

**Evidence submission for the Government's Review of the Balance of Competences between the United Kingdom and the European Union – EU enlargement report**

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We would like to draw the following research to your attention and which addresses questions raised for consideration in the preparation of the EU enlargement report. In particular we see this evidence as addressing the following questions:

***How effectively have the member states and the EU institutions run the enlargement process? Have lessons drawn from previous enlargement rounds been applied?***

Work on the EU's role its neighbourhood has evaluated the EU's enlargement processes across recent years and commented upon the effectiveness of the EU's approach to its candidate states.

We would draw your attention to the successive articles published in the journal *Journal of Common Market Studies* [Juncos and Whitman 1; Juncos and Whitman 2; Juncos and Whitman 3] and which analyses the recent practices of the EU in enlargement and comments on policy-making and implementation. This research evaluates the extent to which the EU is capable of addressing the deficiencies in its capabilities to succeed in its ambition to pursue enlargement. These analyses summarises the results of case studies of the EU's candidates states performance on enlargement. We would like to bring to your attention to their conclusions on the current policy limitations as encapsulated in our conclusion on the progress on enlargement processes in 2013 [Whitman 3] that "...atrophy in the EU's accession processes demonstrated that its capacity to exercise substantive influence on its nearest neighbours was greatly diminished".

***What challenges/opportunities might EU enlargement face in the future?***

In this area we would wish to bring to your attention our joint work which has focused on the European Union's role in pursuing enlargement alongside its more general policy towards its neighbourhood and our assessment of overview of how the EU has responded to the Arab Spring [Whitman 1; Whitman 2; Whitman 3]. In our assessments we consider the extent to which the EU has developed the appropriate delivery mechanisms through its

broader policy approaches to the neighbourhood and of which enlargement is an integral part.

***What future impact might EU enlargement have on UK interests? How might any positive impacts be enhanced or disadvantageous impacts be addressed?***

In this area we would like to draw your attention to the part that EU enlargement plays in the broader arrangements for transatlantic security. The UK plays a crucial driving role in the determination of future EU strategy of which enlargement is an integral component. Continued UK leadership within the EU on the desirability of continued enlargement is necessary. This is to ensure that Europeans make an appropriate contribution to the medium and long term arrangements for European security [Stokes and Whitman 1].