

## Membership Updates – November 2024

### HEECA & ECJU 6-Month Collaborative Training Coming Soon!

HEECA, in collaboration with the **Export Control Joint Unit (ECJU)**, is excited to announce the upcoming launch of a comprehensive 6-month training programme on UK export controls.

With six targeted workshops starting in January 2025, this programme will cover key topics such as the different types of export licences, carrying out appropriate due diligence, and navigating the export audit process.

As the festive season approaches and members begin to prepare for the Christmas break, we would like to highlight that full details (including registration) will be shared in December.

**Be sure to keep an eye out for this exciting launch in the next couple of weeks and get ready to enhance your understanding of UK export controls in the new year!**

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### HEECA-ARMA Research Security Roundtable Success

Earlier this month, **HEECA** and **ARMA**, alongside several other key associations, led a roundtable aimed at developing a unified, coherent, and collaborative five-year strategy for economic and research security in the UK HE sector.

The discussions took place with key representatives from **HESF**, the **Russell Group**, **Praxis Auril**, **The Royal Society**, **UKRI**, **UUKi** and **DSIT**, and focused on addressing shared challenges and opportunities to support the sector's resilience and global leadership.

Further details will follow as the strategy planning develops, including plans to engage and collaborate more broadly with the sector to help shape its direction.

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### HEECA Engaging with ECJU For Clarity on Latest Publications Guidance

In our August update, we shared the latest GOV.UK guidance release in relation to **UK strategic export controls applying to academic research** and additional context around the public domain exemption and its link to academic publications.

Since this release, we understand that across the community there have been growing concerns around this topic and how to manage this update at an institutional level, including considerations around the peer review process and potential requirement for an export licence.

We are currently engaging with ECJU on this matter to explore and seek ways to practically resolve concerns, and we [welcome any thoughts and contributions](#) to solutions you may want to recommend as part of this engagement.

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## Call for Volunteers: Join the HEECA 2025 Conference Planning

We are seeking enthusiastic volunteers to join the planning group for our 2025 Annual Conference. This is an opportunity to collaborate with peers, contribute your ideas, and play a vital role in shaping next year's event.

Your participation will be instrumental in creating a memorable and impactful conference experience for all attendees. If you are interested in lending your time and insights to the planning process, [please reach out](#) and join this exciting initiative.

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## NEW HEECA Resource Available: Export Due Diligence Process Guidance

This month we're pleased to announce the release of the **HEECA Export Due Diligence Process Guidance** – another new resource to help members in their work, designed to strengthen and streamline your institution's internal export due diligence processes.

Access the [new release today](#), or why not check out our other **HEECA Resources** and empower your institution's practices. If you would like to share any feedback, [please get in touch](#).

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## Call for Collaboration: Share Your NS&I Act Compliance Expertise

Have you developed or implemented an end-to-end process for ensuring compliance with the NS&I Act at your institution?

A member of our HEECA community is seeking to connect with colleagues experienced in this rapidly evolving compliance area to share insights, discuss risk management strategies, and explore practical implementation plans.

If you're interested in contributing to this collaborative effort, please contact: [Lorena Goldsmith](#) – City St George's, University of London.

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## Hypersonic Technology to be Accelerated Under AUKUS Agreement

On 18<sup>th</sup> November, the AUKUS partners announced the signing of a new AUKUS arrangement – the Hypersonic Flight Test and Experimentation (HyFlITE) Project Arrangement (PA) –

accelerating the development of hypersonic technology and bolstering the collective security of the partners with battle-winning capabilities of the future.

Under AUKUS Pillar II, HyFLiTE will enable the three nations to accelerate development, testing and evaluation of innovative hypersonic systems, representing new heights of collaboration amongst AUKUS partners through shared testing facilities and pooling deep collective technical expertise.

Access the full GOV.UK release [here](#).

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## **U.S. BIS Release Latest ‘Don’t Let This Happen to You’ Edition**

The U.S. Department of Commerce’s Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) have shared the newest release of the Export Enforcement ‘Don’t Let This Happen to You’ compilation of real life criminal and administrative enforcement examples.

BIS Export Enforcement protects and promotes U.S. national security by investigating violations of export control and by partnering with industry and academia to facilitate compliance with those regulations.

Check out the latest press release [here](#), or view the [publication](#).

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## **U.S. University Agrees to Pay \$1.25m to Resolve ‘False Claims Act’ Allegations of Cybersecurity Non-Compliance**

Penn State University has agreed to pay \$1.25m to settle allegations of non-compliance with cybersecurity requirements in 15 contracts involving the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) and NASA. The settlement covers the period between 2018 and 2023, during which it reportedly failed to implement mandated cybersecurity controls and did not follow through on corrective action plans for identified deficiencies.

Federal contracts require strict cybersecurity measures to safeguard sensitive information. This case highlights the importance for higher education institutions to maintain rigorous cybersecurity practices when handling government contracts to protect critical research and national interests. Access the full release [here](#).

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