at 13:00 am BST

Embargo until 17:00 noon BST on August 30th, 2019

Deal or no deal, the EU is in control of Brexit

What the central political players in the UK Brexit debate have failed to realise is that the UK's departure from EU Membership on October 31st, with or without a deal, is no longer in their hands. The invoking of Article 50, several rounds of failed negotiations over a deal and subsequent political fragmentation have ensured that.

It is the European Union - principally the European Commission and Council of Ministers - who have the **absolute power** to allow the UK to remain in the EU, or leave it and to dictate the day it happens. The current UK debate about leaving with a deal or no deal is entirely sterile and it is irrelevant what any UK court decides - especially as there is no written UK Constitution.

According to [Robin Chater](#), Secretary-General of the Federation of International Employers ([FedEE](#)), (who was also an Adviser to the European Commission for ten years) "*Voting not to leave the EU without a deal will not affect on the UK's continued EU membership unless the EU itself gives the UK more time - and there is no indication that this will be given whilst the UK has its current Prime Minister. There is only one slight chance of securing a delay and that is if there was a "no confidence" UK parliamentary vote and consequent general election. The EU would not wish to finally activate Article 50 if a UK general election was in progress.*"

For further information please contact Eustace Fernsby at the FedEE Press Office on press@fedee.com and 0044 203 608 4412.

What is FedEE?

The Federation of International Employers ([FedEE](#)) is a leading corporate membership organisation for multinational companies. It was founded in 1998, with financial assistance from the European Commission. Today it is an independent body with corporate members all around the globe.