

## ● UNCERTAIN FUTURE

# EU leaders warn widening of Brexit talks may be in doubt

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**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**  
Goteborg (Sweden), November 17

**EUROPEAN UNION LEADERS** warned Britain on Friday that it must do much more to convince them that Brexit talks should be broadened to cover future relations and trade from December.

At an EU summit in Sweden, Prime Minister Theresa May's government was urged to clarify how much Britain will pay in settlement of its financial accounts with the bloc and to ensure that there is no hard border created between Ireland and Northern Ireland.

Britain is due to leave the EU on March 29, 2019, but it must complete the complex and unprecedented departure process by next October so that parliament can ratify any agreement.

May desperately wants to discuss future relations and trade, and EU leaders have suggested they could be ready to expand the talks next month if "sufficient progress" is made on the divorce bill, the status of Irish borders and the rights of



Brexit negotiations are bogged down over preliminary issues

citizens hit by Brexit.

"Great Britain need to clarify what they mean with the financial responsibility," the summit host, Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Lofven, told reporters in the city of Goteborg.

"We all hope that we can decide on the next phase but we still have some way to go," he said.

Britain has suggested that it might be willing to pay 20 billion euros (\$23 billion) to fulfil its financial commitments, while EU officials have said the figure would more likely be between 60 and 100 billion euros (\$71-118 billion).

Irish Prime Minister Leo Varadkar said there is no chance of progress unless he gets clear guarantees that Brexit will not result in any new barriers be-

tween his country and Northern Ireland, which is part of the UK.

"We've been given assurances that there will be no hard border in Ireland, that there won't be any physical infrastructure, that we won't go back to the borders of the past," Varadkar said. "We want that written down in practical terms in the conclusions of phase one."

"It's 18 months since the (Brexit) referendum. It's 10 years since people who wanted a referendum started agitating for one. Sometimes it doesn't seem like they've thought all this through," he said, of May's government.

The British government insists that the preliminary issues and future relations are inextricably linked and should be dis-

cussed together, and May remained hopeful that she will get the green light from EU leaders at their next summit in Brussels on December 14-15.

"Of course we're going to move forward together, talking about the trade issues and trade partnership for the future," she said.

"I look forward to the European Union responding positively to that so we can move forward together and ensure that we can get the best possible arrangements for the future."

This EU summit in Sweden is ostensibly about employment and social welfare, but May has been using her visit to hold bilateral talks on Brexit with several leaders, including Lofven, Varadkar and EU Council President Donald Tusk.

**Bankers shifting from London after Brexit may face lower pay**

**REUTERS**  
London, November 17

**BANKERS RELOCATING FROM** London to other European financial hubs following Britain's exit from the European Union could face lower pay packages, according to an industry survey published on Friday by compensation consultant Emolument.

The average managing director, one of the more senior ranks in investment banking, earns 478,000 pounds (\$632,633.00) a year in London compared with 312,000 pounds in Paris, 298,000 pounds in Frankfurt and 333,000 pounds in Milan, the survey said. Those figures comprise the annual salary and bonus combined of 4,475 front-office bankers' packages analysed for the study, Emolument said.

Around 10,000 finance jobs will be shifted out of Britain or created overseas in the next few years if the UK is denied access to Europe's single market, according to a Reuters survey in September.

London leads the paymarket across all ranks of investment banking from the most junior associates up to managing directors, the Emolument study showed. Frankfurt comes second for more junior staff while Paris is second to London in terms of pay for senior executives.

Pay is not the only consideration for bankers looking at which of the European financial centres offers the most attractive overall lifestyle. In Frankfurt, 70% of bankers interviewed had a good work-life balance, Emolument said, as against 61% for London and 59% for Paris.

# Mafia boss Riina 'the Beast' dies of natural causes

**BLOOMBERG**  
Bonn, November 17

**DONALD TRUMP'S "AMERICA first" foreign policy is starting to undercut progress at the annual talks on fighting global warming.**

The US president's vow to withdraw from the landmark Paris Agreement on climate change and spur fossil fuels has encouraged countries from India to China to wonder why they should make sacrifices at two weeks of discussions held by the United Nations, which finish on Friday in Bonn.

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the Americans to start behaving like a five-year-old all of a sudden," Christian Eder, a German member of the European Parliament who speaks on EU and US relations at the climate change talks, said in an interview. "The leader of the western world is stepping out of the multilateral framework used to tackle the most dramatic problem the world might be facing in the next 100 years."

Old divisions emerged between richer and poorer nations. India, whose pollution levels are rising faster than any other industrial nation and the long-promised \$100 billion a year in climate finance for the developing world,

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