

After three rounds of negotiations real progress should have been made – Keir Starmer

Keir Starmer MP, Labour's Shadow

Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, commenting on David Davis and

Michel Barnier's joint press conference, said:

"After three rounds of negotiations, real progress should have been made and in principle agreements reached on all phase one issues. Instead, the two sides appear to be getting further apart.

"The risk of not reaching the October deadline to move on to the main negotiations is now very real; which increases the risk of Britain leaving with "no deal" in March 2019.

"No deal would be the worst possible outcome for the British people.

"Both sides need to redouble efforts and work together to reach a strong Article 50 deal and a close future partnership. If more negotiating sessions need to be added between now and the October deadline, they should be. Substantive progress and clear outcomes are urgently needed."