



Comments from the Prime Minister on the departure of Great Britain from the EU

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In spite of the sense of disappointment which many of us feel over the result of the British referendum, we need to see that this is not the end of the world, and certainly not the end of the European Union. Britain has simply set off on another path than that of European integration. This is a serious and irreversible decision. The British will have less influence on what happens in Europe and their country overall will be weaker and less important. During the next few years they will have to fight once more to retain Scotland. The British should come to an agreement on their departure quickly and rationally. There is a need to minimise any negative consequences for EU and Czech Republic citizens. The European Union must change quickly. Not because Britain has left, but because the European project needs much stronger support from its citizens. Europe must be more action-oriented, more flexible, less bureaucratic and much more receptive to the diversity which 27 member states represent. For us, the Czech Republic, the EU represents the best possible guarantee of stability, peace and prosperity, but it needs to go through changes will secure its further viability and the trust of its citizens.

Bohuslav Sobotka, Prime Minister of the Czech Republic

Statement from the minister Zaorálek on the departure of Great Britain from the EU

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We respect the outcome of the referendum of 23 June 2016, in which the citizens of Great Britain decided to withdraw from the European Union. The European Union, however, even after this decision of British citizens continues. Czech Republic has an interest in its good functioning. Therefore, I wish we were able to learn from the results of British referendum. The result is an example of what happens when the public is not sufficiently explained the actions of European policy.

The European Union must do much more to respond to the everyday needs of citizens. Further integration of the European Union must take place only in those areas where we can defend it by our citizens and show concrete results.

Today in Luxembourg I will meet all my European counterparts and we'll talk about consequences and other necessary steps in connection with the results of the referendum in the UK.