

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

UK scientists, researchers and businesses can continue to participate in, bid for and lead projects in Horizon 2020, as if the UK remained a Member State, even after the UK exits the EU on 31 January 2020. The UK remains the second highest recipient of Horizon 2020 funding for science and innovation and UK organisations are encouraged to continue to bid into calls for grants until the end of the Horizon 2020 programme.

The **Withdrawal Agreement** means that the UK continues to participate in EU Programmes financed by the 2014-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) until their closure. Horizon 2020 is a Programme funded under the current MFF. UK scientists, researchers and businesses can continue to participate in these programmes and receive EU grant funding for the lifetime of individual projects, including projects finishing after the transition period ends in 2020.

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?

- **Eligibility of UK applicants** – The Commission included a standard notice in the **introduction to the 2018-2020 Work Programme** of Horizon 2020 regarding the eligibility of UK organisations.
- **Evaluation** - The Commission provides a **briefing for evaluators**, which states the following: "... Experts should not evaluate proposals with UK participants any differently than before."
- **Addressing Brexit risks in applications** - The Commission also provides **guidance to coordinators** of Horizon 2020 proposals with regards to addressing the risks associated with Brexit in future proposals.

Do you have questions about including UK partners in Horizon 2020?

You can find out the latest from UK Research and Innovation on their **website**.

The UK Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) maintains a special inbox (research@beis.gov.uk) for queries and to report issues. Researchers and research organisations from outside the UK can contact the inbox in the same way UK entities can.

Where can I find official resources?

- The **website** of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) provides latest information on UK participation in Horizon 2020.
- Following Article 50 negotiations in October, an updated **Withdrawal Agreement** was published on 19 October 2019 (Articles 137 and 138 refer to EU programmes), alongside the **Political Declaration** on the future relationship between the EU and the UK.
- The European Commission maintains a **website on the Taskforce on Article 50 negotiations with the United Kingdom**.

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.