



How will Brexit affect boating?

Lobbying to reduce regulatory interference will be an important role for the RYA

Many members have contacted us about the impact of Brexit on their boating here and abroad. There are three main areas of concern:

- The Union Transit status of boats and their contents.
- Whether RYA qualification holders will be able to work in EU RYA Training Centres.
- The controls faced by individuals and vessels that don't have Union Transit status.

Extent of impact unclear

Clearly, many of the regulatory challenges currently faced by British recreational boaters have an EU dimension – such as red diesel, border controls, invasive non-native species, biocides, and European marine protected areas. The British exit from the EU might have an impact on all of these issues, but the nature and extent of that impact will remain unclear until the exit negotiations are under way.

However, it is important to remember a wide range of issues do not currently have an EU dimension. For example, the requirement for qualifications when you go overseas is generally specified in national

legislation. Domestic UK issues, such as national marine protected areas (including MCZs), offshore renewable energy installations, carriage and disposal of flares, life jackets, light dues, and alcohol limits, are unlikely to be affected by our exit from the EU.

Reducing interference

The RYA has an important role to play in lobbying European institutions to reduce regulatory interference in boating. We will continue to engage with the relevant Government departments in an effort to minimise any impact on recreational boaters and to identify opportunities for improvement.

Whatever the UK's future relationship with Europe, we will work hard to ensure that recreational boating is as unfettered as possible.

During the forthcoming negotiations and transition period we will keep members updated and advise them on how their boating activities may be affected. We will also continue to ensure that legislators, regulators and other authorities understand, and take account of, recreational boating activity.

Play a role in border security

Project KRAKEN was established by the Border Force, the National Crime Agency, and local police forces to gather the vital intelligence all law-enforcement agencies require to keep the country safe.

The RYA is supporting its call for people who live and work along the country's coastline to report suspicious activity to police. By quoting KRAKEN, your information can be passed on to the relevant agency for investigation.

What's the risk?

As an island nation, our coastline is one of our key defences against those trying to smuggle themselves or harmful goods into the country, but there is also the potential for serious criminals or terrorists to exploit it.

The Border Force gathers and acts on intelligence from a wide range of sources, both in the UK and overseas. The maritime community is best placed to recognise what is out of the ordinary in its local area.

How you can help

Report any unusual or suspicious activity near the UK coastline immediately. Examples include:

- nervous crew members who lack awareness of maritime protocol or customs
 - vessels showing signs of unusual modifications or damage
 - activity in isolated or remote spots at unusual times of the day
 - attempts to signal to vessels offshore or guide them to an unusual location
- It is better to investigate and find nothing untoward than miss a piece of information that could lead to an arrest. Report it to local police on 101, or anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111, quoting 'KRAKEN'. In an emergency, always call 999.



Find out more at www.rya.org.uk/go/projectkraken