

GCSE (9-1) Citizenship Studies

Guidance on changes made to Issue 2

This document is designed to provide guidance to centres in relation to the changes made in Issue 2 of the specification.

The information is correct at the time of publication, but centres should adapt it where necessary when required.

Specification changes, and what they mean for teaching

Theme B, topic 2

Reference to the electoral system for the European Parliament has been removed.

Theme B, topic 6

In the second bullet point, the word '*former*' has been added before '*membership of the EU*'.

What students need to know:

Parliament incorporated almost all EU legislation into UK legislation after Brexit. But like any UK laws, Parliament may update and amend this in the future.

Theme C, topic 1

In the second bullet point, the words '*to achieve justice*' have been added. The reason is to make more explicit that one of the purposes of the law is to achieve justice.

What students need to know

This was already implicit within the taught content as a fundamental principle of law, and so the impact on teaching is minimal.

Theme C, topic 2

In the third bullet point, reference to the EU has been removed as a source of law.

Theme D, topic 6, bullet point 1

This first bullet point now reads:

- The different roles of the [Council of Europe and the European Union](#).

What students need to know

For the [Council of Europe](#):

- The Council of Europe was founded after the Second World War.
- The aims of the Council of Europe are to promote three values:
 - democracy
 - human rights
 - the rule of law
- The Council of Europe is completely separate from the EU. It was created before the EU was formed and is larger in terms of membership. Members of the Council of Europe currently include almost all European countries (in 2022 the main exceptions are Russia and Belarus).

- As of 2022, the UK remains a member of the Council of Europe.
- The Council of Europe created the European Convention on Human Rights (*see Theme A for what this contains*). The European Convention on Human Rights is protected by the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) in Strasbourg, which hears applications by individuals, groups, or states if they believe that the Convention has been breached and reaches a judgement.

[See page 2 of the 2022 GCSE Citizenship Studies specification (issue 2) support and resources document, for additional support and resources on the Council of Europe: <https://bit.ly/3Cn7NA2>]

For the **European Union (EU)**:

- The European Union (EU) was formed in 1957 as an economic community but has now become a more political, economic, and social union.
- The EU operates as a single market, which aims to guarantee free movement of:
 - goods and services
 - money
 - people
- EU citizens have freedom to live and work anywhere within in the EU.
- The EU has a Parliament with representatives from all member countries, which makes laws that all EU countries must follow.
- The EU makes policies that apply to member countries relating to things like fishing, agriculture and trade. The EU also negotiates agreements on these issues with countries outside the EU.

[See page 4 of the 2022 GCSE Citizenship Studies specification (issue 2) support and resources document, for additional support and resources on the European Union: <https://bit.ly/3Cn7NA2>]

Theme D, topic 6, bullet point 2

This second and third bullet points have been replaced with a bullet point that reads:

- How the UK's relationship with the EU has changed post-Brexit as a result of decisions taken about migration, fishing, travel and trade.

The focus is now on the relationship between the EU and UK since Brexit. Each of the four specified areas of migration, fishing, travel and trade is covered below.

What students need to know

For changes related to **migration**:

- The free movement of people between the UK and EU countries has ended. Freedom of movement within the EU allowed workers to look for a job in another EU country, work there without needing a work permit, and reside there for that purpose. The UK now has a points-based immigration system.
- EU citizens wanting to move to the UK (excluding those from the Irish Republic) will face the same points-based system as that for people from elsewhere in the world. Anyone coming to the UK to work must meet a specific set of requirements, for which they will score points. Visas are then awarded to those who gain enough points.

- UK citizens wanting to live or work in an EU country need a work permit in most countries, but not Ireland. In most cases, they will need a job offer from their chosen country to get a visa to move there.

[See page 5 of the 2022 GCSE Citizenship Studies specification (issue 2) support and resources document, for additional support and resources on migration: <https://bit.ly/3Cn7NA2>]

For Changes related to **fishing**:

- The post-Brexit trade deal contains new rules on fishing in UK waters. EU boats can continue to fish in UK waters for some years as long as they have been issued with a licence by the UK.
- UK fishing boats will get a greater share of the fish from UK waters. The change in the share will be phased in between 2021 and 2026. After that, there will be annual negotiations to decide how the catch is shared out between the UK and EU.
- The UK will have the right to completely exclude EU boats after 2026 however, much of the fish caught in UK waters is sold to EU countries, so the UK needs to maintain a good relationship with EU countries to continue this trade.

[See page 6 of the 2022 GCSE Citizenship Studies specification (issue 2) support and resources document, for additional support and resources on fishing : <https://bit.ly/3Cn7NA2>]

For changes related to **travel**:

- Anyone from the UK wishing to stay in most areas of the EU for more than 90 days in any 180-day period now needs a visa. Travel to Ireland has not changed.
- In November 2023, the EU is planning to introduce fees for non-EU citizens, including UK citizens, to enter the EU.
- There are no more EU 'pet passports' for dogs and cats. Travellers wishing to take their animal abroad will have to get the animal microchipped and vaccinated against rabies at least 21 days before travel.
- When you travel to the EU, you cannot take products containing meat or dairy with you (e.g. a ham and cheese sandwich or coffee with milk).

[See page 7 of the 2022 GCSE Citizenship Studies specification (issue 2) support and resources document, for additional support and resources on travel: <https://bit.ly/3Cn7NA2>]

For changes related to **trade**:

- Major changes took place in trade between the UK and EU from 1 January 2021. The free movement of goods, persons, services and capital between the UK and the EU has ended. The UK has left the EU Customs Union and Single Market (except that Northern Ireland is still part of the EU Single Market).
- The EU/UK trade deal now regulates the movement of goods between the UK and EU. There are no tariffs or quotas on goods that originate in the UK. However, there is a lot more paperwork as customs declarations are now needed for goods going from the mainland UK to the EU. This can lead to delays at the borders as paperwork needs to be checked.
- Since leaving the EU, the UK has concentrated on agreeing new trade arrangements, reducing or abolishing tariffs with a number of countries outside the EU.

[See page 8 of the 2022 GCSE Citizenship Studies specification (issue 2) support and resources document, for additional support and resources on trade : <https://bit.ly/3Cn7NA2>]

What do I do if after reading this guidance I'm still unsure about what the changes mean?

You can contact us in various ways for clarification:

- Email us: TeachingCitizenship@pearson.com
- Call us: UK: 0344 463 2823 (Mon – Fri, 9am – 5pm GMT)
- Contact us online: <https://bit.ly/2KLSNTO>
- Book a Teams meeting with the subject advisor: <https://bit.ly/3rEVLx8>
- You can also use the 'Ask the Expert' service for Citizenship, where a senior examiner can provide you with the information that you need.

*To stay informed, you can additionally sign up for subject updates, by following the link below:

- <https://bit.ly/2G6mmfe>