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Response Type:
Normal ResponseCollector:
Web Link
(Web Link)Custom Value:
emptyIP Address:
138.38.170.39Response Started:
Friday, May 24, 2013 12:04:00 PMResponse Modified:
Friday, May 24, 2013 1:38:39 PM

1. Name:

James Davenport

2. Organisation (if applicable):

University of Bath

3. Email address:

4. Address:

5. In responding, it would be helpful if you could indicate whether you are responding as

an individual

6. Keeping in touch

Please keep me informed by email of the progress of this review, and other BIS Balance of Competence reviews.

1. 1. Where has EU action had a positive impact for the UK on research, technological development, innovation or space? What evidence is there for this? Has EU action encouraged national action in any areas?

EU Research Infrastructure (on which I have been a panel member) has definitely funded Research Infrastructure on a scale that the U

2. 2. Where has EU action had a negative impact for the UK in these fields? What evidence is there for this? Has EU action prevented potentially useful national action in any areas?

None that I know of.

3. 3. How and where has UK engagement with partner countries or international bodies, both within and outside the EU, been helped or hindered by EU involvement?

I can't recall it being hindered. Slightly helped by ability to speak with a common voice WHERE APPROPRIATE.

4. 4. What benefits or difficulties has the objective of a European research area (ERA) delivered for the UK?

benefits in terms of mobility of researchers and research ideas. different countries in Europe have different strengths.

5. 5. How has the EU sought to coordinate the policy instruments at its disposal across different policy areas to create an enabling environment for researchers and innovators? How successful has this been?

No comment

1. 6. What could the EU most helpfully do to promote scientific and technological progress and innovation (including in the space sector)? - How could the EU use its existing competence differently to deliver more in your area? - How might a greater or lesser degree of EU competence

deliver more in your area? - How could improvements to existing EU activities make them more effective and efficient?

The process between scores/reports from referees and actual selection of projects is not very transparent, and a project with good scores which is not selected is often not formally informed.

2. 7. Where might future EU level action be detrimental to your work in this area?

The current balance between individual "good ideas" funded by nation states and collaborative research funded by the EU is probably about right, and I would worry if it shifted too much, IN EITHER DIRECTION.

3. 8. Where might action at national rather than EU level be more appropriate / effective?

It already is much more effective at funding the (generally non-collaborative) good idea, and this should remain.

4. 9. How could EU and national policies and funding streams interact better?

It is currently hard to fund collaboration between TWO institutions in different states: too small for the EU and too difficult for the nations to fund. A common framework for these (not necessarily EU funding, just a shared process) would help.

5. 10. What impact would any future enlargement of the EU have on this area of competence?

No comment.

6. 11. Are there any other points you wish to make which are not captured above?

In its place, the EU is vital to the health of research in Europe, and in the U.K.

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