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A hanging sword over bioenergy. Analysis on Brexit policy and regulatory impacts on advanced biofuels industry.

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C tatement of the problem: EU's Art. 50 was invoked and the UK has a two-year negotiating period. Like others, UK's biofuel Oindustry wonder what lies ahead. Will Brexit usher an era of more independence in policymaking for EU countries? Despite UK's decision to leave, there is a good chance that EU policies will remain intact. Some have reminded the Norwegian precedent, raising hope for the UK to obtain "associate" status granting access to the single market on condition of implementing relevant EU Law. The study delves into UK's paradox of parting... to keep on applying EU rules, seeking to answer whether UK's biofuels policy will have to abide by EU's RED and biofuels policy anyway or will there be regulatory leeway for bioenergy policymaking. Methodology & theoretical approach: A comparative-analytic study based on UK's need of access to the single market as theoretical framework examining the EU regulatory framework on bioenergy, focused on the interaction with the UK's and the analysis of Norway case as to domestic scope for policymaking. Findings: Supranational versus domestic energy policies will be items for Brexit negotiation, but upon the theoretical framework conventional biofuels scenario should not vary much, as opposed to advanced biofuels policy framework already impacted by cuts on EU R+D funds making –in the long run - that EU countries' freedom to decide their own preferred energy-mix becomes a "sword of Damocles" or impending peril to UK's bioenergy industry. Conclusions & significance: Along with entry to the market and free-trade, RED, sustainability criteria, targets on green fuels share, ILU, CAP, tax issues are all at stake. Brexit brought uncertainty, but it is for the Law to mitigate it and thus appropriate to look at what offers to secure bioenergy industry's rights and sustainable delivery to citizens, either in or out the EU.

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