

ENFORCEMENT OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS OF UNITED KINGDOM NATIONALS UNDER PART TWO OF THE WITHDRAWAL AGREEMENT

If you believe that the national authorities of an EU country have not respected the rights you enjoy as a United Kingdom national under the Withdrawal Agreement, you can take several steps to remedy it.

Solutions in the EU country where the problem occurred

The most effective approach is to seek redress at national level, given that public authorities and national courts have the main responsibility for the correct application of the Withdrawal Agreement and they can directly intervene in your case and resolve it.

Contacting national authorities

You should start by explaining your complaint to the national authority that you believe made a mistake and asking it to remedy the problem.

Seeking judicial redress

If this does not help or if you think it is futile, you can make an appeal and ask the relevant domestic court to examine your case. The court will examine the legality of the contested national decision (or that no decision was at all made) and whether the decision was correct and proportionate, by looking into the facts and circumstances on which the decision is based. If the court finds a problem with national law, it can, in many circumstances, apply the provisions of the Withdrawal Agreement directly.

If solving your problem requires the annulment of a national decision, be aware that only national courts can annul it. If you are seeking compensation for damage, only national courts have the power, where appropriate, to order national authorities to compensate you for losses you have suffered due to a breach of the Withdrawal Agreement. You can find out more about going to court [here](#).

Using other means of redress

You may also submit your file to the [national ombudsmen](#) or [regional ombudsmen](#) but this depends on the system in each EU country.

If you feel that you need help as a victim of discrimination, you can contact the [national equality organisation](#) in the EU country where you live and check whether they can help you.

Solutions at EU level

Getting more information

If you are not an expert in the Withdrawal Agreement, you may find it difficult to find out exactly which provision of the Withdrawal Agreement you think has been breached and what exactly you can do about it. You can address queries to the [Your Europe Advice](#) service, in your own language.

Submitting your problem to SOLVIT

SOLVIT is a network of national administrations that work together to resolve problems related to the incorrect application of Union law in a cross-border context via co-operation.

The United Kingdom is no longer part of the SOLVIT network and therefore SOLVIT cannot offer its assistance in matters that require co-operation or intervention of some parts of the United Kingdom administration.

However, SOLVIT can offer some assistance to United Kingdom nationals that benefit from rights under the Withdrawal Agreement (residence, recognition of professional qualifications and social security coordination) as long as their problems have a cross-border dimension and can be potentially solved by the administration of an EU country without any involvement of or contact with the United Kingdom administration. For example, SOLVIT could help United Kingdom nationals residing in an EU country and experiencing problems in a cross-border context with their residence rights or social security rights.

You can submit your problem [here](#). Please note that United Kingdom nationals should select the nationality of their EU country of residence or EU country where they are encountering the problem.

Contacting EU institutions

Please note that contacting the European Commission or submitting a petition to the European Parliament can be done in addition to any action you may be pursuing at national level.

Complaining to the European Commission

You can write to the European Commission to complain about any measure (law, regulation or administrative action), absence of measure or practice by an EU country that you think is against the Withdrawal Agreement. The European Commission will treat your complaint as any other complaint related to Union law. You can find out more on how the European Commission treats complaints [here](#).

The European Commission can only take up your complaint if it is about a breach of the Withdrawal Agreement by authorities in an EU country. It cannot follow up matters that only involve private individuals or bodies, and that do not involve public authorities.

You must submit your complaint via the standard [online complaint form](#) or download it from [the European Commission's website](#), fill it in and submit by e-mail or by post.

Please be aware that the European Commission action in response to your complaint is unlikely to directly resolve your personal situation. The European Commission will seek to ensure that the laws of the EU country in question are brought fully into line with the Withdrawal Agreement and correctly applied and this may take a long time.

Petitioning the European Parliament

You can also submit a petition about the application of the Withdrawal Agreement to the European Parliament. You may submit your petition by post or online via [the European Parliament's website](#).