Introduction

• The UK left the EU on 31 January 2020

• There is now a transition period until the end of 2020 while the UK and EU negotiate additional arrangements

• The current rules on trade, travel and business for the UK and EU continue to apply during the transition period

• The purpose of today is to provide an update on the UK's continued participation in Horizon 2020
Can I continue to participate in H2020 now that the UK has left the EU?
Can I continue to participate in the H2020 grant programme now that the UK has left the EU?

• The vast majority of Horizon 2020 projects will be able to continue as before during the transition period and beyond. This includes ERC, MSCA, and EIC accelerator grant element.

• UK participants will continue to receive EU grant funding for the lifetime of individual Horizon 2020 projects, including projects finishing after the transition period ends at the end of 2020.

• UK scientists, researchers and businesses can continue to participate in and lead Horizon 2020 projects and apply for Horizon 2020 grant funding.
What does the Withdrawal Agreement mean for UK H2020 participation?

- The UK can continue to participate in EU programmes, including Horizon 2020, that are financed by the 2014-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) until their closure (i.e. for the lifetime of grants).

- A very limited number of UK entities could be restricted from participating in some specific project elements if security concerns exist (e.g. are raised in the security scrutiny process of the European Commission’s Horizon 2020 evaluation, in line with existing processes). The Commission will notify participants at risk and publish restrictions in upcoming calls.

- UK SMEs can continue to apply for the grant-only funding route for EIC Accelerator projects. Access to new blended finance (i.e. equity alongside grant) will not be possible. UK organisations will not be able to bid for the 'InnovFin' product range, which consists of a suite of tailored financial instruments.
Future Participation in H2020
Can I submit new bids to H2020 calls?

- Yes - we encourage UK organisations to continue to bid into calls for new Horizon 2020 grant funding for the lifetime of the Horizon 2020 programme and, if successful, funding will be provided by the Commission for the lifetime of the grant.

- This includes any Horizon 2020 calls under the 2014-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) even if they extend into 2021, after the transition period has ended.

- National Contact Points (NCPs) can advise throughout the application process. [https://www.gov.uk/business-finance-support/horizon-2020-business-grants-uk](https://www.gov.uk/business-finance-support/horizon-2020-business-grants-uk)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overview</th>
<th>Will operate as before</th>
<th>Restrictions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Existing Horizon 2020 projects</strong></td>
<td>- All projects which do not involve UK access to security-related sensitive information restricted to EU Member States or countries with security agreements with the EU. This includes projects with non-grant financing (equity, loans, etc.)</td>
<td>- Some projects where UK entities may have access to security sensitive information – this will be based on activity within the project.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Applications to new Horizon 2020 calls, funded by the 2014-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF)</strong></td>
<td>- All grant calls, including MSCA, ERC, and the EIC accelerator grant element.</td>
<td>- No access to non-grant financial instruments (e.g. equity or loans) - blended finance option in EIC accelerator, InnovFin. - Activities within projects that involve access to security-related sensitive information – as set out by the Commission where relevant to the call</td>
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What has the Commission said about UK participation?

‘General notice for UK applicants: In conformity with the EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement*, the UK and persons or entities established in the UK continue to be eligible to receive Union funds under actions carried out in direct, indirect or shared management, which implement Union programmes and activities committed under the MFF 2014-2020 until the closure of those Union programmes and activities. Restrictions may, however, apply for security-related reasons or concerning financial instruments. When such restrictions apply, these will be clearly specified in the call for proposals.’

* Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community

• [https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home)
Can I…?

...continue to coordinate projects?

Yes, until the end of the current Horizon 2020 programme:

- You can continue to participate in and lead Horizon 2020 projects and apply for Horizon 2020 grants, including ERC and MCSA.
- You will continue to receive EU grant funding for the lifetime of individual Horizon 2020 projects, including projects finishing after the transition period ends at the end of 2020.

...continue to participate in ERC and MSCA grants?

Yes, until the end of the current Horizon 2020 programme:

- You can continue to participate in and lead Horizon 2020 projects and apply for Horizon 2020 grants, including ERC and MCSA.
- You will continue to receive EU grant funding for the lifetime of individual Horizon 2020 projects, including projects finishing after the transition period ends at the end of 2020.
What about Member State requirements?

Will UK participation be impacted by minimum number of Member State eligibility requirements?

No. UK scientists, researchers and businesses can continue to participate in and lead Horizon 2020 projects and apply for Horizon 2020 grant funding as before.
What happens after Horizon 2020?
Horizon Europe

- The Horizon Europe programme is separate to the Horizon 2020 programme.

- The shape and content of EU Programmes post-2020, including Horizon Europe, are currently being negotiated in the EU Institutions and have not yet been finalised.

- The UK is ready to consider participation in certain EU programmes, once the EU has agreed the baseline in its 2021-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework, and taking into account the overall value to the UK of doing so.
How can I find out more?
Resources

UKRI Web site https://www.ukri.org/euexit

EUGrantsFunding@ukri.org

For questions about ongoing projects, contact your National Contact Point (NCP)
Global Talent Visa

Introducing the new UKRI endorsed funder route for researchers to live and work in the UK.

Take off:
20 Feb 2020

The Global Talent Visa: opening the UK to the world’s top researchers.
Britain’s got (more) talent…

The Global Talent Visa (GTV) is a new immigration route for individuals coming to the UK to work in research and innovation.

It follows announcements made by the Prime Minister in 2019, outlining plans for a more expansive visa offer for research and innovation talent.

The GTV combines three existing ‘Exceptional Talent’ routes administered by the National Academies, plus the new ‘endorsed funder route’ run by UKRI.
Why?
The openness of UK research to global talent has been critical to success.

To stay at the forefront of tackling the global challenges, the UK needs to be able to draw on excellent talent and ideas from across the globe.

GTV means that more researchers can benefit from a “Tier 1” visa and work in the UK unencumbered.
1. Have you accepted the offer of a **senior appointment** at an institution approved by the British Academy, Royal Academy of Engineering and Royal Society?  

   ![Yes/No]

2. Have you been awarded an **individual fellowship** on the list approved by the British Academy, Royal Academy of Engineering and Royal Society?  

   ![Yes/No]

3. Are you working on a research grant* issued by an **endorsed funder** on the list approved by UK Research and Innovation (UKRI)?  

   ![Yes/No]

4. Check the eligibility and assessment criteria for standard endorsement and submit an application for **peer review** by the British Academy, Royal Academy of Engineering or Royal Society.**  

   ![No]

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If you have been offered the role of Professor, Associate Professor, Reader, or equivalent position such as Senior Group Leader, and you meet the necessary recruitment requirements, you need a statement of guarantee from the HR Director at the employing institution to support your application for a fast-track visa.

If your fellowship is listed and you hold it currently or have done so within the last 12 months, you must submit a copy of the award letter as part of your fast-track visa application.

If you as an individual or your role is named in a successful grant application from an endorsed funder, you need to submit both the award letter and a statement of guarantee from the employing or hosting institution as part of your application for a fast-track visa. The funder and the institution must both be on the approved UKRI list.

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* Eligibility extends to the principal investigator (Pis), co-investigators (Co-Is) and team roles stated in the grant application at graduate level and above – for example, postdoctoral researchers, research assistants, technologists and methodologists. Eligible individuals must spend at least 50% of their work time on fulfilling the grant conditions (Pis and Co-Is holding multiple grants must demonstrate 50% in aggregate). A minimum award threshold of £30,000 applies and the minimum grant duration is 24 months. Individuals must have at least two years left on their employment contract to be eligible.

** The British Academy reviews standard 'exceptional talent and promise' applications from the humanities and social sciences. Royal Academy of Engineering covers engineering, and the Royal Society covers natural and medical sciences. If you do not meet the criteria for standard endorsement, you may still be eligible for a skilled Tier 2 worker visa (https://www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration/work-visas). If you are coming to the UK for the purposes of collaboration, training or knowledge exchange, you may apply through Tier 5 (https://www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration/work-visas).
UKRI’s role

1. Oversight of the new Endorsed Funder route with responsibility for its operation, including setting the eligibility criteria, the selection of these recognised funders and eligible employing/hosting research organisations.

2. UKRI will review visa applications against a set of objective eligibility criteria. The host research organisation will provide a Statement of Guarantee to show all criteria are met.

3. UKRI is also an endorsed funder itself – which means that researchers who receive or work on grant funding from UKRI and its councils can be eligible for the visa.
Endorsed funders

In the first phase of this new route, the list of funders is relatively limited but covers all research disciplines. Further phases will look to add additional funders.

It includes:
- All UK research councils
- Charities such as the Wellcome Trust, Cancer Research UK and the British Heart Foundation
- EU Horizon 2020 funding
- And a range of other international funders with whom UKRI has a long-standing relationship.
Who can apply?

Anyone who is either named personally on a grant or has a defined position on that grant from an endorsed funder.

Not just professors! Specialist technical staff working on the grant - as long as they are hosted at a UKRI recognised research organisation.

The eligibility criteria can be found in the Home Office guidance on their website.
Why apply?

As a Tier 1 route, the Global Talent Visa provides numerous benefits:

1. A flexible visa for up to 5 years, allowing holders to come and go from the UK at will
2. Eligible for settled status after 3 years
3. No minimum salary requirement unlike Tier 2
4. No requirement to have a confirmed job offer (applicants can have a hosting agreement)
5. No requirement to complete an English Test Qualification
6. Affirm existing arrangements to bring dependents with access to the labour market.
Eligibility

W 7.7.3 of the Immigration Rules (link to follow)

• The grant must be >£30k, and at least 2 years' in duration

• At least 50% of an applicant’s time must be on the grant or award from an endorsed funder

• The employment contract or hosting agreement of the applicant must have at least 2 years remaining at the time of the application for endorsement.

• They must independently direct, or direct under the supervision of a Principal Investigator, a unique research or innovation project.

OR

• They must make critical contributions to research through the provision of core technical or domain excellence, or in developing new technologies and methodologies. The applicant will be typically named, or their post listed, on the grant/award under ‘directly incurred’ costs.
Grant Managers - ROs

What do you need to know?

You may receive queries about grant award letters from your Immigration and HR colleagues. Please support them and refer any queries to our inbox (details to follow).

Large investments are eligible: the GTV also recognises large strategic investments (such as UKRI Centres, Institutes and Units).

UKRI fellowships continue to be eligible to the Accelerated Fellowship route, administered by the National Academies.

Researchers who would like support on GTV applications need to be referred to their local HR or Immigration manager.
Helping careers take off…

The bespoke Global Talent route will have no cap on the number of people able to come to the UK, demonstrating the Government’s commitment to supporting top talent.

The new, fast-track visa scheme goes live on 20 February 2020.

More details are on our website: https://www.ukri.org/visa

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact our internal mailbox: globaltalentvisa@ukri.org.
Thank you

Photos sourced from unsplash.com