

## Brexit legal advice

Sir, We await the full exposition of the government's legal advice but we know already that the government is aware of the possibility that aspects of the proposed UK/EU withdrawal agreement might lead to legal challenges. Those challenges could be in the European Court of Justice, the International Court of Justice, the dispute systems of the World Trade Organization and the European Economic Area, the World Bank investment dispute system, the UN Law of the Sea Tribunal, arbitrations under bilateral treaties, proceedings in national constitutional courts, and many others.

If such proceedings were not completed before March 29, 2019, or were started thereafter, we might face a general breakdown of legal order in Europe, with no one being able to say what is the law in particular matters.

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Sir, Your political sketch ("A soothing sound for sore ears", Dec 3) was a reminder of two advocacy devices

that all defence lawyers know: (1) If you have a hopeless case distract the jury by raising your voice; and (2) If you have no evidence, be passionate, and divert the jury from the evidence on the other side.

I wonder why the attorney-general used both of these devices at the dispatch box?

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