

On behalf of the FEAM Board <u>george.griffin@feam.eu</u> +32 (0)2 793 02 50 1 December 2020

To Michel Barnier

Head of the Task Force for Relations with the United Kingdom

Dear Mr. Barnier,

We hereby share with you our concerns about the post "transition period" agreement under Brexit between the United Kingdom (UK) and the European Union (EU) in research and innovation.

Over the last years, EU and UK researchers and health professionals closely working together have produced undeniable contributions.

Now, as the UK redefines its relationship with the EU, we must ensure that the close and productive relationships between researchers are protected and preserved in order to address a shared aim of improving the health, safety and wealth of patients and citizens throughout Europe.

For this reason, the FEAM Board would like to show its full support to the participation of the UK in the next EU's research programme, Horizon Europe. Our Federation sees this continuation as one of its highest priorities.

With that in mind, we understand that some hurdles must still be overcome, including agreeing the scale of the UK's net contribution and the financial correction mechanisms to address discrepancies between initial contributions and eventual receipts. We hope that UK and EU negotiating teams can agree a solution on both issues.

We are aware of other outstanding issues in the current negotiation and hope that collaboration in research and development will not be affected by these.

Researchers in both the UK and EU are united in demonstrating that science and its advances know no borders. For us, FEAM, we will remain the federation of all the medical academies in Europe.

If there is anything that we, or FEAM, can do concerning this subject, you can count on us.

Yours sincerely,



Members of the FEAM Board

FEAM Board

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