

EURIS Paper on future regulatory co-operation

1. Introduction

From January 2021 the UK will no longer be subject to any new European Regulation. It will have the opportunity to adopt parallel or equivalent UK regulations, or vary to develop separate and divergent legislation. It is assumed that until Dec 2020 all UK Regulations will be 100% aligned with the EU Regulations. UK industry, consumers and other stakeholders will need a process post Jan 2021 to advise on which of these approaches should be taken on an individual Regulation basis.

2. Suggested approach

A Standing Industry & Government UK/EU regulatory committee/sub-committee to be established for Regulations affecting the electrical and mechanical manufacturing industry. For the UK, this would assess any proposed EU legislation, or amendments to legislation, and recommend to UK Government whether these should lead to amendments in UK legislation or the creation of equivalent Regulations. Similar cooperation measures should apply with any UK proposals that would affect the sale of these technical products. EURIS associations could provide a bridge to EU industry through our ongoing membership of European trade organisations such as Orgalim.

EURIS would provide the industry representation to cover the electrical and mechanical industry, matching the current scope of the organisation.

The membership of such a UK sub-committee is recommended as:

Standing members:

- 3 reps from EURIS associations
- 1 BEIS official
- 1 Consumer representative
- 1 Standards representative – BSI

Occasional members: Additional members to be invited to participate for specific Regulations with specific interest as manufacturers, customers or Government agencies. The committee would meet on a regular basis to review the development of new Regulations from the EU and any suggestions for specific UK regulations.

3. Inputs:

Industry and BEIS officials to bring forward information on planned new or amended EU regulation. Industry to utilise its continuing membership of European trade groups; Government through its ongoing presence in Brussels.

4. Outputs:

The committee would provide recommendations to UK Government on each Regulation. These recommendations could either be considered directly by Government or via a public consultation. Each would be based on an assessment on:

- The cost impact of variation/alignment – for industry and customers
- Any advantages for the UK manufacturing base for variation/alignment
- The consumer impact of a variation, or advantage for alignment
- The environmental/climate change impact of variation/alignment
- Any other impacts for the wider economy

