

Q: Does the Torry majority make you bullish on the UK?

Brian Lockhart, CFP®: Yes, after a period of adjustment that could take up to 2 years I do believe the UK economy will achieve growth levels not seen in the last couple of decades. There is little doubt that the uncertainty about Brexit, passed by the voters but refused to be implemented by the politicians, was harmful to the economy. Whether in hindsight it proves to be a smart thing to leave the EU or not, getting rid of the uncertainty and political drama of the decision will be beneficial and people can more effectively move forward.

The flip side of the same coin could make the argument that Brexit being completed is very bad for the EU in general. I believe the reason Brussels resisted and made the break-up so difficult is because if the UK can demonstrate the ability to leave the EU without all the threatened repercussions, it will become a model for other nations to follow. Like the Prime Minister or not, Boris Johnson has shown a willingness to expend political capital to do what he believes is best for Britain. There will no doubt be mistakes made along the way, but seeing a political leader with the courage to take bold action is refreshing and is likely to bring a high degree of prosperity to the UK. I expect to see the Pound gain and the London Stock Exchange advance in 2020.

Clint Pekrul, CFA: The Conservatives just achieved a landslide victory over Labour with Boris Johnson at the helm. I believe the results give the Conservatives their largest majority since Margaret Thatcher led the party back in 1987, while Labour faced its worst defeat since the 1930s. The election results pretty much ensure that Brexit will get done. So, what does a post Brexit look like and should we be bullish about the future?

Boris Johnson and his party's mantra is low taxes and less regulation. Under the EU's umbrella, the UK was prevented from implementing plans such as exempting imports from tariffs and creating enterprise zones for investment. The expectation now is that in a post Brexit world, the UK will no longer be burdened with the red tape and bureaucracy from the EU. On the surface, this seems like a reason to be bullish. The UK's economy will likely benefit in the long run. At any rate, this will give economists a case study of a pre- and post-EU economy.