

Position Paper

Name of Country: Republic of India

Name of Committee: Global Economic Forum

Name of School: Bali Island School

Topic: The socioeconomic impacts of Brexit

First Paragraph – Opening Statement (2-3 sentences)

1. Why is this topic important for the committee to address?

As Brexit negotiations are having severe implications for countries across Europe, and around the world, we must discuss how countries address the impacts that Brexit comes with. And with the UK being a G7 nation, and having strong relations with many other powerful nations, we must create resolutions to counter the Brexit economic decline that may spread to other, less powerful nations with good ties to the UK. Finally, this topic is important because it is the first time a European state has left the Union since its formation in 1957, so we do not know the cost of Britain leaving the EU, so we must come up with solutions not only for the UK, but also for the nations with trade agreements, and those who depend on the UK for business such as India.

2. Why does your country care about this topic in general?

For a country like India, with a large Indian immigrant population in Britain, and with many businesses having hubs in both India and England, Brexit will create many problems for India.

3. What is your country's policy on this topic?

India has not published a policy, nor developed any technical legal responses to, Brexit. And many businesses haven't thought about the impact of Brexit on their existing import, export, and foreign direct investment patterns.

Second Paragraph – National Actions (4-6 sentences)

1. Is the topic an issue in your country?

Many of these businesses are based in the UK to also have access to the European market, but with Brexit, these businesses will need to relocate, which will have massive implications for the UK economy, and for those employed by these companies. The UK is also the third largest source of foreign direct investment in India and India's largest G20 investor.

2. What actions has your country done to address the issue on a national level?

India has slowly begun to urge companies to shift to other European cities, if these companies are willing to trade and sell to the European market. But there has been no widespread addressing of this issue, as Brexit does not really affect the everyday lives of Indians, and the government are more eager to solve problems such as cleaning up the Ganges River, curbing their exploding population rate, and trying to bring up half their population out of poverty. Brexit is a very minor issue in terms of the everyday Indian, but is a relatively large problem for the government of India.

Third Paragraph – International Actions (4-6 sentences)

1. How has your country addressed the issue on an international level?

India is seeing an opportunity in finalising a trade deal with the European Union. India-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA) talks were suspended in 2013 after the two sides failed to reach a deal even after six years of talks. Since then the two sides have had summit-level discussions but no real progress has been made. Brexit will give the EU an incentive to reopen the FTA talks.

2. What actions has your country taken on the issues on an international level?

Trade between the EU and India has been growing steadily and has doubled in the past decade. The EU is India's largest trading partner at 85 billion euros or Rs 8,500 crore in 2017. However, from the EU's perspective, India is only the ninth biggest trading partner, much behind China. So India has a lot of potential to fill this gap after Brexit.

3. What conventions, treaties and/or resolutions has your country supported on this Issue?

The European Union (EU) may be looking at reworking the proposed free trade pact with India —called the Broad Based Bilateral Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) - in a post-Brexit scenario, negotiations for which have dragged on for 11 years with little progress.

4. What organizations that address this issue is your country a member?

No organizations, as Brexit is fairly new, and isn't a problem that affects India a lot.

5. Do you have quotes from government officials on this issue?

"I don't think India is in a rush. I think India would like certainly, and I'm sure the U.K. would too, to get the best deal possible" - Indian High Commission in London, Yashvardhan Sinha

Fourth Paragraph – Recommendation for Action (3-4 sentences)

1. What recommendation would your country like to see the international community take to address the problem?

India is urging the EU and the UK to quickly finish the negotiations, or hold another referendum about the UK's future in the EU, as India sees Brexit as inconvenient for many countries around the world, and could potentially ruin one of India's largest trading partner, and gateway to Europe. If the UK does not act soon enough, India will be forced to stop relying on the UK for Europe, and think about the future of relations with other EU member states. India does not want to lose such a partner, to an unpopular referendum.

2. What role would your country like to see the international community take to address the problem?

India urges the EU and the UK to come up with a solution to Brexit and fast, as India does not their economy to decline due to European politics, and the lack of efficiency in the UK parliament, as Theresa May continues to fail at negotiating Brexit.

<https://www.bloombergquint.com/opinion/what-should-brexit-mean-for-india#gs.08xz3t>

<https://www.clearias.com/brexit-how-does-it-affect-india-and-the-world/>

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/should-india-be-worried-about-brexit/articleshow/67815236.cms>

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