



October 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Invitation to Pray

Over the next 6 months, the UK will be negotiating its departure from the European Union. This is a project of immense political and technical complexity. However, if the project goes badly, the UK could enter a period of crisis, of a kind that post-war Britain has not so far experienced. I therefore call upon you to join me in praying for the negotiating process.

Whilst many are rightly concerned about how any deal will eventually be agreed by the UK Parliament, the first big milestone in the process is a summit in Brussels next week. This will convene on **17 and 18 October** and brings together the Prime Ministers/Presidents of the 28 EU States. If there is good progress but more remains to be settled, then there is likely to be a further Summit in November. Some 90% of the Withdrawal Agreement (including the areas related to Citizens' Rights) has already been agreed, but further work is needed on trade arrangements and the Irish border. Both sides want a deal. However, as in any deal-making, things can go wrong, and the parties could talk past each other or fall out with one another. No-one should be under any illusion as to the seriousness of these negotiations.

I am aware that many of the recipients of this letter and those in our congregations are not British. However, this is a matter of more general European concern. So can I specifically ask you to pray for the negotiations in your Sunday services this coming weekend? Also, please consider setting aside 17 and 18 October as days of prayer. Pray specifically:

- For the civil servants working 'under the radar' to construct forms of agreement
- For the leaders of the nations to act in the interests of all their people and for the common good.

With all good wishes,

Yours in Christ,

+ Robert Gibraltar in Europe

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