**EU FUNDED RESEARCH AND INNOVATION FOLLOWING THE EU REFERENDUM**

Following the EU referendum vote in the UK, there has been uncertainty about the future of British universities and academic staff involved in European-funded research.

The UK government has announced initial [measures to continue EU research funding](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-philip-hammond-guarantees-eu-funding-beyond-date-uk-leaves-the-eu). This includes assurances that **all current Horizon 2020-funded projects be fully honoured, and new grant contracts signed before the UK formally leaves the EU will be honoured for their full duration**.

**Current State of Play**

* ***There are currently no changes to UK involvement in EU-funded research***. A [UK government statement](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/statement-on-higher-education-and-research-following-the-eu-referendum) and an [article by the EU Commissioner](https://www.timeshighereducation.com/blog/european-commissioner-carlos-moedas-reassures-uk-researchers-post-brexit) have confirmed that there will be no immediate change to UK funding of, and participation in, EU research programmes, including Horizon 2020.
* ***UK participation is not a risk to funding success***: UK academics are fully eligible to participate in EU proposals. Carlos Moedas, the European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation has [provided assurances](http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2016/06/science-minister-says-hes-watching-out-post-brexit-discrimination-against-uk) that UK researchers should not face any discrimination when bids are assessed. All application evaluators are now being given specific additional instructions that they should not evaluate proposals with UK participants any differently than before.
* ***The UK government has set up a Horizon 2020 discrimination hotline*** following anecdotal reports that UK academics are being asked to leave consortia at the proposal development stage. If you experience any discrimination related to Horizon 2020 consortia please email **Research@beis.gov.uk** **and cc** **j.gillam@napier.ac.uk** **(Leader: European Funding)**
* ***There is no change to the participation of UK institutions in EU programmes*** at the moment. Therefore, academics are still able to co-ordinate or partner in proposals, and should continue to do so.

**The Long Term Future**

The long term future of UK participation in European research programmes will be decided as part of the UK's exit negotiations. These talks have not yet formally begun and are expected to take up to two years. The UK will remain an EU member during this time and as such will be entitled to participate in EU programmes and apply for EU research grants.

The Research and Innovation Office will provide any updates to this situation via its intranet pages.