

Membership Updates – 19 March 2024

The Export Control (Amendment) Regulations 2024

On 1 April 2024 a series of amendments will be made to the Export Control Act 2008 that will be of relevance to work carried out at UK universities. While changes have been made to the military lists, the main relevant changes are to the UK controls on dual-use goods, software and technology. These include a number of clarifications and some substantive changes.

The most significant changes are the addition of three new export prohibitions impacting a range of electronics technologies (PL9013), quantum computing (PL9014) and Additive Manufacturing equipment (PL9015). Researchers with ongoing projects in these areas or in the process of developing a project in these areas are advised to review the new controls and seek advice if they believe that their work may be relevant.

There have also been a series of changes to the controls on dual-use goods, software and technology, including new controls on Iodine Pentafluoride, Diproylamine and Neosaxitoxin. While these are mostly minor and unlikely to impact ongoing projects, Universities should review the changes and take action where required.

Access the full legislation here: [The Export Control \(Amendment\) Regulations 2024 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk)

Higher Education Security Forum (HESF) Chair Brief

The Higher Education Security Forum (HESF) was formed a few years ago, alongside HEECA, to promote increased coordination, dialogue and partnership between university practitioners and government. Thus, HEECA can act as a one stop two-way conduit of information and technical exchange between practitioners, government, and other national stakeholders. HEECA is one of the associations that have membership in this forum. HESF members meet once a quarter, and a new initiative to assist in the dissemination of information has started, consisting of a publication of a brief note from the Chair. You can find the first edition enclosed.

We hope you find this useful and as always, if you have any thoughts on this matter please share with the HEECA Secretariat.

UK Sanctions Strategy Paper Now Released: Deter, disrupt and demonstrate – UK sanctions in a contested world

The UK Government has recently released their updated strategy outlining the UK's approach to sanctions as a foreign and security policy tool, as well as the continued investment, partnerships and structures that support UK sanctions.

Check out the full policy paper here: [Deter, disrupt and demonstrate – UK sanctions in a contested world: UK sanctions strategy - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

US Export Controls – Guidance and Procurement Compliance (New Resources)

In collaboration with the U.S. Department of Commerce Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) and Squire Patton Boggs, HEECA has recently developed a number of new materials to provide support on US Export Control compliance and assurance when engaging in a procurement exercise on behalf of your institution:

- US Export Controls – UK End User Compliance Process (simplified process overview)
- US Export Controls – Procurement and Compliance Methodology sheet
- US Export Controls – Full UK Procurement and Compliance Template Pack & User Instructions (including US Supplier Procurement Questionnaire, US Export Control End User Certification, and US Export Control Compliance Return)

You can access all new materials via the [Resources](#) page on our website.

Raising awareness on Synthetic Biology (or Biosyn)

Synthetic Biology is an area of significant interest to government as part of their efforts to ensure a trusted and secure research culture. Universities are operating at the cutting-edge of research into Synthetic Biology and are already considering this issue as part of their national security due diligence process, particularly in relation the National Security and Investment Act.

Through discussions with government, HEECA have become aware that government is increasingly likely to consider synthetic biology research as a potential end use risk. As such, it is possible that licences may be required for relevant exports where there is potential for military or WMD end use.

Universities must remain vigilant when it comes to protecting sensitive information and research from potential misuse that may pose threats to national security. To understand further your research activities and your partnerships in this area, we encourage you to contact your local RCAT advisers.

HEECA 3rd Annual Conference – June 2024

Thank you to all those who have already registered to attend this year's HEECA conference at the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow UK.

If you haven't yet registered, secure your place now! [Register to attend](#)

This year you will have the opportunity to:

- Hear from a range of our security compliance-subject matter experts
- Remain abreast of current national and international developments
- Network, connect and share best practices and lessons learned with fellow attendees

- Have your say in our Live Panel Q&A

2-person membership limit removed!

As a reminder, HEECA no longer limit the number of members that can join the membership on behalf of any one organisation. Want to encourage your colleagues to get involved? Share this update and new members can register to join [here](#).

HEECA & EECARO Secure Internationalisation Workshop

It's been a couple of weeks since our collaborative event took place in Munich with [EECARO](#), exploring all things research security. Through some incredibly insightful group-led discussions, we explored the array of security challenges currently faced by our Universities, Research Organisations and Government departments alike, shared lessons learned, and focussed efforts on new ideas to better collaborate with policymakers and each other, enhancing our alignment at an organisational, national and international level.

It was great to see the number of UK organisations represented and willing to engage and we look forward to sharing our full report of the workshop outputs with the community in the coming weeks.

Follow us on LinkedIn

We have recently joined [LinkedIn](#). To help grow our page and the wider HEECA network, follow us and keep up to date with the latest news and events!