

# The UK can't even crash out of the EU and mainta...

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This report comes from [Finance.co.uk](https://www.finance.co.uk) and appears reliable, being confirmed in other media:

*On Wednesday, MPs were informed that a 'no deal' Brexit would see the United Kingdom without a fully functioning customs system for at most two years.*

*In a sobering warning, senior officials from the HM Revenue & Customs informed the Treasury committee that the moment to start planning for the collapse of the negotiations already passed months ago.*

*MPs were told that the United Kingdom would find it hard to properly collect tariffs, while the potential for traffic chaos at various ports was a "known unknown."*

*Jim Harra, an HMRC official, informed the Treasury committee: "We would start off with a functioning but clearly sub-optimal customs border."*

*He continued: "I think we are looking at a minimum of two years from the no deal to get to a point where you can say we have a steady-state system where we are comfortable that we can manage all the fiscal risks in a way we would like and trade can flow in the way we would like."*

What is extraordinary about this is that the UK has not even got the option of crashing out of the EU whilst keeping any pretence of having a functioning government, if the ability to enforce the law and collect tax owing is indication of that, on which I think most would agree.

In that case parliament has an absolute duty to avoid a no deal Brexit.