



BREXIT: UK IMMIGRATION IMPLICATIONS FOR EU CITIZENS IN THE UK

Charles Avens

e: c.avens@druces.com - DDI: [+44 \(0\)20 7216 5568](tel:+442072165568)

Senior Associate – Employment & Immigration

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Right to apply for EEA permanent residence card

EU Citizens

- An EU citizen is entitled to apply for an EEA Permanent Residence Card if they have lived in the UK for five years or more exercising Treaty rights (employed, self-employed, self-sufficient, in education).
- The EU citizen should apply for an EEA Permanent Residence Card ASAP – proving if possible residence for at least five years – six years if you wish to apply for UK citizenship.
- Possible right to apply for British citizenship 12 months after permanent residence has been achieved.
- If the EU citizen has not lived in the UK for the required 5 years they can apply for a registration certificate as an EEA/ Swiss national who is in the UK as a qualified person, as long as they are exercising EU Treaty Rights.
- Family members can apply with the EU citizen on same the form.
- Paper or on-line applications.
- Need for substantial documentation to support application
- Exercise of EEA Treaty rights
- Residence in UK



EU Settlement Scheme

- The UK government has proposed that any EU citizens residing in the UK before 31 December 2020 can apply (by 30 June 2021) for the right to remain in the UK indefinitely under a new EU settlement scheme.
- EU 27 nationals wishing to move to the UK can do so on the basis of free movement law until 31 December 2020.
- EU 27 nationals and their family members who have resided in the UK for a continuous period of at least five years would be eligible for indefinite leave to remain in the UK (ILR) under the Immigration Rules (also known as "settled status").
- EU 27 nationals and their family members who have resided in the UK for a period of less than five years but would otherwise be eligible for ILR under the scheme can apply for leave to remain in the UK (also known as "pre-settled status") allowing them to complete the five-year continuous residence period and become eligible for ILR.

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