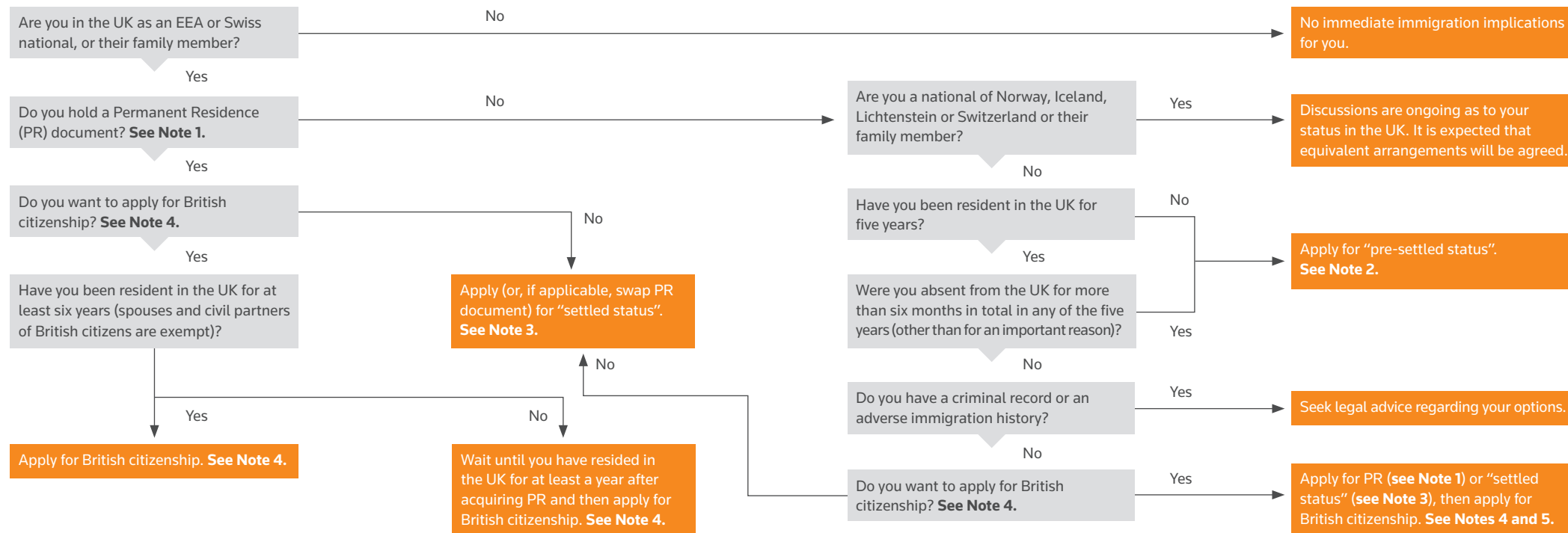


# Brexit implications for migrants in the UK before 31 December 2020

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## NOTE 1 - Permanent Residence

EEA and Swiss nationals automatically acquire PR once they have "exercised Treaty rights" in the UK (worked (employed or self-employed), studied (and held comprehensive medical insurance (CSI)) or been self-sufficient (and held CSI)) for a continuous period of five years (subject to maximum absences of no more than 6 months per year, unless for an important reason).  
**Seek legal advice to assess your eligibility.**

## NOTE 2 - Pre-Settled Status

The EU Settlement Scheme will be fully open for applications by 30 March 2021. Applications are initially voluntary but will be mandatory from 1 January 2021 to 30 June 2021. Applications are made via an app or online. The application fee is £65 per person (£32.50 for children under 16). Applicants must prove their identity, residence in the UK and pass criminality checks. Pre-settled status is granted for five years allowing the applicant to become eligible for settled status (see Note 3).

## NOTE 3 - Settled Status

The EU Settlement Scheme will be fully open for applications by 30 March 2021. Applications are initially voluntary but will be mandatory from 1 January 2021 to 30 June 2021. Applications are made via an app or online. The application fee is £65 per person (£32.50 for children under 16). There is no fee for applicants who hold a PR document. Applicants must prove their identity, five years' residence in the UK (subject to maximum absences of no more than six months a year, unless for an important reason) and pass criminality checks.  
**Seek legal advice to assess your eligibility.**

## NOTE 4 - British citizenship

You must wait 12 months after acquiring PR or obtaining settled status before you can apply to naturalise as a British citizen (unless you are married to a British citizen). If you hold a PR document and have resided in the UK for at least six years you may be eligible immediately. There are specific criteria to meet to become British. Obtaining British citizenship may also have implications on your current nationality and your tax position. **Seek legal advice to assess your eligibility for British citizenship and to understand these implications.**

## NOTE 5 - Settled Status or PR?

Obtaining a PR document may enable you to apply for British citizenship sooner (see Note 4). However, if you do not meet the eligibility criteria to acquire a PR document (see Note 1), you may prefer to apply for settled status (see Note 3) which only requires "residence" in the UK without the need to show economic activity or CSI.  
**Seek legal advice to assess your options.**

This flowchart is provided for information purposes only. The information and commentary does not, and is not intended to, amount to legal advice.