

Membership Updates – March 2025

HEECA Annual Conference – 4th & 5th June 2025: Have You Registered Yet?

Don't miss the opportunity to join our community of practitioners, UK Government, funders, industry experts, and international partners as we explore the complexities of the evolving research and economic security landscape.

With engaging panels, interactive Q&As, workshops, and valuable networking opportunities, it's the perfect chance to join us at [Unity Place, Milton Keynes](#), to expand your knowledge and connect with peers. The full conference agenda, including speaker details and session topics, will be announced soon – stay tuned!

Visit our [Events Page](#) for more details and to secure your spot.

Notice to Exporters: 2025/07 - ECJU Updates AUKUS Open General Licence

The **Export Control Joint Unit (ECJU)** has revised the AUKUS Open General Licence (OGL) to better align with the U.S. Excluded Technologies list. Key updates include incorporating U.S. terminology such as 'manufacturing know-how', 'design methodology', and 'engineering analysis' to refine the scope of excluded technologies. Definitions for these terms are now included in the licence.

Access the full notice [here](#).

College for National Security: Guide to the UK National Security Community

As part of its efforts to increase understanding of national security, the [College for National Security](#) has published its '**Guide to the UK National Security Community**' outlining the departments, agencies and devolved administrations involved in national security (developed in collaboration with 23 departments and agencies).

While originally designed for civil servants, this resource is a valuable asset for our members, offering key insights into the UK's national security community and the breadth of departments involved.

Access the full guide [here](#).

Notice to Exporters: 2025/06 – Upcoming Updates to the UK Strategic Export Control List

The UK Strategic Export Control List is being updated to reflect recent changes to multilateral export control regimes and domestic administrative updates.

Upcoming amendments will include Wassenaar, Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG), and Australia Group related updates, editorial refinements including adjustments to Technical Notes and definitions (including revised definitions for ‘spacecraft’), and AI-related revisions to PL9013a4 focusing on high-end digital processing integrated circuits (ICs) for AI training.

Access the full notice [here](#).

National Security and Investment Act 2021: UK High Court Refuses Request for Interim Relief Against Final Order

The High Court has dismissed an application for interim relief against a final order requiring FTDI Holding Ltd to divest its majority stake in a UK semiconductor business.

This is the first time the court has considered such a request under the National Security and Investment Act 2021. The ruling found that national security concerns outweighed the company's arguments, and the public interest supported allowing the government to enforce its decision.

While the court acknowledged the financial impact on FTDI, it determined that damages could offer some protection. An expedited judicial review will proceed, with a determination likely before any irrevocable step towards divestment is required.

Access the full case report [here](#).

EUNPDC Highlights Export Control Challenges in Academia Through New EU Research Security Initiative Publication

This month, the **EU Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Consortium (EUNPDC)** has released a new publication entitled "The EU Research Security Initiative: Implications for the Application of Export Controls in Academia and Research Institutes".

The paper examines the European Union's efforts to enhance research security, particularly through the application of export controls within academic and research settings, and discusses the challenges that universities and research institutions face in complying with these controls, especially concerning the transfer of sensitive technologies and knowledge.

The publication also explores the balance between safeguarding research and maintaining academic freedom, highlighting policy gaps and offering recommendations to address these issues.

Access the full publication [here](#).

(Publication authored by Lauriane Héau, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute – SIPRI)

EC Adopts Proposal for ERA Policy Agenda 2025-2027 – Including Enhancing Research Security Focus

The European Commission (EC) has adopted its proposal for the **European Research Area (ERA) Policy Agenda 2025-2027**, outlining a three-year roadmap to drive progress across key areas, from promoting open science principles to reforming research assessment.

A core action of the agenda is enhancing research security, with expected outcomes including the establishment of a European Centre of Expertise on Research Security, a biennial European Flagship conference on research security, and closer cooperation with international partners on research security measures and approaches.

The Council is expected to adopt the final ERA Policy Agenda in May.

Read the full release [here](#).

(Access the Annex for detailed explanation of ERA structural policies and ERA actions)

U.S. BIS Adds 80 Entities to Entity List Over National Security Concerns

U.S. Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) has added 80 entities to its Entity List from China, the United Arab Emirates, South Africa, Iran, Taiwan, and other countries, citing activities that undermine U.S. national security and foreign policy interests.

These restrictions aim to:

- Limit the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) access to high-performance and exascale computing capabilities, as well as quantum technologies for military purposes;
- Impede China's hypersonic weapons program development;
- Prevent entities linked to the Test Flying Academy of South Africa (TFASA) from using U.S. items to train Chinese military forces;
- Disrupt Iran's acquisition of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) and defence-related items.

Access the release [here](#).

AUS Defence Trade Controls Act – Offence Provisions Effective 1 March 2025

The Defence Trade Controls Amendment Act 2024, introduced last April as part of Australia's efforts to align defence trade regulations with AUKUS partners, included three new permit-related offences under Sections 10A, 10B, and 10C. To support industry and academia in adapting to these changes, a 12-month compliance transition period was provided.

From 1st March 2025, this transition period has ended, and criminal penalties now apply. These changes reinforce Australia's commitment to strengthening defence trade security while ensuring compliance with international agreements.

Read the full guidance at defence.gov.au [here](#).

AU Gov Defence also signposts to a number of available resources including materials from recent 'deep-dive' webinar sessions. Access [here](#).

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

NEW Vacancies

Export Control Specialist

University of Edinburgh

Closing date of the vacancy: 23:59 BST – Monday 21st April 2025

[Apply now](#)

Assistant Regulatory Compliance Officer (ARCO)

The University of Manchester

Closing date of the vacancy: 23:59 BST – Wednesday 9th April 2025

[Apply now](#)

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