

Beat: Politics

UK PM BORIS JOHNSON MET WITH EUROPEAN COMMISSION PDT URSULA VON DER LYEN IN G20

OVER THE FISHING LICENSES POST BREXIT

Paris, Washington DC, 30.10.2021, 17:42 Time

USPA NEWS - UK's Prime Minister Boris Johnson met European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen today at the G20 in Rome. In a meeting with European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen on the sidelines of the G20 summit in Rome on Saturday, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson raised concerns about rhetoric from the French government in recent days over the issue of fishing licenses. PM Boris Johnson, thanked President von der Leyen for her leadership on climate issues including protecting nature and reverse deforestation. The Prime Minister and President von der Leyen agreed on the need for countries to increase climate ambition and targets to reduce emissions to make COP26 a success. In the light of the tensions between UK and France, over the fishing licenses, Boris Johnson told the EU chief that "substantial gaps remain between [the two parties'] positions, including on the issue of governance, and noted that real progress must be achieved soon," according to the Downing Street statement. "The Prime Minister underlined the need to agree solutions rapidly to safeguard the Belfast (Good Friday) Agreement and reduce disruption to families and businesses in Northern Ireland

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The Prime Minister welcomed the constructive talks which have taken place and are continuing between the UK and the EU over the Northern Ireland Protocol. He noted, however, that substantial gaps remain between our positions, including on the issue of governance, and noted that real progress must be achieved soon. The Prime Minister underlined the need to agree solutions rapidly to safeguard the Belfast (Good Friday) Agreement and reduce disruption to families and businesses in Northern Ireland. The Prime Minister also raised his concerns about the rhetoric from the French Government in recent days over the issue of fishing licences. The Prime Minister stressed that the French threats are completely unjustified and do not appear to be compatible with the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement or wider international law. The Prime Minister reiterated that the UK has granted 98% of licence applications from EU vessels to fish in the UK's waters and is happy to consider any further evidence for the remaining 2%. » Source: 10 Downing Street

Article online:

<https://www.uspa24.com/bericht-19476/uk-pm-boris-johnson-met-with-european-commission-pdt-ursula-von-der-lyen-in-g20.html>

Editorial office and responsibility:

V.i.S.d.P. & Sect. 6 MDSStV (German Interstate Media Services Agreement): Jedi Foster, Rahma Sophia RACHDI

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Official Federal Reg. No. 7442619