

DEFINING BRITAIN and BRITISHNESS:

BRITAIN and the EU:

Britain (the UK, for most purposes) is part of the EU. And therefore there is, in general terms, free passage of goods and services (including workers) between Britain and its partners in most of Europe. For the moment the British issue their own passports, but these may (in time) be replaced by EU passports.

BRITAIN and the COMMONWEALTH:

Britain no longer has an empire, but (contrary to popular misconception) the sun still never sets on British territories overseas. And Britain is still leader of the Commonwealth. The citizens of other nations within the Commonwealth will receive preferential treatment.

BRITAIN and NATO:

Britain is a founder member of NATO, the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

BRITAIN and the UN:

Britain is a member of the United Nations, and sits on the UN Security Council.

BRITISH CITIZENSHIP:

Recently the UK introduced a British Citizenship Test, which you can find out about on the website at www.british-citizenship-test.co.uk. It is not necessary for migrant workers to become UK citizens, but some will inevitably enjoy the experience so much that they will want to stay.

WORK PERMITS:

If you are a citizen of the EU then there is no problem. Otherwise the best thing you can do is visit the UK government website at www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/workingintheuk/ which will give you guidance.