



Research integrity country report card: UK

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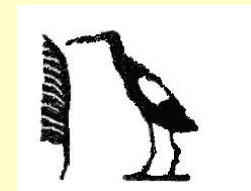
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contributing to this

@SideviewLiz



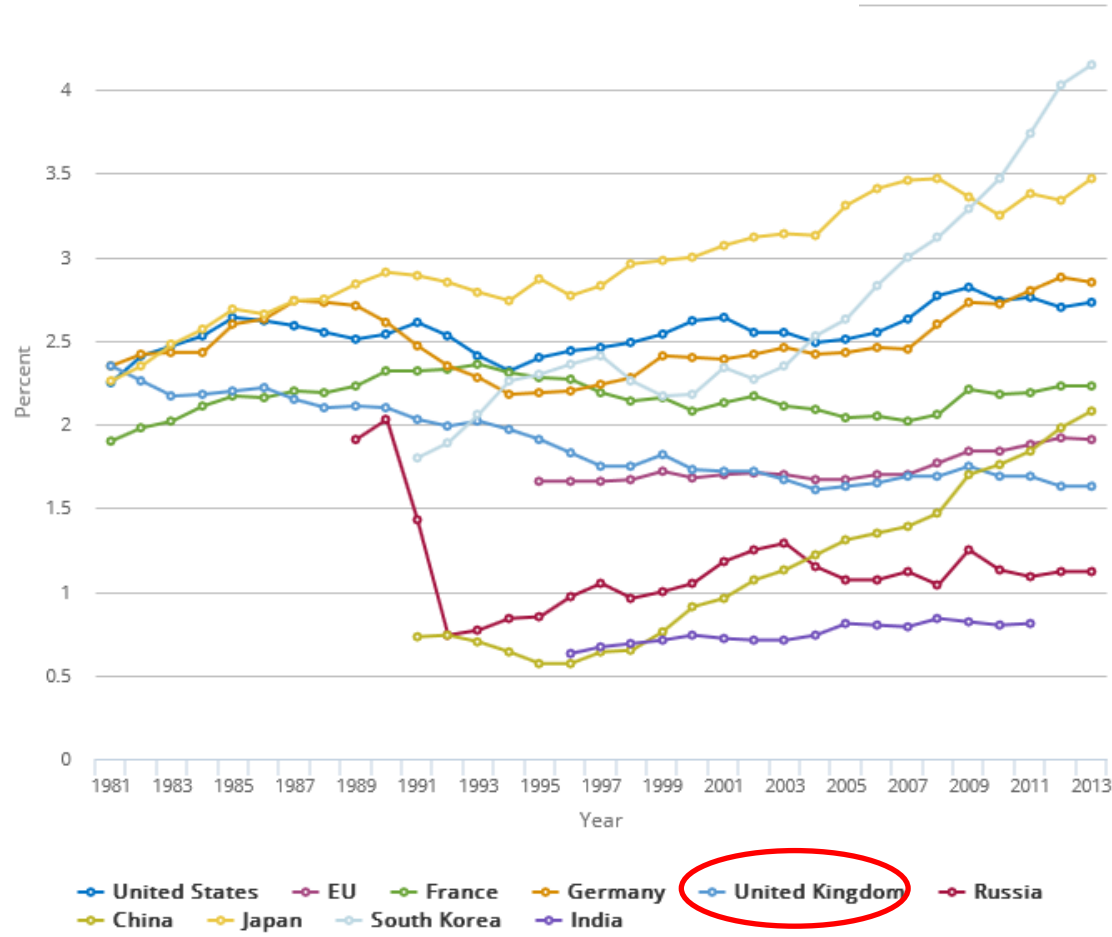
People and money

- Population 65 million
- GDP \$2.85 trillion
- GDP/capita \$43,734

- Spending on R&D £30 billion
 - about 1.7% of GDP



Gross domestic expenditures on R&D as a share of gross domestic product, by the United States, the EU, and selected other countries: 1981-2013



US NSF
2016 report

Research institutions

- 133 universities (all publicly funded)
- 32 government research institutions
- About 200 research innovation institutions
- Hard to quantify private sector (eg drug companies, oil companies)



Researchers

- About 277,000
- Postgraduate students = 109,200
- Academic staff at institutions = 126,000



Research funding

- 65% private (business)
- 7% direct government funding / research councils
- 26% higher education (?)
- 2% charities

Output

- 97,332 journal articles
(according to World Bank)



Regulation / guidance

- National science & innovation strategy (policy paper 2014)

Our plan for growth:

science and innovation



Department
for Business
Innovation & Skills

- No official national bodies on research integrity
 - UK Research Integrity Office (UKRIO) is a charity / advisory service



- Research Ethics (mainly healthcare) nationally organized (and within institutions)

Concordat to support research integrity

The concordat to support research integrity



- Launched 2012
- Support from Universities UK, major funders

Progress report 2016

UK institutions:

- Posting annual statement = 26%
- Publishing RIO contact details = 37%
- RI learning materials on website = 23%

Organizational structure for research integrity

- Entirely at institutional level
- No national bodies (or guidance)
- Academic sector resistant to any regulation

- No formal requirements for training
- No formal requirement for RIO
- Recommendations from Concordat

Research assessment

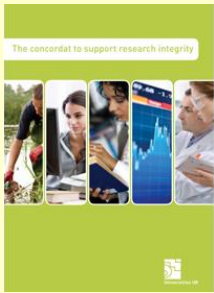
- Research Excellence Framework determines university funding based on research output (ie publications)
- HEFCE (Higher Ed Funding Cncl for England) being replaced by Research England) included compliance with Concordat in its requirements (but rather vague)

Research environment

- About 30% of science PhD graduates go on to post-doctoral research positions
- About 4% get permanent academic positions
- Grant success for national funders
 - hard to get global figure
 - 32% for engineering and physical science
 - 30% for environmental research council
- No details of numbers doing research integrity research

Laws with implications for research integrity

- NHS R&D central ethics system (IRAS)
- HEFCE requirements
- Data Protection Act
- Human Tissue Act
- Clinical Trials legislation (EU directive)
- Animal research legislation



Overall impression



- Strong but independent institutions with variable RI infrastructure
- Very little transparency about misconduct investigations
- Strong resistance to further regulation
- No national body
- Concordat has had little effect

