



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

WRITTEN STATEMENT BY THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

TITLE **Geo Blocking (Revocation) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019**
DATE **29 March 2019**
BY **Rebecca Evans AM, Minister for Finance and Trefnydd**

Geo Blocking (Revocation) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (“2019 Regulations”)

The law which is being amended

European Directly Applicable Instruments

- Regulation (EU) 2018/302 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 February 2018) on addressing unjustified geo-blocking and other forms of discrimination based on customers' nationality, place of residence or place of establishment within the internal market and amending Regulations (EC) No 2006/2004 and (EU) 2017/2394 and Directive 2009/22/EC.

UK Domestic Legislation

- Geo-Blocking (Enforcement) Regulation 2018

Any impact the SI may have on the Assembly’s legislative competence and/or the Welsh Ministers’ executive competence

There is no effect on the National Assembly for Wales’ legislative competence or the Welsh Minister’s executive competence

The purpose of the amendments

The 2019 Regulations revoke existing direct EU legislation and domestic legislation which forms UK law relating to Geo Blocking.

In a ‘no deal’ scenario, the UK version of the Geo-Blocking Regulation will cease to have effect in UK law. The original EU Regulation will continue to apply to UK businesses operating within the EU, and all other non-EU businesses selling goods and services into the single market.

Following repeal of the Geo-Blocking Regulation in the UK, traders from the UK, EU and third countries would not be prohibited from discriminating between EU customers and UK customers.

The Regulations and accompanying Explanatory Memorandum, is available here:
<https://beta.parliament.uk/work-packages/nDmWcvUE>

Why consent was given

Consent has been given for the UK Government to make these corrections in relation to, and on behalf of, Wales for reasons of efficiency, expediency and due to the technical nature of the amendments. The amendments have been considered fully; and there is no divergence in policy. These amendments are to ensure that the statute book remains functional following the UK's exit from the EU.