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# CONNECTSUK

The EU scientific diaspora in the UK  
CONNeCting European  
Communities Through Science in UK

Dr Javier Pardo Díaz  
Chair Action Coordination Board  
CONNECTS-UK

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# EU scientific diasporas in the UK



# EU scientific diaspora in the UK

## → Professional networks

They have connections with major UK research and scientific institutions, companies, and funding bodies.

## → Bilateral relationships

They have strong ties with their home countries, including academic and political institutions.

## → Activities

For over 10 years, they have contributed to strengthening UK-EU research relations and brought together and defended the interests of EU researchers in the UK.

# Science policy and advocacy

Monitoring of the UK and EU scientific and policy events, production of policy reports, advisory role to governments, and participation in advocacy campaigns.



**Stick to Science**  
Put science collaboration before politics

“An online signature campaign for an open and inclusive European Research Area.”

stick-to-science.eu @Stick2Science

**parsuk** Portuguese association of researchers and postgraduate students in the UK  
**AISSUK** Association of Italian Scientists in the UK  
**DANinUK** Dutch Academic Network in the UK  
**SRUK CERU** Society of Spanish Researchers in the United Kingdom  
**POLONIUM FOUNDATION** Polish researchers all over the world



EU Insights Hub

## Academic Career Choices in UK Higher Education: The Impacts of Pre-career Mobility

A British Council commissioned study conducted by



Authors

Catarina M. Liberato  
Francisco Faria e Castro

## POR UN PAÍS INNOVADOR

INFORME DE  
RECOMENDACIONES  
SOBRE POLÍTICA  
CIENTÍFICA  
2020

Finnish Science Society in the United Kingdom

Brexit, Science, and Finland

## Beyond recognition: Polish scientific diaspora as a source of social capital

Report by the Polonium Foundation

UK-NL Research and Innovation opportunities after Brexit



Association of Italian Scientists in the UK

Lettera aperta al governo italiano



Society of Spanish Researchers in the United Kingdom

Response to the UK's Points-Based Immigration System

Dutch Academic Network in the UK

Ledenoproep "Obstakels n.a.v. Brexit"  
18 juni 2021

## Approaches towards Brexit among Polish researchers in the UK



Online surveys

Dutch Academic Network - members' survey

Analyse de l'impact du "Brexit"  
sur la communauté des  
enseignants-chercheurs français  
au Royaume-Uni

Brexit Survey 2021

Society of Spanish Researchers in the United  
Kingdom (SRUK/CERU)

SURVEY  OF EXPECTATIONS AND  
MOTIVATIONS

A COMPARISON BETWEEN 2017-2019

# Analysis of the effect of Brexit on the EU research diaspora

Periodic surveys run across our members since 2016 to identify the impact that Brexit has / has had on their professional careers and personal lives. The findings from these studies have been included in policy reports to advise the scientific authorities and stimulate public debate.

# Scientific and networking events to enhance international collaborations

Bringing together researchers, companies, and academic institutions from the UK and the EU, as an approach to enhance international research collaborations and public-private partnerships.



**Plant Biotechnology Spain-UK Forum**  
22 - 23 February 2022

Organised by: 

In collaboration with: 

Department of Physics  

THE 61ST CHERWELL SIMON SPECIAL LECTURE

20 May  
5pm  
Online

**Scientific research (and much more) at CERN**

Professor Fabiola Gianotti  
(Director General at CERN)

REGISTER AT [WWW.PHYSICS.OX.AC.UK](http://WWW.PHYSICS.OX.AC.UK)

  
Centro Ismaelita de Londres | 4 de junho  
PARSUK PARA TODOS: UNIDOS PELO CONHECIMENTO

**AGENDA**

- 9:00-10:00 Opening ceremony
- 10:00-11:00 Community A: Impactful Jobs  
Communication A: Science education
- 11:00-11:30 Coffee Break
- 11:30-12:30 Communication B: Science misinformation  
Culture A: Art and Science
- 12:30-13:45 Lunch
- 13:45-14:30 Research Pitch
- 14:30-15:30 Community B: Citizen Science  
Culture B: Science and Faith
- 15:30-16:00 Coffee Break
- 16:00-17:00 Closing ceremony

#PARSUK2022







Society of  
Spanish Researchers  
in the United Kingdom

## Summer and Winter Studentships

### Call for Hosting Groups in the UK

SRUK member? Act as host laboratory

- ▶ Spanish undergraduate & master students
- ▶ 2-4 months
- ▶ Science disciplines



PARSLUK  
PORTUGUESE ASSOCIATION  
OF RESEARCHERS AND  
STUDENTS IN THE UK

**FCT** Fundação  
para a Ciência  
e a Tecnologia

**UK-Portugal Bilateral Research Fund: Guidance Notes**

CLOSING DATE: March 1, 2021, 5pm

# On the move

## Funded mobility Fellowships

(3-6 months)

- ➔ From the UK to Spain ➔
- ➔ From Spain to the UK ➔

## Mobility programmes

Bilateral short research visits for UK and EU students, early career researchers, and senior academics that are still running despite the current difficulties for international mobility.

# Science outreach

Outreach events to highlight the research carried out by EU researchers in the UK.

Scientific workshops grouping children and researchers with a common mother tongue, promoting scientific literacy, reducing inequalities, and fostering EU values and languages.

**PINT OF SCIENCE**  
With **SRUK/CERU**  
Oxford

**Nuria Rico Seijo** **Carlota Segura Garcia**

“Exploring the Deep Waters of the Maldives”  
“Brief Introduction to Fire in Nature”

Oxford Retreat (Top floor)  
Oxford OX1 2EW  
22nd Jan 2023 – 11:30 h  
Free

Society of Spanish Researchers in the United Kingdom

**TACKLING COVID19**

Dutch Academic Network in the UK  
&  
Embassy of the Netherlands in the UK





# What do we offer our members?

- Networking opportunities
- Dissemination of their research
- Development of their skills
- Platform for developing projects
- Mentoring schemes
- Travel Grants
- Prizes and Awards
- Opportunity to shape policy

# CONNECTSUK

**CONN**ecting **E**uropean **C**ommunities **T**hrough  
**S**cience in the **UK**

2-years collaboration project between the EU  
scientific diasporas in the UK to strengthen EU-UK  
research collaborations

- **Professional network**
- **Research on international  
collaborations and mobility**
- **Policy advice and advocacy**
- **Science outreach**



Co-funded by  
the European Union

# Short term objectives

Increase the membership of our societies and support the establishment of other societies

Establish ourselves as key stakeholders for EU and UK institutions

Create connections with EU and UK academic institutions

# Medium term objectives

Engage with the wider society, highlighting the value of the work of EU researchers in the UK

Produce policy reports on the situation of EU research diaspora and the effects of Brexit

Enhance UK-EU scientific mobility and research collaborations

# Work Plan\*

**15 January 2024**

Official starting date of the project

2023

2024

**December 2023**

2nd Annual Meeting of the EU  
Scientific Diaspora in the UK  
(Embassy of Spain)



# Work Plan\*

**15 January 2024**

Official starting date of the project

**May 2024**

EU Scientific Diaspora Meeting (internal)

EU Researchers Day in the UK

**October 2024**

Webinar on research opportunities in the EU

**November 2024**

Outreach symposium

2023

**December 2023**

2nd Annual Meeting of the EU Scientific Diaspora in the UK (Embassy of Spain)

**April 2024**

Launch event (London)

**September 2024**

Outreach symposium

2024

**December 2024**

3rd Annual Meeting of the EU Scientific Diaspora in the UK

\*Provisional dates

# Other activities

- Meetings with stakeholders, funding bodies, and other societies with shared interests.
- Shadowing scheme for new EU researchers in the UK
- Pairing diplomats & researchers
- Report on the impact of Brexit on the EU research diaspora and international collaborations
- Science workshops for children in their mother tongue.
- Online outreach campaigns (videos, blog posts...)

## **Collaborations!**

**We are keen to explore possible collaboration with other associations and institutions!**

# Follow us and get in touch!

# CONNECTSUK

@CONNECTS\_UK\_

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 Santander Fundación

 **FECYT**  
FUNDACIÓN ESPAÑOLA  
PARA LA CIENCIA  
Y LA TECNOLOGÍA

 **AMBASSADE  
DE FRANCE  
AU ROYAUME-UNI**

 Embassy of Italy  
London



  
AISUK Association of Italian  
Scientists in the UK

DAInUK  


**FERN**<sub>UK</sub>  
FRENCH EDUCATION &  
RESEARCH NETWORK in UK

  
FINNISH SCIENCE SOCIETY  
IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

**native  
scientists**

**PO**LONIUM  
FOUNDATION

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