Higher Education and Research Sector:

An outline of the EU-UK future relationship, January 2021



Staff / Students	EU freedom of movement replaced by new UK immigration regime for incoming staff and students. EU member state immigration regimes apply to outgoing staff/students. Automatic recognition of professional qualifications ceases, but with framework for individual recognition agreements later.	Short-term business travel for specified activities, including some research, meetings, and conferences. Some establishment/short-term business activities. Reciprocal social security and healthcare arrangements.		Citizens' rights preserved for EEA/UK nationals and their families resident in the UK/EEA by 31 December 2020. Reciprocal rights continue for UK and Irish citizens in each other's countries. Other EEA students to lose UK "home" fee status and financial support for courses starting from 1 August 2021. For outbound UK students, Turing scheme to replace EU Erasmus scheme. No UK inbound equivalent.
Research / funding programmes	UK associate membership of Horizon Europe and some other EU	J research programmes agreed in principle.		UK Shared Prosperity Fund to replace EU Structural Funds.
Trade / cooperation	Tariff and quota free trade for goods/construction materials, but new formalities/checks apply between EU and UK, and rules of origin apply. Various UK grace periods for incoming EU goods. Access agreements for transport and fisheries.	New UK internal market and formalities/checks between Northern Ireland and Great Britain, with some grace periods for incoming GB goods.	Limited EU-UK agreement on rules for future trade in services and establishing an EU/UK presence. No agreement yet on equivalence of UK financial services.	EU-UK cooperation on matters including health security, energy, telecoms, digital trade, registered intellectual property rights, access to procurement, law enforcement and criminal justice.
Frameworks / data flows	EEA to UK personal data flows: 4-6 month extension of data flows to enable EU adequacy determination, failing which organisations need GDPR compliant data transfer mechanisms in place. UK to EEA data flows unaffected, but some documents /agreements may need updating.	Complex UK legislation to enable continued functioning of many EU-derived laws and rights in UK law, with some amendments and exceptions.		"Level playing field" agreement on competition, state aid, employment rights and environmental protection.