

## THERESA MAY'S DEFEAT IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

- Two times "Brexit" had to be postponed.
- Proponents of a different "Brexit" course within the governing Conservative Party caused a historic defeat of a prime minister in parliament.
- With an overwhelming majority the House of Commons rejected May's deal with the EU three times in a row.
- Most MPs feared an endless bond to the EU without any seat in the European Parliament or other international committees.
- May resigned as Prime Minister in June 2019, giving way to the "Brexit" hardliner Boris Johnson.



## "BREXIT" ON 31 JANUARY 2020

Johnson rigidly pursued his aim of leaving the EU

- by dissolving parliament in order to suppress debates and decisions on Brexit;
- by calling for a snap election in November 2019 which finally granted him a clear majority in the House of Commons.

## FUTURE SCENARIOS

- There is a transition period until the end of 2020 in which all European laws are applied in Britain. Though experts warn about the complexity of the issue, all legal problems are planned to be solved within 2020. If in the end there is no detailed agreement between Britain and the EU, a hard "No-Deal Brexit" is still possible.
- The Scots voted for staying in the EU. They prepare a second referendum about Scotland's membership in the United Kingdom. "Brexit" might turn out to be a starting point of a further political dissolution of the British isles.





## BRITAIN AND THE EU

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1. When did Britain join the European Community? 

- A 1958
- B 1968
- C 1973

2. What was Britain's predominant interest in joining the EC? 

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3. Name three problems in the process of achieving "Brexit". 

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4. Which European treaty was not ratified by Britain? 

- A the Treaty of Rome
- B the Schengen Agreement
- C the Treaty of Maastricht

## SOLUTIONS

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1. C • 2. To open up new markets • 3. British cherry-picking; Backstop; no support within the governing Conservative Party • 4. A