

Invitation

Divergence of environmental policy post Brexit



7 June 2022



09.30-11.00 UK time

Agenda

Time	Session	Speakers
09.30	Introduction from the IEEP Board	<u>Malini Mehra</u> Chair of Trustees, IEEP UK
09.35	Welcome from the Chair	<u>Kaley Hart</u> Executive Director, IEEP UK
09.40	What do we mean by divergence?	<u>David Baldock</u> IEEP Senior Fellow
09.55	Tracking & making sense of divergence	<u>Michael Nicholson</u> IEEP's Head of UK Environmental Policy
10.05	Questions & answers	
10.15	Panel discussion & audience Q&A: What are the opportunities and threats of regulatory divergence for, 1) the UK as a whole and/or, 2) for the four nations of the UK?	<u>Prof. Colin Reid</u> Professor of Environmental Law, University of Dundee, Associate, <u>Brexit and the Environment</u> <u>Jill Rutter</u> Senior research fellow, <u>UK in a Changing Europe</u> <u>Dr. Jane Clarke</u> Nature Protection Policy Officer, <u>RSPB Northern Ireland</u> <u>Peter Foster</u> Public Policy Editor, <u>Financial Times</u>
10.55	Closing & next steps	<u>Kaley Hart</u> Executive Director, IEEP UK

Please click on the button below to register:

[Register here](#)

About the event

This event will offer some perspectives on the nature of divergence highlighting some possible early cases. This will be followed by an expert panel looking at the potential impacts and implications of this phenomenon and a Q&A.

The UK's exit from the European Union and the accompanying governance changes have brought about a need to track the development of environmental law and policy in the four nations of the UK and between the UK and EU, to identify divergence and assess its implications and significance. The way in which environmental legislation is developed, agreed and then implemented in the UK has changed fundamentally. Extensive autonomy for the four nations, not least in the environmental field could lead to greater diversity and less predictability, with varying levels of alignment or divergence in a more complex set of measures and relationships. Some nations of the UK may choose not to keep up with developments in legislation previously derived from the EU and some divergence may occur simply through 'regulatory drift', with decisions not being taken.

A range of governmental, parliamentary, civil society, academic and private sector organisations have an interest in divergence and are considering how best to follow, digest and respond to the growing pace of divergence, both in specific fields and at a more generic level. This event is part of an IEEP project, funded by the [John Ellerman Foundation](#), which aims to contribute to knowledge, engagement and exchange on divergence in the environmental field, particularly in respect of EU/UK differences but also taking account of the changing dynamics of intra-UK policy and legislation on the environment.

While it is clear that divergence is occurring already in a variety of forms it is not assumed that the consequences will necessarily be either harmful or helpful to achieving environmental progress.

This event is intended for civil society, academia, government, the media and others with knowledge of, and an interest in environmental policy, UK / EU relations post Brexit and political relations between the four nations of the UK. We would welcome your participation and insights.

For more information about the event, please contact: Michael Nicholson mnicholson@ieep.eu