BREXIT and Continued UK Participation in EU Programmes for Research, Innovation and Higher Education

UKRO maintains this factsheet to provide the latest information on the current UK situation in relation to Horizon 2020 and other EU funding schemes. You are invited to disseminate this factsheet within your institutions and to your European and international partners.

UK participation in Horizon 2020

The Withdrawal Agreement means that the UK can continue to participate in EU programmes, including Horizon 2020, that are financed by the 2014-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) until their closure (i.e. for the lifetime of grants).

UK participants will continue to receive EU grant funding for the lifetime of individual Horizon 2020 projects, including projects finishing after the transition period ends at the end of 2020.

UK scientists, researchers and businesses can continue to participate in and lead Horizon 2020 projects and apply for Horizon 2020 grant funding.

The vast majority of Horizon 2020 projects will be able to continue as before during the transition period and beyond. This includes ERC, MSCA, and EIC Accelerator grant element.

A very limited number of UK Horizon 2020 projects, which involve access to security-related sensitive information restricted for EU Member States, may be unable to continue after EU Exit in their current form. The government expects the European Commission to inform participants if this is the case. Any affected UK grant holders should contact UKRI at EUGrantsFunding@ukri.org

What does the European Commission say?

- **Evaluation** - The Commission provides a briefing for evaluators, which states the following: “...Experts should not evaluate proposals with UK participants any differently than before.”

- **Funding & Tenders Portal** – This is being updated to reflect the Withdrawal Agreement. The Commission has provided the following statement for a recent Horizon 2020 call:

  “The Withdrawal Agreement as agreed between the European Union and the United Kingdom entered into force on 1 February 2020. In overall terms, on the basis of the Withdrawal Agreement, the UK-based legal entities will continue to be fully eligible to participate and receive funding in the current 2014-2020 EU programmes, including Horizon 2020, as if the UK were a member state until the closure of these programmes, unless security considerations apply. This means that UK beneficiaries can continue – without interruption – to receive grants awarded under the current and previous MFFs until their end dates, even if these are after 2020.”

Where can I find official resources?

- The [website](https://ukresearchinnovation.org) of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) provides latest information on UK participation in Horizon 2020.

- UK Government guidance on [EU-funded programmes](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/eu-funded-programmes) under the Withdrawal Agreement and on Horizon 2020.

- The European Commission also provides [updates](https://ec.europa.eu/info/business-economy-euro/countries-and-associations/uk_en) on the transition period and the EU27 Member States have published a set of slides regarding “UK participation in Union programmes”.
What about UK participation in other EU programmes?

The Withdrawal Agreement means that the UK can continue to participate in EU programmes that are financed by the 2014-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) until their closure (i.e. for the lifetime of grants).

The UK National Agency for Erasmus+ provides the latest information about UK participation in the programme on its website, while the Creative Europe Desk UK does the same for Creative Europe. Furthermore, the UK National Contact Point (NCP) for EU LIFE funding provides an update on the LIFE programme on its website, while the COST Association has updated its page to provide the latest advice for UK participants in COST actions.

What else can UKRO do for you?

- **We keep you informed** - this Brexit factsheet is updated on a regular basis with the aim of providing up-to-date factual information and clarifications, and to signpost you to official resources.

- **We welcome your questions and comments** - UKRO ensures these are fed back (as appropriate) and considered in relevant processes. We are already in regular contact with subscribers, and more widely with relevant stakeholders to ensure no questions, comments or potential issues are missed.

- **We can provide updates during your events** - UKRO can provide an update on the UK situation at your event. If you are interested in arranging for an UKRO staff member to speak to your group, please contact ukro@bbsrc.ac.uk with details of the event you are planning.