## Recitals:

- A. whereas EU membership entails rights and obligations for the Member States, with a clear interdependence between these latter; whereas access to the EU Single Market requires, as a precondition, full respect of the four freedoms, namely the free circulation of goods, capital, services and people, of the EU Single Market acquis and all other relevant legislation, as well as the jurisdiction of the European Court of Justice;
- B. whereas the British and the European economies are strongly interlinked and on both sides the EU27 imports and exports are a considerable amount of goods and services from the UK and, consequently, its the UK withdrawal might negatively affect the trade between these two economies;
- C. whereas the free movement of goods within the Single Market is fundamentally facilitated through the Customs Union and European customs procedures established in the Union Customs Code, standardisation and technical harmonisation, the mutual recognition of products that is brought on the market in one of the EU Member States and European type approval, market surveillance and product safety (horizontal and sector-specific);
- D. whereas the free movement of services and persons is based on the freedom of establishment, the mutual recognition of qualifications and the freedom to provide services including the right to temporarily pursue activities in the Member State where the service is provided under the same conditions;
- E. whereas consumer protection in the EU is ensured through an extensive European legal framework;
- F. whereas Scotland (62%), Northern Ireland (56%) and Gibraltar (96%) voted overwhelmingly to remain in the EU and the Welsh government, together with the main opposition party, Plaid Cymru, has expressed their will to remain in the Internal Market;<sup>‡</sup>

## Paragraphs:

- 1. Stresses the importance that any agreement between the EU and the UK must fully respect the integrity and the indivisibility of the four fundamental freedoms enshrined in the Treaties which are the basis of the Single Market and are non-negotiable: the free movement of goods, capital, services and people; stresses that any privileged access to the Internal Market should go hand in hand with the free movement of people;
- 2. Notes the unavoidable negative economic consequences of the UK withdrawal both on the EU27 and the UK manufacturers, traders, service providers, administrations and citizens; calls on the UK Government for a strong cooperation to diminish the negative

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Beyond IMCO competences.

- economic effects and to establish an efficient working arrangement between the EU and UK in a timely manner, as well as concluding the withdrawal agreement;
- 3. Believes it to be in the mutual interest of the EU and the UK to pursue a special relationship in the future agreement partnership pursuant to Article 8 TEU, which should include arrangements regarding deep mutual market access in goods and services, including in the area of the recognition of professional qualifications;
- 4. Calls on the negotiators to prevent the UK withdrawal agreement from generating any disruption to the existing market access rights and obligations in accordance with the four freedoms;
- 5. Recognises Notes that the depth of access provided by the EU membership and, consequently, by the participation in the Single Market is significantly more than that provided for currently in free trade agreements concluded with third countries; considers therefore that any withdrawal agreement, future agreement and possible transitional agreement should reflect the need for new models and specific strategic solutions to be found;
- 6. Underlines that the withdrawal agreement shall fully respect the EU rights and obligations including state aid rules and competition law, consumer protection as well as the customs acquis and protect the rights of citizens, notably the workers' rights, the right of residence and the social security on the basis of reciprocity and non-discrimination principles, in accordance with the case law of the European Court of Justice;<sup>2</sup>
- 6a. Stresses that EU consumer protection standards and citizens' rights under the EU acquis shall not be reduced through a possible negotiation agreement between the EU and the UK;
- 7. Notes the intention of the UK to not seek the continuation of its current status vis-a-vis the Single Market and the Customs Union and the interest of the UK of deep economic cooperation after leaving the EU but considers that elements of current single market arrangements in certain areas may still prove attractive to retain for the EU and the UK where this is in the mutual interest of both parties;
- 8. Underlines that with regard to the free movement of goods, the Customs Union covers the Common External Tariff as well as, administrative and procedural arrangements and rules concerning the designation of the origin of goods and their processing when entering the Single Market and stresses the importance of a timely and efficient working arrangement between the EU and the UK in this area in order to facilitate trade between the EU and the UK with other trading partners and to ensure efficient cooperation among customs authorities;
- 9. Underlines that for EU manufacturers and traders the new arrangements in the Customs and other areas should ensure equally beneficial conditions with their UK counterparts;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Beyond IMCO competence

- 10. Believes that the regulatory framework applying across the EU, including in the UK, benefits from general convergence; stresses the importance of regulatory cooperation, as with other third countries, in order to pursue objectives of public interest and tackle non-tariff barriers;
- 11. Emphasizes the importance of establishing arrangements between the EU and the UK with regard to the free movement of services and persons and the acquired rights of EU citizens living in the UK and of British nationals resident in other Member States;
- 12. Considers that robust product standards and consumer protection are fundamental and that there are mutual benefits to working together to influence international discussions and therefore where regulatory regimes have remained consistent after the UK has left objective or aim, that the EU and UK should seek to retain recognition of each other's products and services which comply with those rules;
- 13. Recalls that the withdrawal agreement needs to obtain the consent of the European Parliament; emphasises that, in obedience to the combined provision of the Art. 50 of TEU and the Art. 218 of TFEU, the European Parliament shall be fully involved at all importance to ensure an effective participation of the competent Parliamentary negotiations;
- 14. Believes, that, while any agreement between the EU and the UK ought to be mutually beneficial, a country cannot be better off leaving the Union than remaining in it and that the EU membership status must remain the most advantageous status; considers that any transitional arrangements must be limited in time;
- 15. Recalls that any new relationship between the EU and the UK shall not be agreed before the conclusion of the withdrawal agreement; believes that any future agreement granting the UK access to the EU Single Market should be negotiated on the basis of the respect of clear conditions and precise criteria;
- 16. Opposes any deferral of the application of provisions in the EU acquis or other delays in the ongoing legislative processes due to the withdrawal agreement;
- 17. Highlights the particular circumstances of Northern Ireland, Gibraltar and Scotland, including with regard to the Internal Market and further notes their majority votes to remain in the European Union; believes the interests of all the UK's constituent parts should be protected and that representatives of all devolved administrations should be included in the process.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Beyond IMCO competence

