

Twitter Thread by David Henig

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Just bringing together my various bits and pieces on the UK-EU. The first reactions - a significant agreement...

Winners and losers of the UK-EU deal. <https://t.co/WeQDLXdokr>

Why this was always going to be a problem - regulatory sovereignty v free trade involves trade offs... <https://t.co/DloE0sQeDh>

Going back to mid-2019, why the deal the UK wanted from the EU, the same benefits with none of the costs, couldn't be available. <https://t.co/LHZyPEj8qt>

More recently, why the Brexit dream is dying - because it wasn't designed to deal with a situation where we had to choose between trade with the EU and freedom. <https://t.co/UTSoqH8Cgi>

And from my most recent thread - how the PM squares the circle - by telling stories of triumph that don't match the reality of what is actually happening between the UK and EU. Which is now the next challenge. <https://t.co/ujnF144sOa>

The fracturing of UK politics into the comic book version of heroes and villains, and the real one of trade-offs and choices. But the first is more fun, and the PM plays it well. The second one is dull by comparison.

— David Henig (@DavidHenigUK) [December 27, 2020](#)

PS a reader usefully suggests an incongruity between my first piece on the deal (the UK didn't just roll over) and second (the UK conceded to get the deal). Timing mostly. The UK didn't just roll over from day one. But did at the end. My bad though for not being clear enough.