

*Recitals:*

- A. *whereas EU membership entails rights and obligations for the Member States, with a clear interdependence between these latter; whereas 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 imports and exports are a considerable amount of goods and services and, consequently, 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;*

*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;*
- 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 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 pursuant to Article 8 TEU, which should include arrangements regarding 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. *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 strategic solutions to be found;*
6. *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;*
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;*
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 the EU, or where future developments in new regulatory approaches are similar in 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*

*phases of the process, on equal footing with the Council; stresses, in particular, the importance to ensure an effective participation of the competent Parliamentary Committees on issues related to their specific field of competence in the chapters of 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.*