

Theresa May must stand up for our country's values when she meets Donald Trump – Jeremy Corbyn

Jeremy

Corbyn MP, Leader of the Labour Party,

commenting on the Prime Minister's meeting with President Trump, said:

"Theresa

May must stand up for our country's values when she meets Donald Trump and oppose his support for torture, which is inhumane, illegal and delivers false intelligence. There can be no indulgence of the US President's renewed threat to ban Muslims or build a wall on the Mexico border.

"The

Prime Minister must assure the British people that any trade deal with the United States won't open up the National Health Service to privatisation and control by US companies. We won't let Theresa May turn Britain into a bargain basement tax haven off the coast of Europe to be ripped off by the world's biggest corporations.

"And

for the future of the planet, Theresa May needs to remind President Trump that climate change is real and not a hoax invented by the Chinese."

News story: Article 50 Bill process begins

From:

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The European Union (Notification of Withdrawal) Bill has been introduced to the House of Commons today, by Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union David Davis.

The straightforward Bill, which gives the Prime Minister the power to

formally trigger Article 50, is expected to move through both the House of Commons and House of Lords before gaining Royal Assent prior to the March 31st deadline.

The Bill comes ahead of the introduction of the Great Repeal Bill, that will transpose EU law into UK law to ensure the maximum stability on exit, with changes to the law requiring the full consent of Parliament.

Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union David Davis said:

The British people have made the decision to leave the EU and this government is determined to get on with the job of delivering it.

So today we have introduced a Bill in Parliament which will allow us to formally trigger Article 50 by the end of March.

I trust that Parliament, which backed the referendum by six to one, will respect the decision taken by the British people and pass the legislation quickly.

The Bill is being introduced following the judgment handed down by the Supreme Court earlier this week. It can be found [here](#).

The latest crime statistics show the true scale of the challenge our officers now face – Diane Abbott

Diane Abbott MP, Labour's Shadow Home Secretary,
speaking after the release of police workforce statistics, said:

"With over 20,000 officers lost since 2010, the Tories are risking public safety with these extreme cuts.

"They slashed police budgets in the last Parliament and are reducing funding even further now.

"The latest crime statistics show the true scale of the challenge our officers now face. This is the worst time to cut the police."

It is clear that the Tories' rigged economy simply isn't delivering for the majority of people in Britain – Rebecca Long-Bailey

Rebecca Long-Bailey MP, Labour's Shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury, responding to GDP figures published today, said:

"While we welcome today's Q4 GDP figures, growth for 2016 as a whole is lower than 2015, and lower than forecast by the OBR just two months ago in the Autumn Statement. It is clear that the Tories' rigged economy simply isn't delivering for the majority of people in Britain. Prices are rising but earnings are still below where they were before the financial crash. As a result, we have extremely high levels of household debt as people struggle to make ends meet on incomes alone.

"Manufacturing is bumping along without proper support from government to power it through Brexit, even the Bank of England acknowledged recently that our economy was being driven by consumer spending rather than trade and export.

This is clearly not a Government serious about making sure that we support British industry and claim a prestigious place at the world's table as we leave the European Union.

"Labour will fix our rigged economy with a real living wage, expected to be £10 an hour by 2020, and the long-term, patient investment we need to make sure that businesses thrive and that nobody and no community is left behind."

News story: Government commits to ensuring new and expectant mothers have sufficient protections from

redundancy

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Today the government is committing to making sure new and expectant mothers have sufficient protections from redundancy in the workplace.

In a [response](#) to a report by the Women and Equalities Select Committee on pregnancy and maternity discrimination, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy said it will consult in due course on options to ensure new and expectant mothers in work have sufficient protections from redundancy.

Business Minister Margot James said:

We are determined to tackle pregnancy and maternity discrimination and a key part of that is making sure new and expectant mothers are supported and treated fairly by their employers.

While most businesses abide by the law, some do not. There should be zero tolerance of discrimination against pregnant women, or women who have just given birth, that's why today we are committing to making sure new and expectant mothers have sufficient protections from redundancy.

I'd like to thank the Women and Equalities Select Committee for shining a light on this issue which is a key priority of mine.

The government has also committed to considering what further guidance can be provided to both courts and claimants about existing flexibilities in the employment tribunal system to extend the time limit for bringing a case.

The 3-month time limit for bringing a case can be extended when the independent employment tribunal decides it is "just and equitable" to do so.