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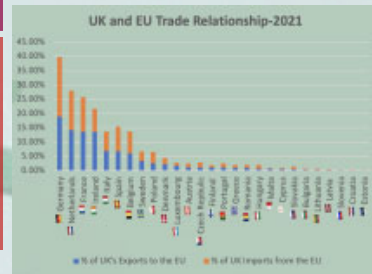
# Empowerment Through Research: Bridging Academia and Society

## UK BIOECONOMY STABLE WOOD PRODUCTION AND TENURE RIGHTS POST BREXIT

### Introduction

Post-Brexit, the UK's bioeconomy, including forestry, struggles with a trade openness decline, partly due to Brexit. The OBR predicts a potential long-term productivity and trade intensity drop. The situation remains complex, with varying opinions on Brexit's actual impact, calling for detailed analyses of the forestry sector's economic and environmental changes.

- The trade openness in the UK, measured as the trade-to-GDP ratio, which fell by 8 percentage points between 2019 and 2021 due to Brexit-related factors among others.
- The OBR's assessment that Brexit might lead to a 15% reduction in trade intensity, although this is a projection and not yet confirmed by the available data.

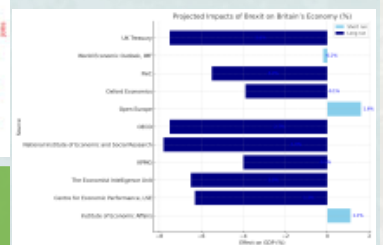


### Opportunities for Innovation

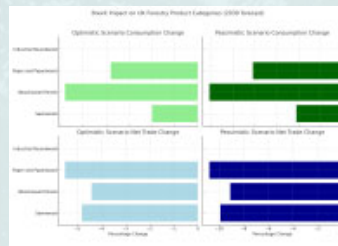
Agroforestry, which combines trees with crops or livestock, boosts agricultural efficiency, biodiversity, and well-being. It's cost-effective, offering diverse outputs and reducing dependency on single products. Emerging precision technologies in agroforestry improve resource use and sustainability. Policies now encourage its adoption, recognizing agroforestry's role in resilient, sustainable, and economically viable agriculture.



### The projected impacts of Brexit on Britain's economy



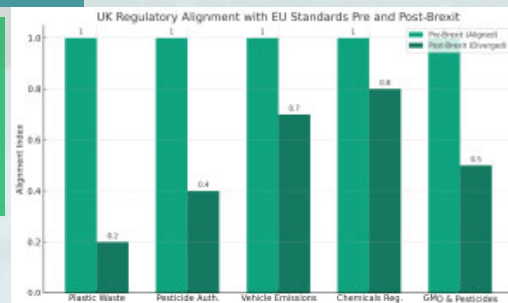
The projected impact of Brexit on various UK forestry product categories by 2030, according to both optimistic and pessimistic scenarios.



In 2021, post-Brexit UK imports reflected a mixed picture: pulp and paper imports fell by 3% to 5.2 million tonnes, whereas sawn wood and wood-based panel imports grew by 13% and 12% respectively, indicating a shift in trade dynamics and diversification within the forestry import sector after leaving the EU.

### Key Challenges

Post-Brexit, the UK aligns closely with EU environmental rules but has diverged on issues like plastic waste and pesticides. Despite leaving EU REACH, UK firms must follow its regulations for EU market access, affecting businesses across the UK and EU. These changes broadly impact regulatory practices, likely influencing forestry management, trade, and investment.



- Plastic Waste Management:** Post-Brexit, the UK opted for a different approach from the EU's ban on exporting plastic waste to non-OECD countries.
- Pesticide Authorization:** The UK's emergency authorization for a product containing thiamethoxam marked a divergence from the EU's ban.
- Vehicle Emissions:** Adjustments in emissions targets for GB compared to the EU-wide fleet standards.
- Chemicals Regulation (REACH):** The UK continues to recognize EU substance registrations under UK REACH, indicating partial alignment.
- GMO and Pesticides:** Potential divergences in regulations, especially concerning gene-edited organisms and pesticides.



- Pre-Brexit (Aligned):** Before Brexit, the UK was fully aligned with EU regulations in all categories, indicated by a score of 1 across the board.
- Post-Brexit (Diverged):** After Brexit, the alignment scores vary, reflecting the degree of regulatory divergence in each category, such as significant divergence in plastic waste management and moderate alignment in chemicals regulation.

# 2024