<u>Get Ready For Brexit campaign launches</u> <u>in Italy</u>

The UK Government has launched a major information campaign urging UK nationals living in Italy to get ready for Brexit on 31 October. It is part of a wider communications campaign effort across Europe.

UK nationals in Italy will receive information about specific actions they need to take to keep their rights and access to services in Italy including around residency, healthcare, driving licences and passports.

The campaign will use multiple channels – from Facebook posts to billboard posters in towns and cities across Italy – urging people to take action ahead of 31 October.

The British Embassy in Italy has already been doing a lot over the past months to inform UK nationals, including town hall information meetings including question and answer sessions with the Ambassador and Consular experts.

There are more than one million UK nationals living in the EU, with more than 60% living in just four countries — Spain, France, Germany and the Netherlands.

The UK Government recently announced up to £3 million in grant funding for charities and other voluntary organisations who can inform UK nationals about the need to register or apply for residency and to support them as they complete their applications.

The Government also allocated an extra £300,000 to British Embassies and Consulates across the EU to engage with 'hard to reach' UK nationals such as disabled people, those living in remote areas or people who might need extra help to complete any paperwork in preparation for Brexit. [] This extra assistance will build on the support that British Embassies are already providing with more than 541 outreach events with UK nationals since November 2017.

The new information campaign asks UK nationals to take action to prepare for Brexit by checking the <u>Living in Italy guide</u> and:

- apply for residency
- register for healthcare
- exchange their UK driving licence for an Italian one
- check their passport is valid for travel