



A Tradition of Innovation

Coimbra Group Statement on BREXIT

by the Rectors' Advisory Group and the Executive Board

The Rectors' Advisory Group and the Executive Board of the Coimbra Group have carefully monitored the development of the BREXIT negotiations with regard to the future framework for continued collaboration between UK universities and the European Higher Education Area and the European Research Area. We are concerned that, irrespective of the future political outcomes of the BREXIT negotiations, our UK members and indeed all UK universities will be able to continue to collaborate fully and on equal footing with their EU and associated partners in European research programmes (e.g. Horizon Europe), as well as programmes that support student and staff mobility (e.g. ERASMUS+).

In the event of a no-deal BREXIT, the Coimbra Group is ready to support mobility with our UK members using our own network of 39 European universities. In particular, the Coimbra Group Student Exchange Network (SEN) was created twenty years ago and recently revised by our Academic Exchange and Mobility Working Group to promote and enhance inner network exchange at all levels and academic disciplines ([Academic Exchange and Mobility Working Group](#)). In the specific context of BREXIT, the Coimbra Group will mobilize the full potential of the SEN instrument to maintain the mobility of students (and potentially staff) from and to our UK members.

The Coimbra Group will continue to follow the situation closely, keeping in mind that the current time of uncertainty in the BREXIT negotiations should not be allowed to impair the scope and intensity of collaborative activity in research, education and innovation between UK Universities and those across the other EU member states.

Brussels, 31 January 2019