

# Hong Kong: Declaration by the High Representative on behalf of the EU on the mass arrest of people involved in the July 2020 pro-democracy primary elections



The authorities in Hong Kong arrested over 50 people on 6 January 2021 on charges pursuant to the National Security Law (NSL). The charges in question relate to the holding in July 2020 of pro-democracy primary elections aimed at identifying candidates for the next Legislative Council elections. Those arrested include former opposition lawmakers and civil society activists.

These arrests penalise political activity that should be entirely legitimate in any political system that respects basic democratic principles. They are the latest indication that the National Security Law is being used by the Hong Kong and mainland authorities to stifle political pluralism in Hong Kong, and the exercise of human rights and political freedoms that are protected under Hong Kong law and international law.

The EU calls for the immediate release of those arrested. The EU urges the authorities to respect Hong Kong's rule of law, human rights, democratic principles and high degree of autonomy under the 'One Country, Two Systems' principle, as enshrined in the Hong Kong Basic Law and in line with domestic and international obligations.

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## EUIPO's Academy Tuesday webinars: January 2021

January 07, 2021 [Learning](#)

EUIPO's Academy Tuesday webinars: January 2021

The Academy is pleased to announce the Tuesday Webinar, dedicated to IP, live broadcasts scheduled for January 2021:

| DATE       | TITLE  | LEVEL        | TIME          |
|------------|--|--------------|---------------|
| 12/01/2021 | Digital Single Act: new rules of the game                                | Intermediate | 10:00 – 11:00 |
| 19/01/2021 | Ideas Powered for Business Support Services for SMEs: What's new in 2021 | Basic        | 10:00 – 11:00 |

|            |                                |       |                  |
|------------|--------------------------------|-------|------------------|
| 26/01/2021 | Fax Phased out (eComm Roadmap) | Basic | 10:00 –<br>10:30 |
|------------|--------------------------------|-------|------------------|

During the Learning week of the EPO, the Academy will also organize a soft skills webinar on “Online moderation”:

| DATE       | TITLE  | LEVEL | TIME             |
|------------|--|-------|------------------|
| 20/01/2021 | How to be a dynamic and engaging webinar moderator | Basic | 10:00 –<br>11:00 |

You can consult the [Learning Portal Calendar](#) for additional and updated information. Please note that one day after the broadcast, the recorded webinars will be available at the same link.

Do you have any comments on the Tuesday Webinar programme? Please share them with us [Academy@euipo.europa.eu](mailto:Academy@euipo.europa.eu).

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## [CFTC and ESMA Sign Enhanced MOU Related to Certain Recognized Central Counterparties](#)

Through the MOU, ESMA and the CFTC express their desire for enhanced cooperation as to the larger U.S. CCPs operating in the European Union with provisions that expand upon the collaboration set out in the [2016 CFTC-ESMA MOU](#) related to recognized CCPs. The MOU reflects ESMA’s and the CFTC’s commitment to strengthening their mutual cooperative relationship, which has continued to flourish under the leadership of Chair Steven Maijoor and Chairman Heath P. Tarbert.

“We look forward to building upon our strong relationship with ESMA and embarking upon a cooperative relationship with ESMA’s new CCP Supervisory Committee,” said Suyash Paliwal, Director of the CFTC’s Office of International Affairs. “The deferential approach embodied in this MOU is a major milestone in the years-long engagement between the CFTC and its EU counterparts on the implementation of EMIR as amended.”

“I am pleased to see ESMA entering a phase of closer cooperation with the CFTC,” said Chair of ESMA’s CCP Supervisory Committee Klaus Löber. “This MOU sets out the basis for the enhanced collaboration between our institutions and is an important step towards building the risk-based and outcome-focused supervision of CCPs in accordance with the amended European Market Infrastructure Regulation.”

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# Meeting report – Expert meeting on drug-related infectious diseases (DRID) 2020

*EMCDDA, Lisbon, December 2020*

## **Summary**

This meeting report provides an overview of the content of the **DRID meeting** that took place online on 22-23 October 2020, focusing on:

- the direct and indirect impact of COVID-19 on drug users and harm reduction services involved in HIV, hepatitis and STI prevention, care and treatment;
- an assessment of the progress made towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and corresponding targets for HIV and viral hepatitis among people who inject drugs (PWID), with a focus on HBV vaccination and HCV continuum of care;
- a review of recent HIV and HCV outbreaks linked to injecting drug use with a focus on detection, risk factors and control measures;
- a methodological review of two monitoring tools: city-level respondent-driven sampling studies and continuous monitoring systems in drug services.

## **Main subject:**

[drug-related infectious diseases](#)

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# Article – Brexit deal: how new EU-UK relations will affect you



The UK left the EU on 31 January 2020. There was a transition period during which the UK remained part of the Single market and Customs Union to allow for negotiations on the future relations. Following intense negotiations, an agreement on future EU-UK relations was concluded end of December 2020. Although it will be provisionally applied, [it will still need to be approved by the Parliament](#) before it can formally enter into force. MEPs are currently scrutinising the text in the specialised parliamentary committees before voting on it during a plenary session.

A number of issues were already covered by the [withdrawal agreement](#), which the EU and the UK agreed at the end of 2019. This agreement on the separation issues deals with the protection of the rights of EU citizens in the UK and UK citizens living in other parts of the EU, the UK's financial commitments undertaken as a member state, as well as border issues, especially on the Isle of Ireland.

## **Living and working in the UK or the EU**

EU citizens in the UK or UK citizens in an EU member state who were already living there before January 2021 are allowed to continue living and working where they are now provided they registered and were granted settlement permits by the national authorities of the member states or the UK.

For those UK citizens not already living in the EU, their right to live and work in any EU country apart from the Republic of Ireland (as the UK has a separate agreement with them) is not automatically granted and can be subject

to restrictions. Also, they no longer have their qualifications automatically recognised in EU countries, which was previously the case.

For UK citizens wanting to visit or stay in the EU for more than 90 days for any reason need to meet the requirements for entry and stay for people from outside the EU. This also applies to UK citizens with a second home in the EU.

People from the EU wanting to move to the UK for a long-term stay or work – meaning more than six months – will need to meet the migration conditions set out by the UK government, including [applying for a visa](#).

## **Travelling**

UK citizens can visit the EU for up to 90 days within any 180-day period without needing a visa.

However, UK citizens can no longer make use of the EU's fast track passport controls and customs lanes. They also need to have a return ticket and be able to prove they have enough funds for their stay. They also need to have at least six months left on their passport.

EU citizens can visit the UK for up to six months without needing a visa. EU citizens will need to present a valid passport to visit the UK.

## **Healthcare**

EU citizens temporarily staying in the UK still benefit from emergency healthcare based on the [European Health Insurance Card](#). For stays longer than six months, they need to pay a healthcare surcharge.

Pensioners continue to benefit from healthcare where they live. The country paying for their pension will reimburse the country of residence.

## **Erasmus**

The UK has decided to stop participating in the popular Erasmus+ exchange programme and to create its own exchange programme. Therefore EU students will not be able to participate in exchange programme in the UK anymore. However, people from Northern Ireland can continue to take part.

## **Trade in goods and services**

With the agreement, goods exchanged between the UK and EU countries are not subject to tariffs or quotas. However, there are new procedures for moving goods to and from the UK as border controls on the respect of the internal market rules (sanitary, security, social, environmental standard for example) or applicable UK regulation are in place. This means more red tape and

additional costs. For example, all imports into the EU are subject to customs formalities while they must also meet all EU standards so they are subject to regulatory checks and controls. This does not apply to goods being moved between Northern Ireland and the EU.

Regarding services, UK companies no longer have the automatic right to offer services across the EU. If they want to continue operating in the EU, they will need to establish themselves here.