



29th July 2021, 10th Edition

BHCC EVENTS & INITIATIVES

EVENTS/INITIATIVES

- **14 July 2021 | BHCC's Virtual Summer Gathering**

On **Wednesday 14th of July**, the British Hellenic Chamber of Commerce successfully held a virtual Members' gathering. It was a relaxed conversation between members and a great opportunity to stay connected and share ideas and proposals just before summer vacations.

- **1 July 2021 | Closed Roundtable "Opportunities & Challenges on Freight Transport, Logistics and Customs Clearance after the end of the Brexit transition period and the signing of the TCA".**

The British Hellenic Chamber of Commerce organized on **Thursday 1st of July 2021**, a closed roundtable titled **"Opportunities & Challenges on Freight Transport, Logistics and Customs Clearance after the end of the Brexit transition period and the signing of the TCA"**.

The discussion took place at the British Residence with the participation of Ms Kate Smith, British Ambassador to Greece and the President of the BHCC Ms Anna Kalliani, who met and exchanged views and alternative ways of approach and problem-solving on this important theme with British Embassy's officials and top executives of the largest Greek and international businesses and associations engaged in the transportation/logistics industries and customs clearance services.

- **"Bites of Greece" by Reco Exports and Murphy London in cooperation with the BHCC**

Reco Exports and Murphy London's special event to promote the Organic or Conventional to Artisan, Awarded and Innovative Greek Products in the UK market, held with the cooperation of the British Hellenic Chamber of Commerce, is coming to an end.

Until **31st of July 2021**, participants and visitors of "BITES OF GREECE" are able to discover the true essence of natural Greek aromas and flavours in the heart of London. Over 60 Greek Producers of Conventional, Organic, Free-From, Vegan and Natural Products took part in this two-month celebration of Greek Food and Drinks. "BITES OF GREECE" was supported by Enterprise Greece and the BHCC.

BHCC MEMBERS' SECTION

AS Network | INSIGHT

Νέοι κανόνες ΦΠΑ για το ηλεκτρονικό εμπόριο σε καταναλωτές (B2C) εντός ΕΕ

Από 1.7.2021 τίθενται σε εφαρμογή νέοι κανόνες ΦΠΑ για τις διασυνοριακές λιανικές πωλήσεις (B2C) και την εισαγωγή αγαθών μέσω ηλεκτρονικού εμπορίου, σύμφωνα με τις τροποποιήσεις της Οδηγίας ΦΠΑ (2006/112/EK) και του νέου νομοσχεδίου που κατατέθηκε από το Υπουργείο Οικονομικών προς διαβούλευση.

[Read more](#)

INTRODUCING OUR NEW MEMBER

Welcoming the new Member, who has joined the Chamber within July 2021:

- CARGO 360°, www.cargo360.gr

BREXIT NEWS & UPDATES

UK GOVERNMENT - BREXIT UPDATES

Placing Goods on the GB and NI Markets: the new UKCA and UKNI Markings

Goods Intermediary Engagement [Toolkit](#)

20 July 2021

The Border Operating Model

A guide to how the border with the European Union will work after the transition period.

[Read more](#)

8 July 2021

Letters to businesses about importing and exporting goods between Great Britain and the EU

HMRC letters to VAT-registered businesses in Great Britain trading with the EU, highlighting the new rules and actions to take for importing goods from or exporting goods to the EU.

[Read more](#)

Helping businesses to prepare for full Customs Control in January 2022

HM Revenue and Customs is encouraging UK businesses to prepare for customs changes which will be introduced over the coming 6 months.

[Read more](#)

2 July 2021

UK secures the rights of millions of EU citizens

New statistics show there were 6 million applications to the EU Settlement Scheme by 30 June 2021, securing EU citizens' rights in the UK.

[Read more](#)

30 June 2021

New subsidy system to support UK jobs and businesses, boost the economy and strengthen the union

Businesses across the UK will be able to benefit from financial support thanks to a new subsidy control system following our departure from the EU.

[Read more](#)

EUROPEAN COMMISSION-BREXIT UPDATES & OTHER NEWS

20 July 2021

EU-UK relations: Commission proposes draft mandate for negotiations on Gibraltar

The European Commission has adopted a Recommendation for a Council decision authorising the opening of negotiations for an EU-UK agreement on Gibraltar. The Commission also presented its proposal for negotiating guidelines.

[Read more](#)

10 July 2021

Taxation: Historic global agreement to ensure fairer taxation of multinational enterprises

The European Commission welcomes the historic global agreement endorsed by G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors today, which will bring fairness and stability to the international corporate tax framework.

[Read more](#)

For more information on Brexit developments please visit <https://www.gov.uk/transition>, https://ec.europa.eu/info/relations-united-kingdom_en and <https://brexit.gov.gr/>

UK GOVERNMENT – DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE

19 July 2021

Designing the UK trade preferences scheme for developing nations

Seeking views on proposed changes to the trade preference scheme which reduces or removes import tariffs for 70 developing countries.

[Read more](#)

**UK GOVERNMENT AND BRITISH CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE (BCC)
NEWS & UPDATES**

UK GOVERNMENT NEWS & UPDATES

14 July 2021

Government publishes world's first 'greenprint' to decarbonise all modes of domestic transport by 2050

Transport decarbonization plan for cleaner air, healthier communities and tens of thousands of new green jobs.

[Read more](#)

BCC NEWS & UPDATES

22 July 2021

Trade update

The UK government published its latest version of the [Border Operating Model](#), ahead of the phased introduction of inbound customs and border controls for goods entering GB from the EU from October 2021 and January 2022. See BCC's [comments](#) on this new release, focusing on practical border infrastructure arrangements and need for on-going business support from government.



The UK Board of Trade launched a new report this week on [Green Trade](#), bringing together The Department for International Trade (DIT) recommendations on exports of new technologies and services for the green transition. BCC issued some [comments](#) on this, being mindful of the opportunities, but need to work with business on transition.

A new consultation was launched by DIT on [Trade with the Developing World](#) – the current UK General System of Preferences (GSP) schemes. It focuses mainly on tariffs and rules of origin. Submission deadline is Sunday 12 September.

Future Fund: Breakthrough programme launches



The Future Fund: Breakthrough programme which was announced at Budget 2021 has now opened for applications.

The UK-wide programme will deliver £375m of government funding via British Patient Capital (a commercial subsidiary of the British Business Bank) who will make equity co-investments with private sector investors in later stage R&D-intensive UK companies operating in breakthrough technology sectors, such as cleantech and life sciences.

Further information, including full eligibility criteria for lead investors and companies is available [here](#).

15 July 2021

New guide for businesses in financial difficulty

The insolvency and restructuring trade body, [R3](#), has released a new guide for directors and business owners facing financial difficulties, covering the key signs of financial distress for businesses, the main restructuring and insolvency procedures and how they can help.

The guide explains that insolvency and restructuring processes do not necessarily mean the end of a business and can often facilitate business rescue, if advice is taken early enough. View the guide [here](#).

9 July 2021

BCC responds to ONS trade figures for May 2021

Commenting on trade figures for May 2021, published by the ONS, BCC Head of Trade Policy, William Bain, said: "The 8.8% increase in goods exports to the EU in May compared with April is welcome as economic demand picks up modestly in both the UK and EU".

[Read more](#)

8 July 2021

BCC Monthly Economic Review – July 2021

Take a look at the BCC's Monthly Economic Review for July in PDF and Word versions. This briefing is an analysis of the key domestic and international economic indicators for business.

This month's headlines:

- UK GDP growth picked up strongly in April as covid restrictions eased;
- UK inflation rises above target amid the release of pent-up demand and supply chain disruption;
- BCC forecasts record UK GDP growth in 2021, but an uneven recovery.

[Read more](#)

Immigration - latest news

Graduate Visa

The Graduate visa route opened for applications on Thursday 1 July. International students who have been awarded their degree can stay in the UK and work, or look for work, at any skill level for 2 years, or 3 years for doctoral students. See the Graduate route guide for more information.

Digital status guide

A new Digital Status guide for EU, EEA and Swiss citizens explains how people can view and prove their immigration status, update their details, what they should expect when crossing the UK border and how to get help accessing their immigration status.

Right to rent landlords factsheet

EU, EEA and Swiss citizens need to prove their right to rent using an online checking service, or with a physical immigration document. See this factsheet for landlords.

1 July 2021

BCC assesses impact of Brexit and looks at next steps on the way forward

Six months on from the end of the transition period and with the focus on economic recovery from the pandemic, it might seem to some that the issue of Brexit has faded into the background.

[Read more](#)

Quarterly Economic Survey Q2: Marked Improvement in Business Conditions but Inflation Concerns Hit Record Highs



[Quarterly Economic Survey \(QES\) Q2](#) has found a marked improvement in business conditions as Coronavirus restrictions eased. The survey of over 5,800 firms showed that some key indicators, such as domestic sales and business confidence, displayed significant rises, as more firms reported improved conditions, with some indicators returning to pre-pandemic levels. However, it also showed steep rises in the number of firms, particularly manufacturers, expecting to raise prices, and in businesses citing inflation as a cause of concern.

Key findings:

- Balance of firms reporting increased domestic sales at six-year high for manufacturers and at three-year high for services firms;
- Balance of firms expecting their turnover to increase at six-year high; and
- Balance of manufacturers expecting to increase their prices at highest level in the history of the QES dataset starting in 1989.

See the full results [here](#).

Trade update

The Department for International Trade (DIT) announced they would be continuing with some of the steel safeguard measures which were due to expire. In a [written ministerial statement](#) to MPs, Trade Secretary Liz Truss MP continued the tariff rate quotas in respect of 10 of the measures [until 2024](#) and for five of the other nine measures set to expire today until [next July](#). Imports outside the quota will face tariffs of 25%.



The [Subsidy Control Bill](#) was also published. This establishes the Subsidy Advice Unit within the Competition and Markets Authority as an oversight body for subsidies, grants and loans granted by public authorities. The Bill contains some exemptions for smaller value subsidies but introduces seven key principles on how subsidies will be viewed, together with extra criteria for environmental and energy subsidies.

The UK has begun its accession process to the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) - the 11-country trade agreement focused on Asia-Pacific which amounts to 8% of the UK's total trade. See recent BCC's [press release](#) calling for engagement with business over key areas such as data, digital trade and rules of origin.

UK points-based immigration system - employer pack

The Home Office has updated its [Employer Partner Pack](#) with shareable guidance and visuals for the points-based immigration system, including information on right to work checks, guidance on using digital immigration status, known as an eVisa, and the new graduate route.



SAVE THE DATES FOR BCC'S ONLINE EVENTS

Thursday, 9 September

[Tariff free trade – global Britain explained](#)

BECOME A MEMBER

If you wish to become a BHCC Member, please [click here](#).

CONTACT DETAILS

To subscribe to our Newsletter and for more information and publication of articles, reports, press releases and/or interviews, please contact Mrs Lina Dede, BHCC General Manager.

We are always interested in your views.

Send us an e-mail to info@bhcc.gr if you have any queries about this Newsletter or its content.



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