



Future Partnership Project

The long history of partnership in research and innovation between the UK and EU has been a great success. Collaborative research papers between UK and EU partners boost citations, taking scores to twice the world average, while each [€1 invested into EU research programmes](#) delivers returns of €11 for society. By working together, the EU and the UK have achieved many research breakthroughs: helping bring medicines to vulnerable populations; accelerating the production of nanoparticles and biotechnologies; and preparing hyper-efficient aircraft for flight testing.

Both the UK and EU have set out positive and ambitious visions for the future of this relationship, with the UK's [science and innovation paper](#) and the EU's ambitions for [Framework Programme 9](#). It is now time to take the next step and explore what an “ambitious and close partnership for research and innovation” would look like in practice. A new Royal Society and Wellcome Trust project will bring together organisations from across the UK and EU, to develop a shared vision for this future partnership.

We intend to deliver a framework for a future research partnership that is achievable, creative and ambitious. This should support rapid progression to an agreement which works for all parties, and lays the groundwork for implementation. This consultation is seeking evidence and views from across Europe to inform this framework.

To achieve this we urge responses to be imaginative, and where possible to explain the rationale using examples and references. We would like to hear a wide range of perspectives, including those based on personal experience as well as specific expertise. You are welcome to respond only where you feel able, or comfortable.

Please help us to gather the widest possible range of views to inform this project, by sharing this consultation among those with an interest in this area, and members of your organisation.

Submission Guidance

- We welcome responses from individuals or organisations. Please state your name and affiliation (if applicable), and briefly introduce your relevant experience or expertise.
- We will only accept responses in Word format or as free text in an email, not in PDF.
- You do not need to respond to all questions.
- Please explain your rationale with examples (from personal or professional experience) and references wherever possible.
- Please keep your submission as brief as possible, with recommendations in bold and any key points at the top of your submission or email.
- We intend to publish responses. If you do not wish your response to be made available please state this at the top of your submission.

Part 1: Evidence Synthesis

We will undertake a synthesis of existing evidence, and invite you to share evidence you have commissioned or produced regarding:

- The partnership between the UK and EU on science.
- The potential impacts of Brexit in both the UK and EU.

These should be sent to Sophie.Bennett@royalsociety.org by **1 December 2017**.

Part 2: Questions

We invite your thoughts on three key areas, and request that answers focus on the future partnership, rather than the impact of Brexit. Please submit responses in an email or Word format to europa@wellcome.ac.uk by **8 January 2018**.

Elements that underpin successful partnerships

Q1. Thinking of existing models, agreements, or international partnerships, what features have made them a success?

- *These could be principles or practical features, either directly associated with the partnership, or the wider enabling agreements between involved parties.*
- *Examples might include specific international research programmes and facilities, or broader international agreements such as on trade or the 'deep and comprehensive agreement' between the EU and Ukraine.*

The shape of an ambitious new partnership

Q2. What elements must be included in a research and innovation partnership agreement between the UK and the EU to ensure it is close, valuable and effective? Please comment on how these would be prioritised.

- *This could cover the principles behind collaboration, or address specific requirements in areas such as: mobility of researchers, innovators, technicians and their families; regulation of research and research outputs; research funding; research infrastructures (physical and digital); or the commercialisation of research outputs.*
- *Your answer could address novel scientific and research opportunities, or specific objectives, which a new partnership might be able to exploit.*

Practical steps to achieve such a partnership

Q3a. What practical steps are needed to realise the overall model you describe in Question 2?

- *This could include potential barriers; legal and governance arrangements – including ratification processes and court jurisdiction; risks to either side; and any precedents set.*
- *It could cover how the partnership might develop, for example phased implementation.*
- *You might wish to comment on how a successful implementation could be measured.*

Q3b. Thinking about the wider negotiating environment, what factors are likely to affect the ability to implement a shared vision on research and innovation?

- *This could include factors such as economic pressures, or conflicting research priorities.*