

WUN Presidents Forum: BREXIT and the International Higher Education Landscape – Strategies and Solutions to Sustain Knowledge Partnerships
Thursday 9 February 2017
Venue: Maastricht University Campus Brussels

Participants Biographies

Opening Welcome and Objectives

Steering Group Co-Chairs: Professors Koen Lamberts, Martin Paul, and John Hearn

Professor Koen Lamberts

Vice-Chancellor & President, The University of York

Professor Koen Lamberts is Vice-Chancellor & President of the University of York. He is Chair of the N8 Research Partnership, the Employers Pension Forum for Higher Educations, Yorkshire Universities and UK Council for International Student Affairs. He is also a Board Member of The Russell Group, the York, North Yorkshire and East Riding Local Enterprise Partnership, the Outward Mobility Strategy Board, Universities and Colleges Employers Association, the White Rose University Consortium and the Worldwide Universities Network.

Professor Lamberts was born in Hasselt, Belgium; he holds undergraduate degrees in Philosophy (1985) and Psychology (1987) and a PhD in Experimental Psychology (1992) from the University of Leuven.

Following a research appointment at the University of Chicago, he became a lecturer at the University of Birmingham in 1992. He was Professor of Cognitive Science at the University of Warwick from 2000 to 2013. At Warwick, he served as Faculty Chair for Science, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research (Science & Medicine) and Deputy Vice-Chancellor & Provost.

Professor Lamberts has a track record of experimental research into cognitive processes in perception, memory and decision making, and of mathematical and computational modelling of these processes. He has collaborated with commercial and industrial partners in applied research that has focussed on consumer behaviour and product design. He was a recipient of the British Psychological Society's Cognitive Award (1996) and of the Experimental Psychology Society Prize (1997).

Professor Dr Martin Paul

President, Maastricht University

Professor Martin Paul is President of Maastricht University (UM). After finishing medical school at the University of Heidelberg he has worked as an academic at Harvard University, the University of Heidelberg, Freie Universität Berlin and Charité University Medical Centre Berlin. Next to his career as a researcher, author of more than 300 scientific publications and educator, he has become active in academic management.

He was Dean of the Charité University Medical Centre (2004-2008) and Dean of the Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences (UM) and Vice President of Maastricht University Medical Centre+ (2008-2011).

He has served as Chair of the European Dean's Network (DEAN) and as board member of the European Centre for Strategic Management of Universities (ESMU). He was also a member of the board of the International Association of Academic Health Centers (AAHCI). Currently, he is boardmember of the Dutch Association of Universities (VSNU) and an elected member of the Netherlands Academy for Technology and Innovation (ActI). Furthermore, he is serving on the National Science Council of Austria and as UMC fellow of the Free University Brussels.

Professor John Hearn

Board Executive Director, Worldwide Universities Network

Chairman, Australia Africa Universities Network

Professor John Hearn is Board Executive Director of WUN (www.wun.ac.uk), Chair of AAUN (www.aaun.edu.au), and Professor of Reproductive Physiology at Sydney Medical School. He was Vice President Academic and International of the University of Sydney 2004-13, and Vice President Research of the Australian National University 2001-4. He served in senior academic leadership roles for 6-7 years each at the Universities of Sydney, ANU, Wisconsin, UCL London, and Edinburgh. He is a graduate of University College Dublin (BSc 1st hons, MSc, DSc hc); and of the ANU (PhD). He serves as senior scientific adviser with international organisations including WHO, OECD, British Council, Australian and Swedish Governments. Born in India, where his father was the last British Commander of the Khyber Rifles, he was educated in the UK, East Africa, Ireland and Australia. He works on university research capacity development in Kenya, China, Thailand, Brazil and elsewhere. As an undergraduate, he represented Ireland at a strategic workshop on EU development in Como, Italy. Later he was responsible to Council for the UK Research Councils Office in Brussels, when he was Deputy Secretary of AFRC/BBSRC. He has maintained close higher education and research links with the EU to the present. He is convinced that Higher Education and Research are fundamental and enduring diplomacies, now and in the future.

Session 1 Policies and Projections

Chair: Prof Martin Paul, President Maastricht University

Dr Andreas Schleicher

Director for Education and Skills, OECD

Andreas Schleicher is Director for Education and Skills, and Special Advisor on Education Policy to the Secretary-General at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). As a key member of the OECD's Senior Management team, he supports the Secretary-General's strategy to produce analysis and policy advice that advances economic growth and social progress. In addition to policy and country reviews, he oversees the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), the OECD Survey of Adult Skills (PIAAC), the OECD Skills Strategy, the OECD Teaching and Learning International Survey (TALIS), and the development and analysis of benchmarks on the performance of education systems (INES).

Before joining the OECD, Mr. Schleicher was Director for Analysis at the International Association for Educational Achievement (IEA). He studied Physics in Germany and received a degree in Mathematics and Statistics in Australia. He is the recipient of numerous honours and awards, including the "Theodor Heuss" prize, awarded in the name of the first president of the Federal Republic of Germany for "exemplary democratic engagement". He holds an honorary Professorship at the University of Heidelberg.

Professor Luc Soete

Professor & former Rector Magnificus, Maastricht University

Luc Soete (15 September 1950, Brussels) is Honorary Professor at Maastricht University. He was Rector Magnificus of Maastricht University from 2012 till 2016. Luc Soete graduated in economics from Ghent University, Belgium. He obtained a DPhil in economics from Sussex University where he worked as senior research fellow at the Science Policy Research Unit in the late 70's and 80's. From 1984 till 1985 he was visiting associate professor at the Department of Economics at Stanford University, USA. In 1986 he joined the new Faculty of Economics and Business Administration (now called the School of Business and Economics) at Maastricht University as professor of International Economics Relations. In 1988 he set up the research institute MERIT (Maastricht Economic Research Centre on Innovation and Technology) which merged under his direction in 2005 with UNU-INTECH to become UNU-MERIT. In 2010 he became Director-Dean of the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance of Maastricht University.

He is a fellow of the Royal Dutch Academy of Science (KNAW), and Chairman of the RISE high level group for Commissioner Carlos Moedas. He obtained a Doctor Honoris Causa from the universities of Ghent, Liege and Sussex.

Professor Rebecca Hughes

Director of Education, British Council

Professor Rebecca Hughes is Director, Education, British Council covering Skills, Schools, Higher Education, Science and the sector leadership for Erasmus Plus.

Rebecca's appointment to British Council in 2013 followed a career working extensively in international Higher Education and English Language and Linguistics. Rebecca's experience of internationalisation of Education includes being the first Pro-Vice-Chancellor, International, at The University of Sheffield, and running a Department delivering UK degrees and English language support services in Malaysia and China at the University of Nottingham, where Rebecca now holds an Honorary Chair.

Rebecca is the sector lead for the Education elements of the UK's 'GREAT' campaign, and represents British Council on the technical working groups of the Commonwealth Education Commission. She co-chairs the International Education Advisory Group -- a national forum on student promotion and trans-national education -- and is on the steering committee for UKFIET. Rebecca is the British Council sector lead for joint working with the major EU national agencies for international education mobility and exchange (DAAD, Campus France and Nuffic).

Her past roles have included Chair of the White Rose Advisory Group on East Asian Studies, Chair of the Worldwide Universities Network (W.U.N) Global Challenge on Higher Education and Research, and membership of the board of governors of the Institute for Managers in Higher Education, Higher Education and Skills Division at the OECD.

Professor Jo Ritzen

Professor & Former President Maastricht University and Minister of Education Netherlands

Jozef Ritzen, (Dutch national, physics engineer, economist and politician) was Minister of Education, Culture, and Science of The Netherlands from 1989 to 1998, one of the longest-serving Ministers of Education in the world. During his term, he enacted a series of major reforms throughout the Dutch education system. Subsequently he was Vice President of the World Bank's (1998-2003) and President of Maastricht University (2003-2011).

He is now honorary professor of Maastricht University, senior advisor to the International Institute of Labor Studies IZA in Bonn, special adviser to RAND Europe and member of the several International Advisory Boards of the Universities.

Session 2 Research collaborations before and through the BREXIT

Chair: Prof David Hogg, Chair WUN Academic Advisory Group, University of Leeds

Professor David Hogg

Professor of Artificial Intelligence, University of Leeds

David Hogg is Professor of Artificial Intelligence at the University of Leeds. He has an international reputation for research on computer vision, particularly in the areas of video analysis and activity recognition. Until 2016 he was Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research and Innovation at Leeds and before this had been Head of the School of Computing. During 1999-2000 he was a visiting professor at the MIT Media Lab. He has been on the programme committee for most of the leading international conferences in computer vision for over ten years and advises many research funding agencies worldwide, including the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada for the award of the Herzberg, Polanyi and Brockhouse prizes in 2016 and 2017. He has been Chair of the ICT strategic advisory team for the principal UK engineering and physical sciences research funding agency (EPSRC) and is currently Chair of the Academic Advisory Group

of the Worldwide Universities Network (WUN). He is a Fellow of the European Association for Artificial Intelligence (EurAI), a Distinguished Fellow of the British Machine Vision Association, and a Fellow of the International Association for Pattern Recognition.

Dr Robert Madelin

Visiting Research Fellow, University of Oxford

Robert Madelin served in the British Civil Service 1979-1992 and in the European Commission 1993-2016.

Robert's major engagements are as Chief Strategist at Fipra International, and as a Visiting Research Fellow at Oxford University's Department of Politics and International Relations.

Robert is also an alumnus Policy Fellow of Cambridge University's Centre for Science and Policy and a lecturer in LSE's current Programme in Trade Negotiations.

Robert studied at Magdalen College, Oxford and at the French Civil Service College (ENA). He is an Honorary Doctor of the University of Edinburgh and an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of London. He is a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Futures Councils and an adviser to the European Health Forum Gastein.

Robert is the author of 'Opportunity Now: Europe's mission to innovate' (2016).

Vivienne Stern

Director, Universities UK International (UUKi)

Vivienne is the Director of Universities UK International (UUKi) which represents UK universities around the world and works to enable them to flourish internationally.

Prior to her role in UUKi, Vivienne was Head of Political Affairs at Universities UK. In this role she led the sector's response to several major pieces of legislation relating to universities, including the Higher Education Act 2004. She previously worked in the UK Parliament for the Chair of the Education and Skills Select Committee, and as a higher education policy specialist working on topics including quality, student experience, innovation and university-business links.

She is a Director of Universities UK; a member of the Board of the UK India Research and Innovation Initiative and the Strategic Partnerships in Higher Education Fund; she is a member of the British Council's Education Advisory Group and a number of other Boards and Committees.

She is a graduate in English Literature from the University of Cambridge.

Jessica Cole

Head of Policy, Russell Group

Jessica is Head of Policy at the Russell Group and is primarily responsible for policy relating to the EU, research and innovation, and medical and health education. She joined the organisation from the European Parliament in August 2013, where she was previously a policy adviser for Vicky Ford MEP, working on EU research and energy policy in particular. A key focus of Jessica's current work includes the impact of the EU referendum result on Russell Group universities and the opportunities and challenges presented by Brexit.

Jessica has a degree in Modern & Medieval Languages from the University of Cambridge.

The Russell Group represents 24 leading UK universities which are committed to maintaining the very best research, an outstanding teaching and learning experience and unrivalled links with business and the public sector. More information can be found at www.russellgroup.ac.uk

Session 3 Academic and Student Mobility Models after BREXIT

Chair: Professor Joseph Sung, President CUHK and Chair, WUN Partnership Board

Professor Joseph Sung

Vice-Chancellor, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Professor Joseph J.Y. Sung received his medical degree (MB BS) from The University of Hong Kong in 1983, and was conferred PhD in biomedical sciences by the University of Calgary in 1992 and MD by The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) in 1997.

As a renowned scientist in gastroenterology, he and his team proved the relationship between H. Pylori and peptic ulcer diseases. They were first in demonstrating that a course of antibiotics lasting a week can cure H. Pylori infection and successfully treat peptic ulcers; minimize their relapse and reduce the need for surgery. These research results have a major impact and changed the practice of gastroenterology worldwide.

In 2004, he led a group of experts from 15 Asia-Pacific countries to launch colorectal cancer screening research, laid down clear guidelines and promoted colorectal screenings in the region. Professor Sung was honoured by the US Prevent Cancer Foundation with the Laurel Award in 2008. His contributions to the advancement of medical sciences and academic development have won him wide numerous local and regional awards,

In July 2010, Professor Sung was appointed the Vice-Chancellor of the Chinese University of Hong Kong. The CUHK joined the WUN Network in October 2011. He joined the WUN Presidents Forum, Conference actively and organized the 2015 WUN Conference and AGM in Hong Kong. In 2015-16 he was elected as the Vice Chair and 2016-18 he was elected as Chair. 3 new members were admitted to WUN since he took up the Chairmanship.

Professor John Wood

Director General, Association of Commonwealth Universities

Professor John Wood CBE, FREng is the Secretary-General of the Association of Commonwealth Universities and visiting professor of materials at Imperial College London, University College London and Brunel University London. He graduated from Sheffield University followed by a Ph.D. from Cambridge University for his Ph.D.) He holds a higher doctorate from Sheffield and has an honorary doctorate from the University of Cluj-Napoca in Romania where he is also a “citizen of honour” and honorary doctorates from the B.S.Rahman University in Chennai and the Kwama Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Ghana. He has held several academic posts at the Open University, Nottingham University and Imperial College. From 2001-2007 he was appointed chief executive of the Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils.

He is a non-executive director of a number of companies including Bio-Nano Consulting. He was a founder member and then chair of the European Strategy Forum for Research Infrastructures. He became the first chair of the European Research Area Board and remains a research and innovation adviser to the EC. He chaired the report “The Data Harvest,” that led to the formation of the Global Research Data Alliance where he is co-chair. Currently he chairs the board of ATTRACT looking to fast track innovation from European Research Infrastructures such as CERN and EMBL. He is also involved with a project on the future of universities with Cambridge University.

He is a fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering and made a Commander of the British Empire in 2007 for "services to science," In 2010 he was made an “Officer of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany”

Tamara Mielke

PhD student, University of York

Tamara Mielke is a German national studying for her PhD at the University of York. She recently started the third year of her studies in the York Structural Biology Laboratory, part of the Department of Chemistry.

She obtained her BSc and MSc from the University of Cologne, Germany, with a research stay in California, USA. After this she spent a year working as a research assistant in various laboratories in Dublin, Ireland.

Especially over the past two years in York she was fortunate to work in a very international and welcoming research environment. Through various events organised and led by the (graduate) students association she was able to engage with people from all over the world and gained first-hand experience of the benefits that come from being part of the European Union.

Robert Morgan

Master Student, Maastricht University

Robert Morgan is a student at Maastricht University studying towards a Master's degree in European Studies with a specialisation in International Relations and European Politics. I have a keen interest in politics and am currently writing my thesis on Euroscepticism in the UK.

Last year he graduated with a first-class degree in French, Spanish and European Studies from the University of Bath. As part of his degree, he spent a semester at the University of Aix-Marseille followed by five months teaching in an academy in Colmenar Viejo near Madrid. His 'year abroad' was part-funded by the EU's Erasmus+ program, which made a real difference to his overall experience.

Having lived and studied in several EU countries, he understands the benefits that EU citizenship brings to students. He strongly believes that studying in a different country can help you develop as a person. You experience and discover new cultures, languages, and people. You gain a greater appreciation of different styles of education and outlooks, and can expand future career opportunities. His concern is that without appropriate protections put in place, UK withdrawal from the EU has the potential to deter British people from studying in other EU countries.

Session 4 International Networks in Higher Education – the WUN experience

Chair: Prof Dag Rune Olsen, President University of Bergen

Professor Dag Rune Olsen

Rector, University of Bergen

Professor Dag Rune Olsen is Rector of the University of Bergen (www.uib.no/en), chair of the Science Committee and deputy member of the board of the Norwegian Association of Higher Education Institutions (http://www.uhr.no/om_uhr/about_uhr) and member of the EUA Research Policy Working Group (<http://www.eua.be/>). Moreover, he is deputy board member of the Centre for Advanced Studies, Oslo (<https://cas.oslo.no/>). Professor Olsen was Dean of Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, University of Bergen, before taking up the position as Rector. He is professor of medical physics and served as head of research at the Norwegian Radium Hospital and professor at the University of Oslo before taking up the position as dean in Bergen. His research has primarily focused on adaptive radiation oncology based on functional and molecular imaging. In 2008 he was the recipient of the Klaas Breur Award. He is member of the Norwegian Academy of Technological Sciences and *Academia Europaea*.

Professor Dr. Dr. h.c. Andrea Schenker-Wicki

President, University of Basel

Andrea Schenker-Wicki earned a Master's degree in engineering at ETH Zurich and a Master's degree in business administration at the University of Zurich. She obtained her doctoral degree from the University of Fribourg in 1990 and, while working as Head of Information at the National Emergency Operations Centre, she habilitated at the University of St. Gallen in 1996 with a thesis on the evaluation of university performance. In the following year, she became head of the section for universities at the Federal Office of Education and Science. In 2001 she was appointed Full Professor of Business Administration at the University of Zurich and took on the directorship of the University's Executive MBA Program. From 2012 to 2014 she was Vice President for Law and Economics of the University of Zurich. In 2015, she became President of the University of Basel.

Andrea Schenker-Wicki joined several national decision-making and advisory bodies in Switzerland and abroad. Among others, she was a member of the Austria Science Board and the Swiss Science and Innovation Council. She was also part of the German Accreditation Council and presided over the Scientific Advisory Board of the Swiss Center of Accreditation and Quality Assurance in Higher Education.

Prof Andrew George

Deputy Vice Chancellor (Education and International), Brunel University London

Andrew George joined Brunel University London as Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education and International) in 2013. He is responsible for the education and international strategy of the University, the annual planning round, and is the representative of YERUN in his institution.

Andrew George did his first degree at the University of Cambridge, before going on to the Tenovus Laboratories in the University of Southampton to do his PhD with Professor Freda Stevenson, developing a vaccine for B cell lymphoma. He was awarded a Beit Memorial Fellowship and stayed in Southampton for his first postdoctoral period, before going to Dr David Segal's laboratory in the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Bethesda, USA, where he used recombinant techniques to generate novel antibody molecules. In 1992 he returned to the UK as a lecturer at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School, Hammersmith Hospital, which merged with Imperial College London in 1997. At Imperial he was Professor of Molecular Immunology and Director of the Graduate School and the School of Professional Development.

In addition to his research, he has been involved in the ethical conduct and regulation of research. He is currently Chair of the UK's National Research Ethics Advisors' Panel and is on the Clinical Trials, Biologicals and Vaccines Expert Advisory Group for the Commission of Human Medicines/MHRA. He is a Director of Imperial College Health Partners, and a Governor of Richmond Adult Community College and the John Hampden Grammar School.

In the 2017 New Year Honours list Andrew was appointed MBE for his services to research participants and the ethical governance of clinical research.

In October 2016, he contributed to the Britain in Europe Policy Report "Brexit: Opportunities, Challenges and the Road Ahead" that can be found here: http://media.wix.com/ugd/e6ec6f_a617701927ef4eabb44123a72848e989.pdf

Dr Kurt Deketelaere

Secretary General, League of European Research Universities (LERU)

Since July 2009, Kurt is the Secretary-General of the League of European Research Universities (LERU), an association of twenty-one leading research-intensive universities which promotes the interests of frontier research with the EU institutions. For his exemplary leadership of LERU, he is awarded a doctorate honoris causa by the University of Edinburgh in July 2017. Before joining LERU, he was the chief legal advisor (2004-2007) and the chief of staff (2007-2009) of the Flemish Minister for Public Works, Energy, Environment and Nature. Since 1995, he is also a professor of law (on parttime leave since 2007) at the University of Leuven, the university where he studied law (1984-1989), obtained his PhD in Law (1989-1995) and spent (until now) his whole academic career. Furthermore, he is an honorary professor of law at the University of Malta and the University of Dundee, was awarded the Hou-De Honorary Chair at the National Tsing Hua University in Taiwan, and has been a visiting professor of law at the Universities of London, Sydney, Singapore, Keio and Chuo. He is a member of the International Advisory Board of IE University (Madrid) and Humanitas University (Milano), the High Level Advisory Board of the Insight Foresight Institute (Madrid) and the International Leadership Advisory Board of the Center for Learning Innovations and Customized Knowledge Solutions (Dubai). Upon the invitation of the European Commission he is a member of the Open Science Policy Platform and the ABS Consultation Forum. Kurt published extensively in the field of EU Environmental, Energy and Climate Change Law, and is the editor of several leading bookseries and journals in that field. Finally, he chairs the Board of Directors of the Flemish Energy Regulator (VREG), is chair of the Flemish Environmental Damages Commission, co-chair of the Malta Legal Forum on Adaptation to Climate Change, and is on the board of a number of profit (MRBB, AIF, AVEVE) and non-profit (I-Cleantech, VVBBCI) organisations in Belgium.

Professor Colin Grant

Vice President (International), University of Southampton

Professor Colin Grant is a Professor of Human Communication, whose research and educational interests focus on communications in unstable environments, a field in which he has published 9 book-length studies. He is Chair of the Boards of the University of Southampton Malaysian Campus and Southampton International Singapore Ltd.

As the Vice-President (International), he provides University-wide oversight of all activities with an international component. This includes overall responsibility for the international strategy, our international students and alumni, our international staff community, international research and innovation, international mobility, global profile and international partnerships with universities, governments, industry and other actors.

Professor Grant is a long-standing member of the UUK International Strategic Advisory Board and a member of the British Council Education Advisory Group. He is a member of the DAAD Global Strategic Partnerships Review Committee and a Specialist Reviewer of the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications. He is Chair of the UUK Latin America Community of Practice.

He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and a fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

Richard Corbett

Member of the European Parliament

Richard Corbett is a Member of the European Parliament for the Labour Party for Yorkshire and the Humber. He is Deputy Leader of the Labour Members of the European Parliament, part of the centre-left Socialists & Democrats group. Prior to being an MEP, he worked in the voluntary sector and then as a civil servant, after having gained a BA at Oxford and a PhD at Hull. Since 2009, Richard has continued to work and write on European affairs, including two university textbooks: "The European Union: How Does it Work?" and "The European Parliament", now in its eighth edition. Richard has also continued to lecture on European matters in universities and elsewhere. In November 2012, Richard was voted by a panel of journalists, academics, retired diplomats, and think-tankers as the fourth most influential Briton on EU policy, ahead of the Prime Minister. He is also a member of a number of cross-party intergroups, which reflect his other political interests and priorities, e.g. Anti-racism and diversity intergroup, Sport intergroup and Trade union intergroup.

Tim King

Contributing writer, POLITICO

Tim King has been covering the European Union as a journalist in Brussels for almost 20 years. After studying history at Cambridge and Harvard universities, he trained in newspaper journalism in the west of England, where his duties in the early 1990s included reporting on the development of Bath University. He moved on to national newspapers – mostly the Daily Telegraph, where he reported on the environment, education and politics - before coming out to Brussels with The European. His interest in the EU survived that newspaper's demise and he subsequently worked for a news agency and for Sunday Business. In 2004, he joined European Voice, a newspaper specialising in EU affairs, becoming its editor in 2009. His editorials and columns sought to combine a detailed knowledge of the minutiae of EU policy with an ability to discern the broader political picture. Since 2015, he has been a contributing writer for POLITICO Europe, and is the author of its Brussels Sketch. While at European Voice he was a regular contributor to the English-language edition of France 24 television and he is now a contributor to BBC and Belgian radio and television, sought for his views on Belgium as well as the EU.

Peter van der Hijden

Higher Education Expert

Former Head of Sector Higher Education Policy at the European Commission

Peter van der Hijden is an independent higher education expert from Maastricht, the Netherlands. He studied law and worked at university before joining the European Commission in Brussels. Former Head of Sector Higher Education Policy, Peter helped to build the Erasmus programme, shape the European Higher Education Area (Bologna Process), steer the EU Modernisation Agenda for Higher Education, prepare Horizon 2020 and promote the European Research Area (ERA). He currently acts as board member, advisor and moderator for public authorities, non-governmental organisations, companies, universities and networks.

[Expert Discussants](#)

Martin Priestley

Head of International Education, Pinsent Mason

Martin leads the Pinsent Masons international education team and has extensive experience of acting for universities on projects in Europe, the Middle East and Asia. He advises clients on major collaborations, joint ventures, establishing branch campuses and representative offices and strategic commercial projects. Martin is highly recommended in the leading legal directory Legal 500 and is also mentioned as being 'very responsive and personable' and 'commercial and pragmatic'. Martin has a particular interest in advising HE clients on the consequences of Brexit and has spoken at UUK International and HEFCE seminars on possible contractual structures and partnerships available to universities to mitigate the impact of Brexit.

Relevant experience includes: Advising the University of Sheffield on its collaboration with Nanjing Tech University for the creation of a joint institute in China; Advising a Russell Group university on its activities in France and its collaboration with another leading university; Advising the University of Sussex on its proposed long-term agreement with Study Group for the management of its international study centre and recruitment of international students.

Professor Saul Tendler

Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Provost, The University of York

Professor Tendler is the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Provost of the University of York. He has responsibility for planning and resource allocation across the University and for the delivery of the University's Strategic Plan. In addition, he is the academic lead for the University's internationalization strategy; developing strong networks and appropriate partnerships to enhance the reputation of the University.

Professor Tendler joined the University of York in 2015. He gained a BSc in Pharmacy at the University of Manchester in 1982 and was awarded a PhD from the University of Aston in 1986. He was a MRC Training Fellow at the National Institute for Medical Research, before being appointed to a Lectureship at the University of Nottingham. He was subsequently promoted to Professor of Biophysical Chemistry in 1998. From 2003 he headed Nottingham's School of Pharmacy before becoming a Pro-Vice-Chancellor in 2009.

Professor Tendler has significant experience of research and technology transfer. He was a founding director of Molecular Profiles Ltd and is currently the Chair of York Science Park Ltd. His research has resulted in more than 200 peer-reviewed publications, the award of a DSc and has been recognized through a number of prizes. He has served on many funding council and research council boards and committees and was Chair of the MRC/BBSRC/EPSRC Discipline Hopping Panel. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry, and was designated a Fellow of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain in 2000.

Kristof Vlaeminck

Head of the Brussels Office, The University of Bergen

It is my task to help researchers of the UiB getting involved in Europe, and more specifically Horizon2020. In a nutshell, you could say I have to bring Brussels closer to Bergen and Bergen closer to Brussels. I have to make my colleagues understand how Horizon2020 works and demystify the processes preceding decisions taken by the European Commission. On the other hand, I have to help them getting involved in the research programme and support them with their strategic positioning.

British institutes have always been important research partners and several of my colleagues are worried if these partnerships can be sustained in the future. Many of them even think that collaborating with UK partners for the current calls for proposals can damage their chances of success. I always explain that there is no need to jump to conclusions but that we have to keep track on the evolution of the situation.

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Summary Statements of Presentations

Session 1 Policies and Projections

Chair: Prof Martin Paul, President Maastricht University

Professor Dr Martin Paul

President, Maastricht University

As a leading international, European Network University, Maastricht University is very pleased to host this BREXIT workshop, in collaboration with WUN, at their Maastricht University Campus in Brussels. Prof Martin Paul will open this workshop together with his colleagues, Prof John Hearn and Prof Koen Lamberts presenting the agenda for a day of insightful presentations, updates and discussions on BREXIT and the International Higher Education Landscape. Prof Paul will also chair the first opening session on Policies and Projections. The greatest current challenge is the uncertainty around the consequences of this Brexit decision in that we don't know exactly what to expect. This first session will address the main issues with regard to the lack of current policy and processes as well as looking towards how we can influence and shape future policy to ensure a smooth progression to an EU, a European Union without the UK. Strategically, our strength as Europeans is to stand together, to continue to cooperate and collaborate internationally and to strive to assert the presence of the EU, as key player in the global context.

The Value of Integration for European Higher Education

Dr Andreas Schleicher, Director for Education and Skills, OECD

While it is difficult to assess the impact of BREXIT for students, universities and research, the OECD has good data to highlight the extent and value which the integration of European higher education has for both the UK and other European countries. This presentation will look at international trends in the demand and supply of higher education, the economic and social returns to university-level degrees, and student mobility. It will also compare cost structures and analyse alternatives students looking for instruction in English have in Europe.

BREXIT and Higher Education

Professor Luc Soete (former Rector Magnificus) Maastricht University

The current debate on Brexit contains many paradoxical features, which might offer opportunities for closer higher education collaboration within Europe and the rest of the world.

For most economists, it remains remarkable how the most lucid description of the advantages of a multinational federation such as the EU, was given long ago by Friedrich Hayek ("The economic conditions of interstate federalism", 1939). For Hayek, there are two reasons why a multinational order is much more preferable than a national one. First, there will be a disempowerment of national governments and other state-level organizations such as trade unions, cartels or professional organizations which will find their monopolistic position in controlling the supply of services and goods curtailed, following the freedom of cross-border movement. Second, replacing such national disempowerment with a higher level of power at multinational level will be more difficult. Economic differences are more pronounced in a large entity than in a small one; many forms of national state interference, justified in one particular setting will be regarded by other

members as an impediment; a multinational federation lacks the common identity to transfer resources in the name of solidarity on which nation states can rely. Margaret Thatcher understood Hayek well. In many ways, the UK achieved through its membership, the creation of the EU as a primarily, neo-liberal multinational institution: deepening the common market into a Single Market; disempowering member states with the defense of the “four freedoms” by the European Court of Justice; increasing heterogeneity following subsequent enlargements preventing the EU to take over the redistributive powers that member states were no longer able to exercise.

In this sense, Brexit offers today an opportunity for **both** the EU and the UK to escape the Hayek-Thatcher neo-liberal “trap”, opening up new opportunities to create European and world-wide solidarity frameworks outside of multinational institutional frameworks such as the EU and the UK. One such opportunity, I will argue, is higher education, an area not formally part of either “union” but one which has greatly benefited from international collaboration enhanced by the European integration project as discussed in Ritzen and Soete “Research, Higher Education and Innovation: Redesigning European Governance in a Period of Crisis”, Notre Europe, November 28, 2011, <http://www.delorsinstitute.eu/011-2935-Research-Higher-Education-and-Innovation-Redesigning-European-Governance-in-an-Period-of-Crisis.html>

Keeping the dream alive: redefining the value of international collaboration in a post-Exit landscape

Professor Rebecca Hughes, Director of Education, British Council

In an ever complex (and uncertain) landscape it is important to support and promote the benefits of the academic community’s deeply rooted values of international openness to different perspectives, collaboration and mobility.

The EU referendum result and subsequent rhetoric sent shockwave across the higher education sector, one that was felt professionally and personally by academics, researchers, lecturers, senior leaders and students. The sector and agencies responded rapidly and with vigour. In the UK, the University of Sheffield led the sector-wide #WeAreInternational campaign. British Council and UUK ran a 10 EU city ‘roadshow’ to convey the UK’s commitment to student flows. The UK is also building and refining the Education is GREAT campaign and turning to look at wider alliances to build on such as the Commonwealth and ASEAN.

As we look to a new reality on the horizon, the UK needs to work systematically and thoughtfully to continue to build these networks and alliances as never before: alliances that are close to home and further afield.

The challenge we all face defining and shaping mechanisms to support collaboration and mobility for a new, post-Exit world. What will the mechanisms look like? What new policies will enable strong relationships? How do we ensure young people continue to have an international mindset? How will universities continue to make a difference to communities? Indeed, what do we need to ‘Keep the dream alive’?

Bailey Bridges over Brexit

Professor Jo Ritzen (former President), Maastricht University

Paraphrasing “by the rivers of Babylon”: At the side of the channel, there we set down and remembered a vibrant Europe.

Brexit is a tragedy and will cause irreparable damage also to the European emerging knowledge union. There is no such thing as having your cake and eat it. Bridges of student mobility and of research cooperation will be blown up with the execution of Article 50 of the EU (the Brexit article). EU staff at UK Universities will be in trouble as will be UK staff at continental universities. So high time to think about bailey bridges: rapid assembly from prefabricated standard parts as used especially in military operations. And to start NOW. The assembly parts can be based on current relations between universities. The funding has to be private as the Governments will not allow for a silent “semi-Brexit”. Is the private sector willing to help? Are there possibilities in the anti-Brexit parts of the UK ready for special relations with the EU in knowledge? Is there a potential for country-UK agreements on university exchange and research cooperation? These could potentially be possibilities for damage control. University organizations in the EU Member States and in the UK should take up the challenge.

Session 2 Research collaborations before and through the BREXIT

Chair: Prof David Hogg, Chair WUN Academic Advisory Group, University of Leeds

Dr Robert Madelin

Visiting Research Fellow, University of Oxford

The challenge of Brexit lies in the dislocation and prevention of plurilateral global networks in science and discovery.

I shall sketch the nature of the transition challenge between the launch of Brexit and the end of the current EU financing period. I shall outline the main choices on funding beyond that date. I shall discuss briefly the issue of the free movement of students, teachers and researchers.

My instinct is to secure the softest possible resolution of overall Brexit issues, notably around EU27/UK labour movement; and on that basis to secure agreement to a continuing UK participation in all aspects of EU-funded collaborative research. In the field of science, perhaps uniquely, it is likely that most EU27 actors will see this as also in their interest. But there will be opportunistic or issue-specific exceptions that need to be identified and resolved early if possible.

Vivienne Stern

Director, Universities UK International (UUKi)

International collaboration in research is increasingly important to the UK research base. We collaborate more than any of our major competitors - nearly half of UK publications have an international co-author – and these collaborations provide access to ideas, facilities, scale and conditions which it would be impossible to replicate within the national system. UK researchers collaborate worldwide, but other European countries still account for nearly half of collaborative activity.

The prospect of losing access to European Framework programmes is therefore a significant concern, but is not an inevitable consequence of Brexit. Membership of the EU is not an essential condition for participating in Framework programmes. However, access with influence depends on accepting free movement and must be negotiated. Meanwhile, the UK Government determination to forge new and stronger bilateral links with countries both in Europe and beyond provide an opportunity for a new co-ordinated approach to boosting international research collaboration as essential condition for maintaining our position as one of the best research systems in the world.

Research Collaborations and Brexit: Implications for Russell Group Universities

Jessica Cole, Head of Policy, Russell Group

Russell Group universities have a long tradition of participating in EU research and innovation programmes. These programmes have helped foster thousands of collaborative links right across the continent and EU funding has become an increasingly important source of research income for Russell Group universities. The UK's exit from the EU will have a significant impact on UK universities, which have long thrived on global collaboration and international interaction – be it through European staff and students coming to our universities, or when our best researchers work with colleagues across Europe to tackle big social and scientific challenges.

Looking forward, the Russell Group wants to ensure the UK can continue to participate in EU research and innovation and to make sure UK universities can continue to recruit and retain talented staff and students from across the EU and more widely. This will not only help UK universities to thrive, but will be beneficial for research and innovation across the European Union, helping to drive a competitive European knowledge-based economy for the future.

Session 3 Academic and Student Mobility Models after BREXIT

Chair: Professor Joseph Sung, President CUHK and Chair, WUN Partnership Board

Academic and Student Mobility Models after BREXIT

Professor John Wood, Director General, Association of Commonwealth Universities

Trying to second guess the implications for student and staff mobility after Brexit is a foolish exercise since no one has any idea what Brexit will mean. UK universities have set up groups to assess the impact and come up with solutions that will offset the worst case scenarios. The common (and realistic) fears are a curtailment on student and researcher mobility, being excluded from European research and innovation projects, a lack of any say in strategic planning of research and training and the wholly negative effect it will have (and is already having) on potential staff recruitment.

This presentation will attempt to look at how other universities in other countries such as Switzerland and Norway interact with the EC and whether these could be a model for the UK. It is suggested too that students from other parts of the Commonwealth could make up numbers but that would depend on a much increased commitment to scholarships from the UK Development fund which is already under increasing political pressure for reduction.

There are a number of innovations that can be taken forward by UK universities such as forming more formal partnerships with mainland European universities, setting up independent campuses or companies in Brussels that can employ staff. One area that is not being affected are the European Research Infrastructures (such as EIROFORUM members) which are outside the EC and governed by inter-governmental agreements or not for profit companies and are not subject to UK being a member of the EC.

Possible Impacts on Student Mobility to the UK

***Tamara Mielke, PhD student, University of York
(EU Graduate Student studying in York)***

The primary challenge is to ensure future student mobility to and from the UK at maintained levels. It is important to recognise the implications involved with the potential loss of free movement of people.

For students applying for taught courses the question of tuition fees needs to be addressed as these could triple. Similarly EU mobility programs like Erasmus or Marie Curie might need to re-evaluate the applicability of studying/researching in the UK. Europeans applying for PhD positions might find fewer positions they are eligible for. The requirements for visa and related financial efforts and application times are important to keep in mind when building/maintaining collaborations. Visa requirements could also affect students hoping to come to the UK with dependants.

There could also be implications affecting the everyday life of EU citizens living in the UK. This could reach from travel to and from Europe and possible needs for insurances, to the invalidity of European documents, such as driving licenses.

It is important to further encourage collaborations and student mobility to the UK and support should be made available.

Robert Morgan

Master Student, Maastricht University

(UK Graduate Student studying in Maastricht)

I will be highlighting the concerns and potential implications of Brexit for British students considering studying within the EU.

Firstly, the prospect of a change in the existing arrangements of freedom of movement is concerning as it may reduce opportunities to travel, study, and work in the EU. Currently, most European universities offer low tuition fees and living costs, with many courses now taught entirely in English. However, post-Brexit, British students may face the higher non-EU rates at these institutions. Furthermore, it is uncertain whether the Erasmus+ funding programme or the mutual recognition of degrees will continue unchanged. Moreover, the prospect of student visas and reduced rights to work within EU countries is also concerning. Overall, potential changes brought about through Brexit will probably deter British students from studying in EU countries as it would be less attractive economically and would be logistically more difficult than before.

I hope that the UK government strives to maintain partnerships with other European universities and produces a clear strategy which puts protections in place so that studying in EU countries remains a realistic and affordable option for British students.

Session 4 International Networks in Higher Education – the WUN experience

Chair: Prof Dag Rune Olsen, President University of Bergen

Bridges over Borders

Professor John Hearn, Executive Director, The Worldwide Universities Network

What will BREXIT mean globally? Overwhelmingly, 80% of University higher education and research stakeholders have reacted with concerns about the risk to knowledge partnerships, isolation of brains and resources, limits to free movement, and retrograde global development. Looking under the stone, some see hope in a broader opportunity for international engagement, through existing and new networks that can build higher education and research partnerships and practice. These opportunities could present a broader British and European agenda for engagement with Asia, Australia and the Commonwealth, the USA and Latin America. Clearly such options and opportunities will take time and a realistic access to resources. The British Government, with the new internal Higher Education Legislation, should appreciate that brains

mean business, and invest accordingly, rather than claw back funds into central revenue. In such times, the international university networks, of which WUN is a leading example, can provide innovation and solutions. The advantages are prepared communities of scholars, experience in addressing major global challenges, opportunities for established and emerging researchers, engagement with international agencies and policies; and teamwork to attract the necessary resources. WUN and similar networks must adjust and align to the new realities, major opportunities and mitigation of risk.

Swiss Participation to Horizon 2020: Current Challenges and Perspectives

Professor Andrea Schenker-Wicki, President University of Basel

Not being a member of the European Union, Switzerland has framed its relations with the EU in a series of bilateral treaties. These contracts grant Switzerland access to the European Single Market with its free movement of goods, capital, services and people. With respect to research, Switzerland became an associated country of the European Framework Programmes (FP) in 2006, contributing to the FP budget and providing its researchers with equal rights as those in EU member countries. In 2014 however, following a referendum in which a tiny majority of citizens accepted the introduction of quotas for all migrants, Switzerland lost its status as an associated Country of the FP, since such a new regulation contradicted the basic principle of free movement of persons within the European Common Market. The present contribution describes the measures taken by the Swiss government to grant further participation of local researchers in Horizon 2020 in order to preserve Switzerland's position as a leading European centre for research and innovation. It then discusses similarities with the situation in the UK after the Brexit referendum, presenting lessons learned and possible options for UK science to cope with the expected consequences of the Brexit.

Collaboration of Young Universities in Europe

Prof Andrew George, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Brunel University London, YERUN representative

YERUN (Young European Research Universities Network) officially launched its cooperation in January 2015 with the aim of promoting joint initiatives in the areas of research, teaching and staff mobility, and becoming the voice of European young universities in Europe. The network brings together 18 European Universities established within the last 50 years across 12 EU countries, and included in any of the rankings of universities created in the last 50 years. Apart of the "age" other common denominators for YERUN Universities are their orientation towards high quality research and innovation for societal impact, commitment to internalisation and emphasis on employability.

YERUN aims to encourage inclusivity in our societies and the reinforcement of the importance of the European Union, preserving the spirit of European unity, appreciation of results and success reached so far. Representing young universities in Europe and built upon the foundations of social and economic growth and responsibility to our societies, YERUN will redouble its efforts to ensure that young universities act as a driver for social inclusion and mobility.

Expert Discussants

Kristof Vlaeminck

Head of the Brussels Office, The University of Bergen

The primary challenge is to find the subtle balance between the desires of the UK on the one hand and the European Union on the other hand. I quite often compare the Brexit to the end of a marriage and it is of the utmost importance that UK's withdrawal from the European Union does not end up in a divorce battle with only losers on both ends. And especially for researchers this would be dramatically since for a lot of European researchers the UK is the best place to further develop their talents. At the same time, it would be a tremendous loss for the UK if they would miss out on all these bright people. One solution could be an agreement with the EU comparable to the one Norway has. That way, the UK is not a part of the EU anymore but it also does not jeopardise the possibilities for both parties.