
CITIZENS'
ASSEMBLY
ON BREXIT

**MIGRATION
BETWEEN THE UK
AND THE EU**

OPTIONS

OPTION A

Maintain free movement of labour as now

OPTION B

Maintain free movement of labour, but use controls

OPTION C

End free movement, but still favour EU citizens

OPTION D

Same rules for EU and non-EU citizens; total immig. as now

OPTION E

Same rules for EU and non-EU citizens; total immig. lower

OPTION A: FREE MOVEMENT AS NOW

WHAT IT MEANS

Closest to what we have today – high migration of EU citizens to the UK and UK citizens to the EU will probably continue

EU citizens can come to the UK for a job, to study, or if they have 'independent means'; UK citizens can go to the EU on the same basis

The UK doesn't do much to chase 'over-stayers'

Some limits on benefits for EU citizens

OPTION A: FREE MOVEMENT AS NOW

IMPLICATIONS

- **Current relatively high immigration:**
 - most economists think this helps the economy
 - doesn't create unemployment, but might slightly reduce some people's wages
 - has mixed effects on public services
 - causes population growth, which can create pressure on housing, etc.
 - changes the culture of the country we live in
- **Many UK citizens make use of free movement**
- **Part of the Single Market; our place in Europe**

OPTION B: FREE MOVEMENT WITH CONTROLS – WHAT IT MEANS

Close to what we have today, but with more effort to prevent people from ‘abusing’ the right to free movement

EU citizens can come to the UK for a job, to study, or if they have ‘independent means’;
UK citizens can go to the EU on the same basis

More action against ‘over-stayers’?
Registration of EU migrants?
More benefits controls?

OPTION B: FREE MOVEMENT WITH CONTROLS – IMPLICATIONS

- **Immigration still pretty high...**
- **...but a bit lower than now, particularly among those who contribute less to the economy**
- **UK citizens can still make use of free movement**
- **Part of the Single Market; our place in Europe**

OPTION C: FAVOUR EU CITIZENS

WHAT IT MEANS

A negotiated deal with the EU or a decision by the UK on its own

EU citizens might need a visa

Extra points for EU migrants, or schemes for EU migrants in particular sectors

Impact on UK citizens would depend on what (if anything) is negotiated

But probably lose right to free movement

OPTION C: FAVOUR EU CITIZENS IMPLICATIONS

- **Immigration more controlled than now**
- **Immigration lower than now**
 - **most economists think this would harm the economy**
 - **little or no impact on jobs or wages**
 - **mixed effects on public services**
 - **slower population growth and cultural change**
- **UK citizens' free movement limited (how far?)**
- **Single Market; our place in Europe; less disruption**

OPTION D: EQUAL HIGH MIGRATION

WHAT IT MEANS

UK decides its immigration rules for EU and non-EU citizens

Applies same points-based system for all

Points system is arranged to keep high levels of immigration

Might add new categories of labour in short supply

UK citizens would lose free movement rights

Would need a visa to move to EU countries

OPTION D: EQUAL HIGH MIGRATION IMPLICATIONS

- Immigration level controlled by the UK
- Immigration still as high as now
- UK able to 'fish in the global pool of talent'
- Potential disruption to current immigration patterns
- Different kinds of cultural change due to likely increase in non-EU migrants
- End to free movement for UK citizens

OPTION E: EQUAL LOW MIGRATION

WHAT IT MEANS

UK decides its immigration rules for EU and non-EU citizens

Applies same points-based system for all

Points system is arranged to reduce levels of immigration

Might try particularly to limit 'unskilled immigration'

UK citizens would lose free movement rights

Would need a visa to move to EU countries

OPTION E: EQUAL LOW MIGRATION IMPLICATIONS

- **Immigration level controlled by the UK**
- **Immigration level lowest of all the options**
 - **most economists think this would harm the economy**
 - **little or no impact on jobs or wages**
 - **mixed effects on public services**
 - **slower population growth and cultural change**
- **End to free movement for UK citizens**