



# PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Joint Standing Committee on Treaties

#### Public Hearing

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Issue date: 15 October 2018

## UK Nuclear Cooperation – a Brexit first

The [Joint Standing Committee on Treaties](#) will hold a public hearing into the Australia–UK Nuclear Cooperation Agreement on Monday 15 October 2018. This is the first Treaty negotiated between Australia and the UK as a result of Brexit.

Committee Chair, [Mr Russell Broadbent MP](#), said that this Agreement will ensure that Australia continues exporting uranium to the UK, which takes a significant proportion of Australia’s uranium.

“Because of Brexit, the UK will be withdrawing from the European atomic energy community (Euratom). This means that Australia’s nuclear cooperation agreement with Euratom will no longer apply to the UK,” Mr Broadbent said.

The Agreement largely mirrors Australia’s existing nuclear cooperation agreement with Euratom. The Agreement is needed to ensure that Australia’s stringent nuclear safety and security policies continue to apply to Australian nuclear materials exported to the UK.

Like all Australian nuclear cooperation agreements, the Australia-UK Agreement specifically prohibits the use of Australian nuclear materials for military purposes, and obliges the UK to abide by the International Atomic Energy Agency standards for nuclear safety and security.

**Public hearing details: 11.00am – 11.45am, Monday 15 October 2018, Committee Room 2R1, Parliament House, Canberra**

11.00am: Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation  
Australian Safeguards and Non-Proliferation Office  
Department of Industry, Innovation and Science  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

11:45pm: *Close*

The hearing will be broadcast live at [aph.gov.au/live](http://aph.gov.au/live)

#### Media enquiries:

Mr Russell Broadbent MP, Federal Member for McMillan  
Chair Joint Standing Committee on Treaties  
Contact: Tony Cantwell – 0400 658 699

#### For background information:

Joint Standing Committee on Treaties  
02 6277 4002  
[jsct@aph.gov.au](mailto:jsct@aph.gov.au)



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