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The UK's problem with Brexit is Theresa May herself
By George Worsley

Having suffered two humiliating defeats in Parliament, the UK prime minister is displaying a suicidal inability to learn from all the signs that she will be unable to deliver a Brexit plan which both the EU and the UK can agree upon before the 29th March. There are many "solutions" floating around and politicians with ideas never submitted to nor approved by their own electorates are saying a "no-deal" must not occur as that means a hard border between Northern Ireland and Eire and that the Brexit date must be pushed back for several months at least. Now the media and, increasingly, members of Parliament, are coming around to the "rather naïve" realisation that the country has changed its mind and does not want to leave the EU after all. Mrs. May has steadfastly refused to consider a second referendum and it could just happen that all her panicky maneuvering and dodging around could lead to just that.

And what will happen then? The real issue which is clearer now than in 2016 when people bleated "control of our own borders, no more immigrants taking our jobs, etc" like aimless sheep, is the economic impact on the United Kingdom. Even if there is a temporary customs union and single market, it will be hell moving goods in and out of the country. Apart from widening the M20 motorway to Dover and creating massive parking areas for lorries, people in the UK have not yet planned for stalemate and chaos at the borders. It is telling that major trading partners such as The Netherlands have spent millions planning and preparing for this. There is a famous story about a Dutch tomato grower selling his products to UK supermarkets: now it takes a maximum of two days to get the tomatoes away from the growth patch in Holland and onto the shelves in England. Post-Brexit with new forms, checks, stamps of approval, long queues, 8-hour working days, taxes, excise duties, the Dutch have worked out that it will take at least twice as long and the price of the product will have increased considerably. It is a fact of life that the more bureaucracy gets involved, the more expensive the end product will be. Business and all of the players in the commercial world know this now. Even those people complaining about Lithuanians taking their jobs have now seen the consequences of hiring highly-motivated and well-educated Europeans: productivity in the UK has never been so high!

Opinion polls throughout the country have indicated a preference to remain in the EU. It would appear that there are more than one million voters now who were too young two and a half years ago and if they voted now, Remain would succeed. Even Mrs. May voted Remain in June 2016 and now she is championing a Brexit the realistic terms of which no-one knew then or even now. This lack of imagination and leadership is killing the country.

We read every day of AXA, Chubb and many other carriers and insurance suppliers moving key staff to head-offices in Amsterdam, Brussels, Dublin, Paris, etc. One person has asked: “what will they do if Brexit does not take place?” Many people are now replying: “that is a question I hope to be confronted with in reality.”