Repositioning strategic UK university partnerships post-Brexit

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The research questions

- 1. What are the perceived implications of Brexit for UK HEIs as their executive leaders and other operational personnel see it?
- 2. What are the organisational capabilities of UK HEIs to monitor their environment and to judge, strategize, respond, initiate and make changes, in relation to Brexit?
- 3. How are these factors differentiated by HEI?

EU countries and UK higher education

- Incoming EU-citizen students in UK HEIs
- Contribution of EU PG research students to UK research
- Outgoing Erasmus Plus students
- EU-citizen staff in UK HEIs
- Future staff recruitment out of EU countries
- Access to EU funds for research, innovation and infrastructure
 - Horizon 2020, etc
 - European Regional Development Fund
 - Loans from European Investment Bank

EU students in UK HEIs, 2016-17

- In 2016-17 there were 134,835 non-UK EU students in HEIs, 6% of all students (HESA).
- 14,985 EU doctoral students in HEIs in 2016-17, 13.3% of PhDs (HESA).
- Germany, France, Italy, Ireland and Greece are the top five EU sending countries to the UK.
- Universities in London, Oxbridge and Scotland are top destinations for EU students.
- China (95,090); USA (17,580); Hong-Kong (16,680); India (16,550); Malaysia (16,370) are the top five international sending countries.

International students in UK HEIs, 2016-17

Country	Students 2016-17
1. China	95,090
2. USA	17,580
3. Hong Kong	16,680
4. India	16,550
5. Malaysia	16,370
6. Germany	13,735
7. France	13,560
8. Italy	13,455
9. Nigeria	12,665
10. Ireland	10,070
11. Greece	10,045
12. Cyprus	9145

Non-UK EU students, 2016-17

University	Number of non-UK EU students	Proportion of all enrolled students
1. UCL	4470	11.8
2. King's College London	3725	12.2
3. U Edinburgh	3630	11.3
4. U Glasgow	3005	10.5
5. Imperial	2865	16.2
6. Coventry University	2795	8.8
7. U Aberdeen	2710	19.2
8. U Oxford	2695	10.9
9. U Manchester	2585	6.4
10. U Cambridge	2555	12.8

Non-UK EU students, 2016-17

University	Proportion of EU students %
1. Aberdeen U	19.2
2. LSE	17.6
3. Imperial	16.2
4. Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh	14.9
5. SOAS	14
6. University of the Arts, London	12.9
7. U Cambridge	12.8
8. U Essex	12.4
9. King's College London	12.2
10. = Edinburgh Napier = UCL	11.8

EU students

➤ 'It is a concern [attracting EU students] in lots of different ways, so one concern actually is, some of our really, really able students come from Europe, they're fabulous students, they're really clever, they're very highly trained, they come from school systems that have them trained to a really high level before they come into university and losing those students from our cohort would be a big loss, so intellectually they really enrich us and culturally they do as well, so losing the students is a big issue' (Scottish ancient university 1, senior executive)

EU staff in UK HEIs, 2016-17

• 17% of academics are from the EU, 19% in STEM (HESA 2017).

• 40% of new posts are filled by EU nationals, and EU academics are much more likely to be submitted to the REF (HEFCE 2015; 2016).

• The 'golden triangle' of Oxbridge and London host the highest numbers of EU staff (from 1,385 to 2,020) with some universities in London and N Ireland having the highest proportions of all EU staff.

Non-UK EU academic staff, 2016-17

University	Number of non-UK EU academic staff, FPE	Proportion of all academic staff %
1. UCL	2020	27.2
2. U Oxford	1700	25.1
3. U Cambridge	1555	26.1
4. = Imperial College = King's College London	1385	32 28.6
6. U Edinburgh	1140	24.5
7. U Manchester	960	18.5
8. U Glasgow	795	20.7
9. LSE	665	39
10. Queen Mary	655	27.5

Non-UK EU academic staff, 2016-17

University	Proportion of all academic staff %
1. LSE	39
2. Ulster U	35.3
3. Imperial	32
4. Queen's U Belfast	29.7
5. King's College London	28.6
6. Queen Mary	27.5
7. UCL	27.2
8. U Cambridge	26.1
9. City U	25.2
10. U Oxford	25.1

EU funded research in the UK

• UK HEIs have become highly dependent on European-source research income. In 2013, 20.7 % of total UK R&D funding was from abroad, compared to 4.3% in Germany and 3.8% in US (UNESCO 2015), reflecting success in European research programmes.

• From 2007 to 2013 UK researchers received 70% of all funding (€4.9 billion) under the EU's FP7 program (UUK 2015).

• EU nationals won more than half the European Research Council Consolidator Grants awarded to HEIs (Russell Group 2016).

Ten UK universities with the most H2020 funding

University	Income received so far, since 2014 (€)
Oxford	235, 775, 821
Cambridge	232, 234, 983
UCL	220, 877, 067
Imperial	160, 654, 684
Edinburgh	143, 896, 729
Manchester	105, 597, 468
Bristol	81, 883, 121
Southampton	75, 886, 656
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine	73, 365, 943
Sheffield	67, 398, 794

Source: Horizon 2020, April 2018

UK universities with relative highest research income from EU

University	Income from EU bodies over total research income (2014-15)
Goldsmiths College (UoL)	61%
Middlesex U	51%
U of South Wales	41%
Birmingham City U	40%
Anglia Ruskin	40%
Aston U	39%
Bangor U	38%
Sheffield Hallam U	35%
U Wolverhampton	35%
Coventry U	33%

Source: Technopolis, 2017

Largest European research funding, by discipline (in absolute terms)

Discipline	Income from EU bodies 2014-15 £s
Clinical Medicine	119.9
Biosciences	90.8
Physics	55.4
Chemistry	54.6
IT, systems, software Engineering	46.2
Electrical/Computer Engineering	39.3
Mechanical/Aero/Prod Engineering	34.6
Earth/Marine/Environmental Sci.	34.5

Discipline	Income from EU bodies 2014-15 £s
General Engineering	28.1
Mathematics	19.0
Business and Management	14.8
Psychology/Behavioural	14.7
Mineral/Metall./Materials Eng.	14.6
Civil Engineering	11.3
Geography/Environmental Studies	10.9

Source: Technopolis, May 2017

Largest European research funding, by discipline (as a proportion of total funding)

Discipline	EU bodies income over total income (2014-15)
Archaeology	38%
Classics	33%
IT, systems sciences & computer software engineering	30%
Media studies	27%
Law	26%
Philosophy	25%
Modern Languages	24%
Anthropology & development studies	23%

Discipline	EU bodies income over total income (2014-15)
Business & management studies	23%
Chemistry	23%
Area studies	23%
Politics & international studies	21%
Architecture, built environment & planning	21%
Art & design	21%
Sociology	20%

Source: Technopolis, May 2017

Case studies

- Case studies (interviews, documents) in 12 UK universities in the four nations. List includes:
 - U Manchester
 - U South Wales
 - Ulster U
 - St Andrews
 - Sheffield Hallam
 - U Aberdeen
 - SOAS
 - Durham
 - Keele U
 - U Exeter
 - Coventry U
 - UCL

Preliminary findings and wider implications

- Uncertainty
- Affective domain
- Agency (institutional)