

# What's next for Brexit

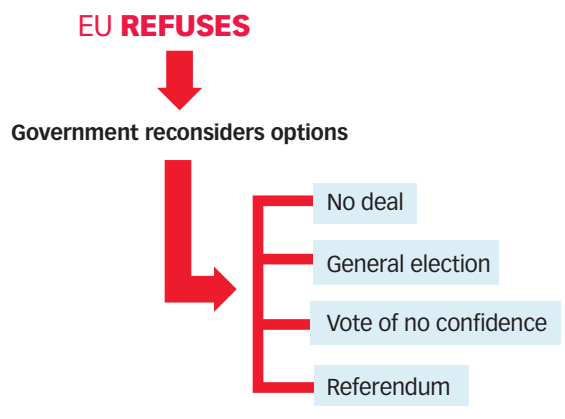
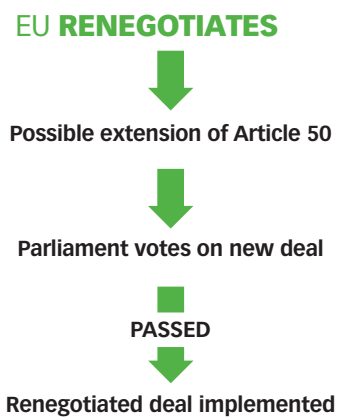
After two long years of negotiations, British Prime Minister Theresa May suffered a thumping defeat in Parliament as her Brexit divorce deal was shot down by MPs. This was the heaviest parliamentary defeat by a sitting UK government. The UK is in crisis with just ten weeks to go before the March 29 deadline to exit the European Union. So where does the UK go now? Here are five plausible options:

## 1 NO DEAL BREXIT

- Crashing out of the European Union (EU) on March 29 without a deal has been billed as the doomsday scenario that could trigger a recession in Britain and slow Europe's growth.

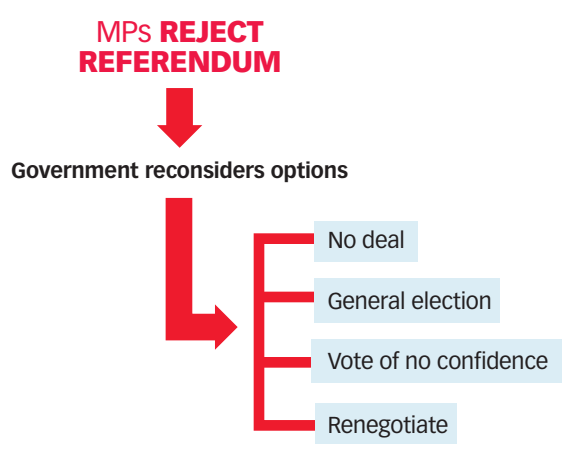
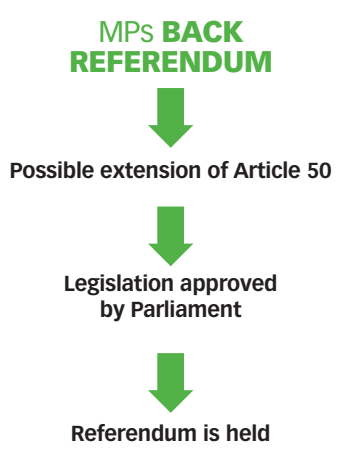
Possible disruptions within Britain include severe delays at the country's ports, higher tariffs on goods and a shortage of medicine.

## 2 RENEGOTIATE BREXIT DEAL



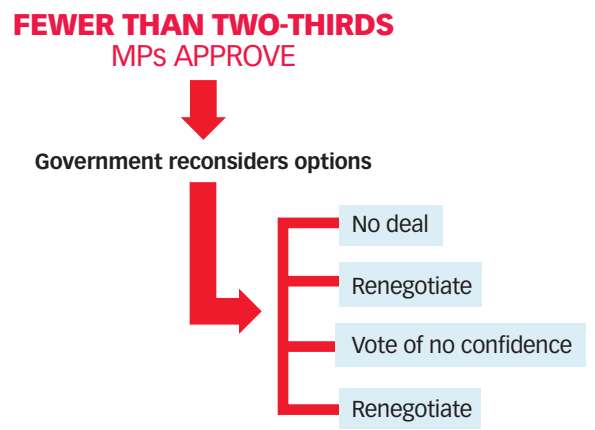
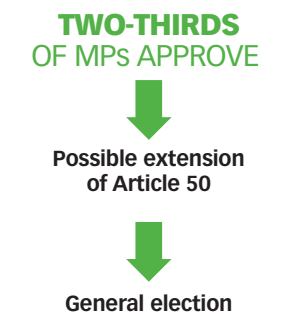
The government would have to seek major changes to the deal if it wants the terms approved by MPs. This will require time, and a possible extension to the March 29 Brexit date. The EU had indicated it will not re-enter negotiations; if it stands firm, the government will have to pursue other options.

## 3 ANOTHER REFERENDUM



The government could go back to the people and hold another referendum on whether Britain should exit the EU. This could prove as divisive as the first referendum in 2016, when 52 per cent voted Leave. It will require an extension of Article 50, which has set the March 29 deadline, and MPs' approval.

## 4 A GENERAL ELECTION



PM Theresa May could decide an early election may secure her the simple majority of 320 MPs needed to push the Brexit deal through Parliament. A two-thirds majority, however, is needed to support the early election.

## 5 OTHER POSSIBILITIES

- Britain can unilaterally revoke Article 50 and cancel Brexit

- Mrs May resigns. This could mean a new PM or even a change of government