

U.K. R.I.P.: Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland to be Shut Out of Post-Brexit Trade Negotiations

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The UK Government has reneged on assurances that the devolved nations would have a say in post-Brexit trade negotiations by stating the devolved government's views would only be taken into account "when we (UK Government) can".

As recently as January 2020, <u>Michael Gove MP said</u> the devolved nations would "absolutely" have a say in shaping the UK's negotiations. Instead, the UK has published a stance which implicitly suggests they'll walk away from negotiations unilaterally and will "go it alone".

In a <u>strongly-worded statement</u>, Counsel General & Brexit Minister, Jeremy Miles (Lab, Neath) said:

"The Welsh Government does not endorse the positions set out in the UK mandate. In taking their approach, the UK Government has missed the opportunity to build a strong united position across all governments of the UK. With a UK Government choosing not to listen to our legitimate concerns, they enter the negotiations next week alone."

<u>ITV Wales' Adrian Masters</u> said a statement from the First Minister, in which he expressed "great regret" at the UK Government's decision, was a sign of "a serious breakdown in relations" between the UK and Welsh governments.

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