

### **Brexit**

Under the Brexit Agreement between the European Union and the United Kingdom, the latter has exited from the EU by 31 January 2020, whilst remaining until 31 December 2020 within the EU internal market (in which the free movement of goods, services, capital and persons is assured, and in which citizens are free to live, work, study and do business).and the EU customs union, and being bound by the relevant EU legislation.



Looking back at the time since accession (1 January 1973), those more than 47 years of EEC/EC/EU membership have in the water protection sector achieved major, and irreversible steps forward, some of them like waste water treatment and quality of bathing waters only after long delays, and legal enforcement procedures at the Court of Justice of the European Union.

Two examples are set out below, the incomprehensible pollution of beaches at Blackpool, and the total lack of any waste water treatment at Gibraltar.