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“I appreciate that this is a period of uncertainty and many of you have questions and want more advice for UK nationals living in Spain. We want to help you prepare for all scenarios...”

Open letter from UK ambassador to Spain: See Page Two



NEXT STOP MINORCA: See Four Page Special Inside Today

EU seeks to scrap seasonal clock changes in 2019

THE European Union will scrap the twice-yearly seasonal clock change across the bloc from October 2019, leaving member states to decide by April whether they will stick permanently to summer or winter time, the European Commission said yesterday.

Since 1996, EU law has required all EU countries to move forward by an hour on the last Sunday of March and back by an hour on the final Sunday in October. “There will be no more seasonal clock changes as of the end of October 2019,” Commissioner Violeta Bulc told a news conference yesterday, acknowledging that this relied on others following the

Commission’s “ambitious” schedule. The proposal follows an EU survey drawing in a record 4.6 million responses and showing 84 percent of them opposed to seasonal clock changes.

The Commission also says seasonal time switches are outdated, implemented during World War One and Two and the 1970s oil crisis to save energy.

“Newer studies confirm that the energy savings are nowadays marginal,” Commission Vice-President Maros Sefcovic said.

“We are clearly heading towards smart cities, smart buildings and smart solutions which will bring much more savings than changes of the clock.”

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