

## Transcript of the session following the webinar on 'Engineering, the UK and the EU' broadcast on Monday 8 August 2016

Webinar link: <https://tv.theiet.org/?videoid=9058>

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:07 pm 8 Aug 2016

Hello all, welcome to the webinar, and thank you for joining us. We have the project team here who are very keen to hear from you, your thoughts on the presentation you have just seen and any comments or suggestions around the impact on engineering of the leave vote. At this early stage, we aim to stimulate discussion around this and help identify priorities rather than providing definitive answers.

**User Michael Purshouse**12:07 pm 8 Aug 2016

Is the baseline assumption here that the UK will leave the EU and the Single Market (i.e. "hard BREXIT")?

**User THE IET**12:07 pm 8 Aug 2016

what are the dates of the workshops?

**User Jean Billingsley**12:08 pm 8 Aug 2016

How is the consultation to be done?

**User THE IET**12:08 pm 8 Aug 2016

Where does spectrum policy fit?

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:08 pm 8 Aug 2016

Michael, Government policy is to leave the EU, we are not making assumptions about the form that will take.

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:09 pm 8 Aug 2016

THE IET, the workshops will take place over the next few weeks, email the project team at [euprojectteam@raeng.org.uk](mailto:euprojectteam@raeng.org.uk) for more details.

**User Christopher Waters**12:09 pm 8 Aug 2016

Will the workshops be online or actual physical meetings?

**User David Hughes**12:10 pm 8 Aug 2016

Please separate out research and innovation. They are distinctly different - scientific research is about knowledge creation but innovation is about wealth creation. and unless we recognise that some of the most important innovations do not come directly from science we will lose the opportunity to focus on economic growth

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:10 pm 8 Aug 2016

Jean Billingsley, A combination of workshops and requests for input. If there is anything in particular you would like to tell us, please email via [euprojectteam@raeng.org.uk](mailto:euprojectteam@raeng.org.uk)

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:11 pm 8 Aug 2016

THE IET, Spectrum policy is being looked at through the telecomms sector work as part of both the technology and standards and regs workstreams. If you can email the project team, we can provide more details.

**User THE IET**12:11 pm 8 Aug 2016

where will maintenance of EU HORIZON 2020 fit the list, as it goes beyond R+I

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:12 pm 8 Aug 2016

Christopher Waters, the workshops are physical meetings, but you can contribute via the email if you prefer.

**User John Scott**12:12 pm 8 Aug 2016

Perhaps Brexit will encourage resumption of a global view on the part of Britain, as a whole, and on the part of the Profession of Engineering, in particular.

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:12 pm 8 Aug 2016

David Hughes, Thank you for this, we take your point.

**User Michael Purshouse**12:12 pm 8 Aug 2016

I understand that but this is a key issue and I think the study needs to have a baseline assumption. The hard points are 'Stay in the EU', 'Norway model' and 'Hard BREXIT'. Any position other than these is going to be very messy indeed. You will find it hard to make progress without declaring some assumptions about the possible baselines.

**User THE IET**12:13 pm 8 Aug 2016

Are you preparing hypotheses to test at the workshops to help these runs more efficiently?

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:13 pm 8 Aug 2016

THE IET, H2020 is being specifically examined through a couple of the workstreams, and we will certainly be considering the widest possible effect.

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:14 pm 8 Aug 2016

John Scott, Thanks for this point, we are definitely considering global opportunities which the leave vote presents.

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:15 pm 8 Aug 2016

Michael Purshouse, we are considering a number of scenarios for each workstream

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:16 pm 8 Aug 2016

THE IET, at this stage, we are gathering information and testing, but we would be happy to consider all reasonable hypotheses for the workshops and afterwards.

**User Christopher Waters**12:16 pm 8 Aug 2016

Will a summary of the points raised here be available with the video for people who were unable to join the webinar live?

**User John Scott**12:16 pm 8 Aug 2016

A global view, for Professional Engineers, will include emphasis on engineering for sustainability if not for survival.

**User Michael Purshouse**12:16 pm 8 Aug 2016

Are the charts available for downloading?

**User David Hughes**12:17 pm 8 Aug 2016

Workshop sessions proposed do not appear to enable full participation, specifically from those outside the physical location where workshops are held. Have you thought of other ideas for live participation?

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:17 pm 8 Aug 2016

Christopher Waters, yes, a summary of the Q & A will be available, and the slides/presentation will remain on the IET.TV site in future.

**User THE IET**12:18 pm 8 Aug 2016

When would you wish to conclude this activity, recognising many members are absent during August ?

**User Christopher Waters**12:19 pm 8 Aug 2016

Are there efforts to communicate what ISN'T affected by Brexit to the membership? Mutual recognition of qualifications, for example, which are Europe-wide but not dependant on membership of the EU to remain in place.

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:19 pm 8 Aug 2016

Michael Purshouse, we will make the presentation available as a file on the Academy website.

**User Jean Billingsley**12:19 pm 8 Aug 2016

Will EU directives will still apply for goods provided into Europe? What will be different - other than potentially less input?

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:20 pm 8 Aug 2016

David Hughes and THE IET, we are aiming to finish the first phase of this work by the end of September. We recognise that this is over the holiday period, so we will consider various way to engage including today's webinar.

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:21 pm 8 Aug 2016

Christopher Waters, we are definitely considering the Engineering Council's position. It is not currently clear that Brexit WON'T have an impact at the moment.

**User Cliff Willson**12:22 pm 8 Aug 2016

How will you select workshop participants and will they be held regionally or centrally (London?)

**User David Hughes**12:22 pm 8 Aug 2016

The workshops need to be interactive so that members have the chance to hear others views, express their own views and converge on a consensus. Without that, the messages risk getting distorted.

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:22 pm 8 Aug 2016

Jean Billingsley, this is one of the purposes of this webinar - to tease out some of the 'known unknowns' across all the potential areas of impact. Thank you for raising this, we will investigate further.

**User THE IET**12:23 pm 8 Aug 2016

What export led initiatives (science, goods and services) are being considered as reccs to government between now and the end of this year? RAE missions?

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:23 pm 8 Aug 2016

Cliff Willson, we have some workshops taking place in London, and also in the devolved nations, please send your details to [euprojectteam@raeng.org.uk](mailto:euprojectteam@raeng.org.uk) if you would like to be considered.

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:25 pm 8 Aug 2016

THE IET, We don't yet have firm recommendations for government, please send in your ideas around export-led initiatives to the email address for consideration.

**User David Hughes**12:26 pm 8 Aug 2016

Please consider other approaches to get wider participation from the engineering profession. The locations you suggest do not appear to allow enough opportunity for real interaction and discussion.

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:27 pm 8 Aug 2016

We are looking for specific examples from engineering of the impact which Brexit is having. Are the areas we are looking at the most important and the most valuable to engineering?

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:27 pm 8 Aug 2016

What is your experience so far?

**User THE IET**12:29 pm 8 Aug 2016

Export led plans / reccs need to be more explicit as a request from the project team in the workshops. It would help to have a comms plan for this work which included this - relative to key countries such as USA , CANADA, NE ASIA , CHINA , AUSTRALASIA. UK institutions with more international reach could assist . Comms messages to the EU should also be aligned in a similar comprehensive comms plan

**User University of Edinburgh**12:30 pm 8 Aug 2016

The question currently posed is underpinned the mechanics of EU negotiations which I feel is further down the line. Perhaps a more tractable starting point would be focusing on the current UK economy, its strengths and weaknesses globally. Then, once a broad direction is has been determined, we can start bringing the EU negotiations in.

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:31 pm 8 Aug 2016

THE IET, We will certainly consider this in our planning.

**User David Hughes**12:32 pm 8 Aug 2016

Generally, the companies I work with are just keen to get on with the job, recognise risks, but also see opportunities. However, a clear Industrial Strategy is the most important issue from Government so understanding how to help UK companies to grow is fundamental. Mat be covered by topic i and partially by topic 2 if you separate out innovation from research. In my view, industrial strategy need to be a topic in its own right. This will be essential if we are to avoid Cadbury, Tata Steel , ARM type issues in future

**User THE IET**12:32 pm 8 Aug 2016

Security seems a topic worth including, whether cybersecurity or maintaining peace via NATO

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:33 pm 8 Aug 2016

University of Edinburgh, one of our workshops will focus on the industrial landscape, and the analysis you mention will form part of it. Do you have anything specific in mind, in terms of strengths and weaknesses?

**User Colin Brown**12:34 pm 8 Aug 2016

Does anyone have a list of the tariff and non-tariff barriers for engineering for countries outside of the EU that will disappear once we leave and hence might give us opportunities?

**User Peter E J Flewitt**12:34 pm 8 Aug 2016

We need to see the Government plan for the industries key for the UK in context of Brexit

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:34 pm 8 Aug 2016

David Hughes, industrial strategy is central to our deliberations.

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:35 pm 8 Aug 2016

THE IET, definitely, thank you for that.

**User THE IET**12:35 pm 8 Aug 2016

How do we ensure that an "industrial" strategy response covers more than manufacturing, given relative UK strengths in services ?

**User David Hughes**12:35 pm 8 Aug 2016

Industrial strategy should therefore be a topic in its own right

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:36 pm 8 Aug 2016

Colin Brown, we have the WTO rules, does anyone have any further insight into tariffs?

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:36 pm 8 Aug 2016

Peter E J Flewitt, we agree, and we also engaging with government as they develop these plans.

**User Peter E J Flewitt**12:37 pm 8 Aug 2016

How will the UK protect in interim take-over of key industries that need to be grown post Brexit.

**User THE IET**12:38 pm 8 Aug 2016

I didn't see Healthcare mentioned or the power of Digital health going forward. This is heavily influenced by EU Directives and yet is a major UK budget item, heavily related to international standards and trade

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:38 pm 8 Aug 2016

THE IET, we do want a more balanced economy and would welcome your views on the impact of Brexit on the broader situation.

**User THE IET**12:39 pm 8 Aug 2016

Should there be a stronger focus on our industries of the future and some support to start ups in Fintech , Edtech and Health tech ?

**User Peter E J Flewitt**12:39 pm 8 Aug 2016

The energy policy is changing eg Hinkley Point . Will the energy sector be subject to review in context of Brexit. Will energy mix be subject to review?

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:40 pm 8 Aug 2016

Peter Flewitt, good question, given the weakness of the pound, many companies will look very attractive. What do you think should be done to protect industries?

**User THE IET**12:41 pm 8 Aug 2016

How will you address the benefits of scale that are enjoyed in China and USA and we are likely to lose in Europe?

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:41 pm 8 Aug 2016

THE IET, healthcare and digital health is definitely included in our deliberations - can you point to us to any examples or material to consider?

**User David Hughes**12:41 pm 8 Aug 2016

Industrial strategy must cover more than manufacturing and must include the whole range of things which are now classified as 'services' including all the creative industries. design etc. That is why it is important to separate out scientific research from innovation since there are many examples of substantial wealth crating innovations which do not come directly from science.

**User Peter E J Flewitt**12:42 pm 8 Aug 2016

Identify Key industries / companies eg Rolls Royce etc and have a moratorium

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:43 pm 8 Aug 2016

Peter Flewitt, we are running a workshop on energy and environment, please send your details to [euprojectteam@raeng.org.uk](mailto:euprojectteam@raeng.org.uk). We are considering how energy policy might change in the future.

**User Peter E J Flewitt**12:43 pm 8 Aug 2016

Sorry in my response this should include the supply chain sector

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:43 pm 8 Aug 2016

THE IET, we are keen for input from engineers on topics such as this.

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:44 pm 8 Aug 2016

Peter Flewitt, thanks for that idea.

**User THE IET**12:45 pm 8 Aug 2016

I like the openness so far in the approach. Do you have a steering board to ensure this is coordinated and comprehensive? Staff / membership list on RAE website to build trust/confidence in this process?

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:46 pm 8 Aug 2016

We really want to hear about YOUR experiences of the impact on engineering, your biggest concerns, any opportunities you have spotted?

**User THE IET**12:47 pm 8 Aug 2016

Will the final report go to BEIS or Chancellor or elsewhere?

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:48 pm 8 Aug 2016

THE IET, the chief executives of the professional engineering institutions, the Academy, EngineeringUK and the Engineering Council are the effective steering group for this (the Engineering the Future grouping). The day-to-day oversight is done by Hayaatun Sillem, Deputy CEO at the Academy, and the project team is drawn from several institutions and the Academy.

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:48 pm 8 Aug 2016

THE IET, we are talking to government about where would be most effective - the likely answer is both these departments and many more.

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:50 pm 8 Aug 2016

In the final ten minutes, please do keep sending your experiences, concerns, and opportunities, either on this board, or via the email address [euprojectteam@raeng.org.uk](mailto:euprojectteam@raeng.org.uk)

**User David Hughes**12:51 pm 8 Aug 2016

How many people have joined this webinar?

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:51 pm 8 Aug 2016

For example, we are hearing that research projects are cutting UK partners out already, from bids and applications.

**User Peter E J Flewitt**12:51 pm 8 Aug 2016

In the nuclear energy sector there are opportunities for UK to progress small modular reactors. Either within UK or via a UK led strategic partnership.

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:51 pm 8 Aug 2016

David Hughes, we have a couple of hundred people who have watched the presentation so far.

**User University of Edinburgh**12:52 pm 8 Aug 2016

@ David Hughes: But look at 'scientific' outputs like graphene. It is creating an industry of its own. To my mind a balanced approach is needed towards knowledge creation and exploitation. Initially focus primary research to address current, real challenges. We cannot afford to fully suppress any stage in the wealth creation process.

**Admin Sessionmoderator**12:52 pm 8 Aug 2016

Peter Flewitt, that's very interesting, do send more detail via the email address. What is the link to our status in Europe?

**User David Hughes**12:53 pm 8 Aug 2016

Research projects disengagement - that is a rumour unsupported by evidence - so said Sir Pail Nurse on Radio4 recently and in addition Jo Johnson has asked for any specific examples and he will pursue at highest level. I haven't heard of any real examples

**User THE IET**12:55 pm 8 Aug 2016

It is hard to share hard evidence in case of further recriminations. Businesses will bid from whichever country offers the best support for EU funds

**User David Hughes**12:55 pm 8 Aug 2016

Re graphene comment - that is exactly why we need a proper industrial strategy - many of the significant applications which have been reported so far come from USA, China, South Korea and I saw this morning one from France

**User Peter E J Flewitt**12:55 pm 8 Aug 2016

The Small modular reactor issue provides opportunity to link with US or other parties outside the EU.

**User THE IET**12:56 pm 8 Aug 2016

Peter Flewitt - Healthcare also provides opportunities for a more global view

**User THE IET**12:57 pm 8 Aug 2016

Data protection rules are good and bad - how do we retain the best of these when we leave EU?

**User THE IET**12:59 pm 8 Aug 2016

How string is the ETF / RAE evidence base before these workshops are completed? ONS stats and industry classification alone are not enough

**Admin Sessionmoderator**1:00 pm 8 Aug 2016

THE IET, we are building the strongest possible evidence base

**Admin Sessionmoderator**1:00 pm 8 Aug 2016

The live discussion for this topic has now concluded. Thank you to all the participants. If you have further comments relating to the future of engineering in the UK after the 'leave' vote, please send them to the Project Team [euprojectteam@raeng.org.uk](mailto:euprojectteam@raeng.org.uk)