



## UK Participation in the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation

The EU and UK agreed the [Trade and Cooperation Agreement](#) (Brexit Deal) on 24<sup>th</sup> December 2020. This document has set out the new relationship between the UK and the EU, including a section on Participation in the Union Programmes & their governance. This details how the UK will continue to participate in virtually the whole of Horizon Europe.

### UK Association to Horizon Europe

The agreement gives **full access to Horizon Europe** for UK researchers and institutions **both as Coordinator and Partner** with only two minor exceptions:

- The EIC fund (SME equity under the Accelerator scheme) – though the UK can access all other parts of Pillar 3.
- Selected calls – mainly expected to be Security calls – where non-Member State inclusion is not appropriate. This will be detailed in call topic texts.

This means that the University of Leeds can:

- Host ERC and MSCA Fellowships
- Participate in and coordinate collaborations under:
  - ✚ Pillar 1 (MSCA Doctoral Networks, MSCA Staff Exchange and ERC Synergy grants – where UK Investigators will not count as a non-EU PI)
  - ✚ Pillar 2 (Global Challenges & Industrial Competitiveness), including Missions
  - ✚ Pillar 3 (e.g. EIC Pathfinder)
  - ✚ Widening Participation and Strengthening the ERA
  - ✚ COST

### How does Brexit affect Horizon 2020 projects?

By signing the withdrawal Agreement with the EU in March 2020, the UK agreed to pay into the remainder of Horizon 2020.

As a result, participation in all H2020 projects, along with their funding from the European Commission, has been guaranteed for their full duration. Discontinued UK participation is therefore **no risk to any H2020 project**.

### Will there be other effects?

The UK Higher Education sector is working on advice and solutions to several issues, including:

- Transfer of personal and non-personal data
- Immigration to the UK
- Transfer of materials and samples.

Solutions are expected to be in effect by the time the first Horizon Europe Grant Agreements are signed with minimal disruption to projects.

### What is the status of UK Association?

#### **7<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – UK Associates to Horizon Europe!**

An [agreement in principle](#) has been made to associate formally to the EU Horizon Europe Framework Programme for R+I. This hopefully marks the end to the uncertainty around eligibility to EU Funding streams. The agreement in principle will now be approved by the Council before being adopted formally in the EU-UK Specialised Committee on Participation in Union Programmes.

Association will be active for all calls under the 2024 Work Programmes and UK partners will be funded through the EC. Proposals funded under the 2023 and earlier WPs will have the UK budget funded through the UKRI Guarantee Fund. [This has been formally extended](#) to cover **ALL** awards funded from all Horizon Europe calls under the 2021, 2022 and 2023 Work Programmes.

The University of Leeds very much looks forward to working with our EU partners without barriers to our collaboration.

### **Where can I find out more information?**

Contact the University of Leeds EU Team at [eufunding@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:eufunding@leeds.ac.uk). We look forward to hearing from you!