New research paper by FuturusThe negotiations will fail

The title of this latest publication from Futurus may appear provocative but the prospect of concluding a jointly agreed leaving process and a future relationship so it can come into effect, possibly with a transition period, by March 2019 seems very remote.

There have been faults on both sides and the UK government's failure to set out what exactly it wants the outcome to be has been a particular problem.

The UK government need not have agreed to the EU's proposed sequence of events — the settlement of the Irish border issue and the exit fee — before discussing trading arrangements. Under Article 50, it need not have done so.

A mutually-agreed pause in the negotiations looks likely or else failure looks highly probable.

The full paper can be downloaded here. PLEASE NOTE: The paper has been revised since this article was first published.