

Brexit White Paper – Extracts relevant to heritage science

The Government published its White Paper '[The future relationship between the United Kingdom and the European Union](#)' in July 2018.

[link includes corrections to March 2019]

This paper includes un-edited extracts from the White Paper in several areas that will be of relevance to heritage science in the UK. These include:

- [Mutual recognition of professional qualifications](#)
- [Framework for mobility](#) (ending free movement of people, business and services, tourism, students and young people)
- [Cooperative accords](#) (for [science and innovation](#), and for [culture and education](#))

The numbering refers to that used in the original document.

Chapter 1 – Economic partnership

1.3.2 Mutual recognition of professional qualifications

53. The EU regime for the recognition of professional qualifications enables UK and EU professionals to practise across both the UK and the EU on a temporary, longer-term or permanent basis, without fully having to retrain or requalify. Since 1997 the UK has recognised over 142,000 EU qualifications, including for lawyers, social workers and engineers. Over 27,000 decisions to recognise UK qualifications have been undertaken in the EU.

54. The UK agrees with the position set out in the European Council's March 2018 Guidelines, which stated that the future partnership should include ambitious provisions on the recognition of professional qualifications. This is particularly relevant for the healthcare, education and veterinary/agri-food sectors in the context of North-South cooperation between Northern Ireland and Ireland.

55. The UK's arrangements with the EU should not be constrained by existing EU FTA precedents. CETA includes some of the EU's most ambitious third country arrangements on the mutual recognition of professional qualifications. Yet CETA only sets a framework within which regulators may negotiate recognition agreements for professional qualifications; it does not itself provide for mutual recognition. The UK proposes establishing a system that:

- a. is broad in scope, covering the same range of professions as the Mutual Recognition of Qualifications Directive;
- b. includes those operating either on a permanent or temporary basis across borders;
- c. is predictable and proportionate, enabling professionals to demonstrate that they meet the necessary requirements, or to undertake legitimate compensatory measures where there is a significant difference between qualifications or training, in a timely way; and
- d. provides transparency, with cooperation between regulators to facilitate the exchange of information about breaches of professional standards, and to review changes to professional qualifications over time.

1.4 Framework for mobility

72. EU citizens are integral to communities across the UK, with 3.5 million EU citizens living in the UK. Approximately 800,000 UK nationals play an equally important role in communities across the EU. The UK and the EU have already reached an agreement on citizens' rights which provides EU citizens living in the UK and UK nationals living in the EU before the end of the implementation period with certainty about their rights going forward. Individuals will continue to be able to move, live and work on the same basis as now up until the end of December 2020.

1.4.1 Ending free movement of people

73. In future it will be for the UK Government and Parliament to determine the domestic immigration rules that will apply. Free movement of people will end as the UK leaves the EU. The Immigration Bill will bring EU migration under UK law, enabling the UK to set out its future immigration system in domestic legislation.

74. The UK will design a system that works for all parts of the UK. The Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) report, due in September 2018, will provide important evidence on patterns of EU migration and the role of migration in the wider economy to inform this. Further details of the UK's future immigration system will be set out in due course.

75. The UK will continue to be an open and tolerant nation, and will want to continue to attract the brightest and best, from the EU and elsewhere. The UK's future immigration arrangements will set out how those from the EU and elsewhere can apply to come and work in the UK. This will be crucial to supporting its public services, as well as enhancing the UK's attractiveness for research, development and innovation.

Business and services

79. UK firms and global investors rely on the ability to move and attract talent to support global operations, and to send people to provide services across Europe. Indeed, mobility is a key element of economic, cultural and scientific cooperation, ensuring professional service providers can reach clients, advanced manufacturers can deploy key personnel to the right place, and scientists can collaborate on world-leading projects.

80. The UK would seek reciprocal arrangements that would allow UK nationals to visit the EU without a visa for short-term business reasons and equivalent arrangements for EU citizens coming to the UK. This would permit only paid work in limited and clearly defined circumstances, in line with the current business visa policy.

81. As is the case with non-EU countries with whom the UK has a trading agreement, the UK also wants to agree reciprocal provisions on intra-corporate transfers that allow UK and EU-based companies to train staff, move them between offices and plants and to deploy expertise where it is needed, based on existing arrangements with non-EU countries. The UK will also discuss how to facilitate temporary mobility of scientists and researchers, self-employed professionals, employees providing services, as well as investors.

Tourism

82. In the year ending September 2017, UK residents made approximately 50 million non-business related visits to the EU spending £24 billion, and EU residents made over 20 million non-business related visits to the UK spending £7.8 billion.

83. The UK therefore proposes reciprocal visa-free travel arrangements to enable UK and EU citizens to continue to travel freely for tourism in the future, maintaining the close links between the people of the UK and the EU.

84. The Government wants UK and EU nationals to continue to be able to use the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) to receive healthcare should they need it while on holiday.

Students and young people

85. The UK and the EU should continue to give young people and students the chance to benefit from each other's world leading universities, including cultural exchanges such as Erasmus+.

86. The UK proposes a UK-EU youth mobility scheme to ensure that young people can continue to enjoy the social, cultural and educational benefits of living in each other's countries. The UK already operates a number of youth mobility schemes with other global partners, for example with Australia and Canada, on which this could be modelled.

Chapter 3 – Cross-cutting and other cooperation

3.4 Cooperative accords

18. The UK has long been at the forefront of collective endeavours to understand and improve the lives of citizens within and beyond Europe's borders, working with friends and allies across the globe on areas including scientific research, international development assistance and the development of defence capabilities.

19. There have been significant benefits to this collaboration. For instance, publications with international co-authorship are on average more highly cited than UK domestic publications.

20. It is therefore in the shared interest of the UK and the EU to continue this cooperation. The UK proposes to do so through new cooperative accords that provide for a more strategic approach than simply agreeing the UK's participation in individual EU programmes on a case-by-case basis. This strategic approach would ensure that the UK and the EU could build on existing activity or develop new forms of cooperation, taking advantage of emerging opportunities and responding to global challenges, where it was in both parties' mutual interest.

21. Based on key areas of current cooperation between the UK and the EU, these accords should cover:

- a. science and innovation;
- b. culture and education;
- c. overseas development assistance and international action;
- d. defence research and capability development; and
- e. space.

22. Each of these accords should support joint activity by the UK and the EU, including providing for the participation of UK individuals or entities in EU programmes, and enabling the exchange of expertise and information. Where the UK and the EU have an accord, the UK would make appropriate financial contributions that would be agreed between the parties, and each accord would need governance arrangements that ensured both parties could shape the activity covered, recognising these will need to respect the autonomy of the EU's decision making.

23. Regulations for the next generation of EU funding programmes are expected to be agreed and adopted over the next year, providing a basis for third country participation. These should inform the development of the cooperative accords, but the UK and the EU may want to go further.

24. The UK also wants to consider participation in other EU programmes in addition to those covered by the accords. For example, the UK remains committed to delivering a future PEACE programme to sustain vital work on reconciliation and a shared future in Northern Ireland. The UK welcomes the European Commission's commitment to a future programme protecting this work and broader cross-border cooperation, and is committed to finalising the framework for this programme jointly over the coming months.

25. The UK and the EU will also need provisions that allow for mobility in relation to these accords, for example enabling scientists to attend conferences and musicians to perform at concerts.

3.4.1 Science and innovation

26. As a leader in the advancement of science and innovation, and a top five collaboration partner for every EU Member State, the UK plays a vital role in making Europe a base for pioneering research.

27. This collaboration is underpinned by shared principles of scientific excellence, openness to the world and European added value. Working in partnership has increased the impact of our scientific activity, leading to major breakthroughs, such as the future relationship between the United Kingdom and the European Union as the development of an Ebola vaccine and the discovery of graphene, the toughest material ever tested.

28. The UK therefore proposes that the future relationship includes a science and innovation accord that:

- a. provides for UK participation in EU research funding programmes;
- b. enables continued cooperation through joint participation in networks, infrastructure, policies and agencies which are to the UK's and the EU's joint benefit; and
- c. establishes channels for regular dialogue between regulators, researchers and experts.

29. On EU research funding programmes, the UK wishes to explore association in research and innovation programmes, including Horizon Europe, the Euratom Research and Training Programme, the Joint European Torus (JET) project and ITER. There are a range of precedents for participation by third countries, which by their nature are unique to the participating country. For instance, sixteen countries are associated with Horizon 2020 and Switzerland has an agreement on scientific and technical cooperation with Euratom. The accord should also allow the UK and the EU to discuss and agree the UK's participation in other programmes in the future.

30. To support cooperation, the UK should seek to participate in specific policies and networks which benefit businesses, researchers, citizens and patients across the UK and the EU, including:

- a. the European Reference Networks, which support European cooperation and knowledge sharing related to clinical care and research on rare diseases; and
- b. the European Research Infrastructure Consortia, two of which are currently hosted in the UK, the European Social Survey and INSTRUCT, which promotes innovation in biomedical science by making high-end technologies and methods in structural biology available to users.

31. Regulators, researchers and experts would also need a regular dialogue to facilitate the cooperation outlined in this section, which would require suitable UK involvement through representation at strategic fora and committees.

3.4.2 Culture and education

35. The UK proposes a new UK-EU culture and education accord that:

- a. provides for UK participation in EU programmes, and allows UK institutions to be partners, associates, or advisers to EU projects and vice versa;
- b. facilitates continued UK membership of EU cultural groups and networks;
- c. supports the restitution of cultural objects where these have been unlawfully removed; and
- d. allows for the temporary movement of goods for major events.

36. The UK's and the EU's current education cooperation is centred around Erasmus+. The end of the implementation period coincides with the natural end of the scheme. The UK is open to exploring participation in the successor scheme, and continued involvement in Creative Europe to support the cultural, creative and audiovisual sectors.

37. The UK is a world leader in cultural protection, with recent initiatives such as the establishment of the Cultural Protection Fund and the ratification of the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. Disincentivising the illegal trade of cultural objects will be important in the future relationship.

38. The current EU regime allows Member States to circulate details of cultural objects that are unlawfully removed and ask for assistance from fellow Member States for return of the objects. The UK proposes continued affiliation with the cultural object restitution regime system to underpin efforts to prevent the illicit removal and trading of cultural objects.

39. The temporary movement of goods and equipment is a priority for cultural, creative and sports sectors. This includes instruments used by touring musicians, objects and collections loaned between museums, and sporting equipment taken to competitive events.

40. As part of the accord, the UK would like to explore options to build on existing precedents such as the EU's Cultural Cooperation Protocols with third countries.

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