

## [Article – Brexit: protecting the rights of millions of EU citizens living in the UK](#)

Although few of them were allowed to vote during the referendum, the millions of EU citizens living in the UK will be among those affected the most by Brexit. The EU wants to reach a deal to protect their rights as soon as possible during the upcoming negotiations with the UK. This week Parliament is holding a hearing on the situation and rights of EU citizens in the UK. Watch the meeting live online and check out our infographic for the facts.

The hearing on 11 May is organised by the civil liberties, employment and petition committees. Members will discuss with experts the issues facing EU citizens in the EU and the best ways to protect their rights.

Safeguarding people's rights in the wake of Brexit is a priority for the Parliament, including those of Brits living in other EU countries. In the Parliament position adopted on 6 April, MEPs stressed the importance of securing equal and fair treatment for EU citizens living in the UK and British citizens living in the EU. Parliament President Antonio Tajani also brought up the issue with UK Prime Minister Theresa May during a visit to London on 20 April: "The students, workers and families are valuable members of society and deserve some certainty regarding their future."

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## [Now Greens surrender to SNP right across the country](#)

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9 May 2017



The Greens are to field less than 10 candidates across Scotland in the upcoming General Election, it has been reported.

The move came after the SNP urged the party to stand aside in various seats in order to create a "Yes alliance".

Now the Greens have bowed to that pressure, meaning they won't feature on the

ballot paper in seats like Moray and Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross.

Two years ago, the Greens fielded 32 candidates for the General Election.

But after pressure from colleagues in the SNP, party bosses have opted hardly to feature at all this time around.

**Scottish Conservative MSP Murdo Fraser said:**

“This is the Green party reaffirming themselves as a pointless presence in Scottish politics.

“The propping up of the SNP is embarrassing and a complete disservice to their voters.

“Quite simply, they might as well not exist.

“If they are so determined to become the SNP, they should disband and merge with the nationalists.

“It’s utterly regrettable that a party previously committed to issues like the environment have become nothing but a support mechanism for the SNP.”

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Earlier, it was confirmed the Greens wouldn’t stand in Angus Robertson’s Moray seat:

<http://www.scottishconservatives.com/2017/05/evidence-of-desperate-yes-alliance-in-moray-after-pointless-greens-sit-out-election/>

Now it’s been reported the party will field less than 10 candidates at the General Election in Scotland:

<https://stv.tv/news/politics/1388040-scottish-greens-to-field-fewer-than-ten-candidates/>

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## [Lucas: Labour and Lib Dems have 'betrayed the people they represent'](#)



9 May 2017

\* Lucas exposes the extent of other parties failure to back electoral alliances

\* Green leader says her party will shift focus from alliances to ‘winning

**votes up and down the country'**

**\* Lucas slams Labour's 'shameful' treatment of members wanted to form an alliance against Jeremy Hunt**

Caroline Lucas, the co-leader of the Green Party, has slammed both Labour and the Lib Dem's leadership for failing to fully engage with the idea of electoral alliances despite the strong wishes of their members and the wider public.

Yesterday the Labour Party suspended Steve Williams, a member in Surrey who had advocated for an alliance around a pro-NHS candidate to beat Jeremy Hunt. [1]

Lucas has been at the forefront of efforts to push both Labour and Lib Dems to work together to improve the chances of beating the Tories at the next election and secure a fair voting system for future elections. However, the grassroots campaign have been frustrated by both parties. Labour refused to even meet with the Greens and the Lib Dems engaged but only at an arms length.

The Green Party has stood aside in a number of strategically important seats – thus boosting the chances of candidates such as Lib Dem Sarah Olney in Richmond and Labour's Rupa Huq in Ealing.

With Labour and the Lib Dems failing to engage with electoral alliances, and nominations for candidates closing this week, the Green Party co-leader says her party will now 'move on from alliances' and redouble efforts to win votes across the country.

Lucas said:

"Both Labour and the Lib Dems have betrayed the people they represent by not fully engaging with the idea of electoral alliances. Though the Lib Dems were happy to have informal discussion, they never delivered on ruled any meaningful alliances. Labour were even more intransigent – with no hint from their leadership that they were interested in talking about how we best beat this rotten Tory Government.

"Labour's treatment of Steve Williams in Surrey is both shameful and shortsighted. There was a real chance to unite around a pro-NHS candidate to beat Jeremy Hunt, but Labour might well have now blown it."

"Labour and the Lib Dems defied their own members on the ground – and the time has now come for the Greens to focus entirely on winning votes up and down the country.

"Electoral alliances matter because we have a broken political system. We have a Government hellbent on some of the most extreme policies in a generation: a crumbling NHS, a jilted generation of young people being let down and the pursuit of a hardline extreme Brexit. Our hugely undemocratic electoral system is so stacked in the establishment's favour that the Tories can win a [majority on just 24%](#) of the eligible vote. It's abundantly clear

that to crack open our politics we must hack the system and create a more plural politics.

“Having done what we can, our focus is now entirely on winning votes up and down the country – and sending more MPs to Parliament on June 8th. The other parties have proved in recent weeks that they aren’t fit for the modern political age – and in this election we’re offering voters a chance to back a politics which puts people first to deliver a confident and caring country.

[1] <https://twitter.com/SteveWil/status/861655164549312512>

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## [Theresa May has once again failed to rule out more National Insurance Contribution – John McDonnell](#)

**John**

**McDonnell, Labour’s Shadow Chancellor**, commenting on Theresa May’s refusal to rule out a rise in National Insurance Contributions, said:

“Theresa

May has once again failed to rule out more National Insurance Contribution increases. There is already a £2 billion black hole in the Budget from when the

Tories tried to sneak through a hike in NICs only a month ago, and it is becoming clear they are looking to try to go ahead with this tax hike if they’re re-elected next month.

“The

Tories still won’t rule out further tax rises on those with low and middle incomes and are a threat to working people.

“Labour’s

personal tax guarantee rules out rises in National Insurance Contributions, VAT

and income taxes for the 95 per cent. Labour is now the party of low taxes for

the many and not the few.”

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## [Ancient tomb discovered in southwest China](#)



The working staff carry out excavations at the tomb recently discovered in southwest China's Chongqing Municipality. [Photo/Chinanews.com]

A tomb dating back around 1,800 years has been discovered in southwest China's Chongqing Municipality, authorities said Tuesday.

The tomb, believed to have been built during the Eastern Han Dynasty (25-220AD), contains various burial artifacts such as pottery, statues and broken coins, according to Fuling District Museum.

It was found earlier this month during the construction of a kindergarten.

Initial investigation shows that the tomb was built for a wealthy person, but archaeologists have not confirmed the owners identity.