

Presiding Officer of the Scottish Parliament  
Ken Macintosh MSP  
Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP

8 April 2016

Subject: 50 POST 50

Dear Presiding Officer,  
Dear Members of the Scottish Parliament,

As elected representatives from across the European Union we have been heartened by your support for a Europe which is united in pursuit of progress and not divided by fear and self-interest. Democracy and mutual respect are at the heart of the European project and so, whilst we are saddened by the vote of a small majority for the United Kingdom to leave the EU, we respect this as a democratic decision of UK citizens.

We recognise that this was not your choice however and that Scotland voted strongly to remain within the EU. The question of Scotland's constitutional future, and your relationships with the UK and the EU are for the people of Scotland to decide. It is not our place to tell Scotland what path you should take.

We regret that the UK's government has chosen to follow the path of a 'hard Brexit' and has so far refused to properly take into account the preferences of Scottish citizens in the withdrawal process. Therefore, if Scotland were to become an independent country and decided to seek to maintain European Union membership, we offer our full support to ensure the transition is as swift, smooth, and orderly as possible. Scotland would be most welcome as a full member of the European Union, with your five million European citizens continuing to benefit from the rights and protections we all currently enjoy.

Yours sincerely,

Meyrem Almaci  
Chamber of Representatives, Belgian  
Parliament

Rasmus Andresen  
Regional Parliament of Schleswig-Holstein

Margrete Auken  
European Parliament

Danielle Auroi  
National Assembly, French Parliament

Annalena Baerbock  
German Parliament

Reinhard Bütikofer  
European Parliament

Miriam Dalli  
European Parliament

Jakop Dalunde  
European Parliament

Bruno De Lille  
Parliament of the Brussels-Capital  
Region

Petra De Sutter  
Senate, Belgian Parliament

Giorgos Dimaras  
Greek Parliament

Pascal Durand  
European Parliament

Bas Eickhout  
European Parliament

Stefan Engstfeld  
Regional Parliament of North Rhine-  
Westphalia

Tanja Fajon  
European Parliament

Fredrick Federley  
European Parliament

André Gattolin  
Senate, French Parliament

Silke Gebel  
Regional Parliament of Berlin

Stefan Gelbhaar  
Regional Parliament of Berlin

Ana Maria Gomes  
European Parliament

Heidi Hautala  
European Parliament

Madeleine Henfling  
Regional Parliament of Thuringia

Benedek Jávor  
European Parliament

Josu Juaristi Abaunz  
European Parliament

Ska Keller  
European Parliament

Philippe Lamberts  
European Parliament

Stefan Liebich  
German Parliament

Juan López de Uralde  
Chamber of Deputies, Spanish Parliament

Florent Marcellesi  
European Parliament

María Rosa Martínez Rodríguez  
Chamber of Deputies, Spanish Parliament

Sigrid Maurer  
National Council, Austrian Parliament

Barbara Matera  
European Parliament

Péter Niedermüller  
European Parliament

Grace O'Sullivan  
Seanad Éireann (Oireachtas)

Julia Reda  
European Parliament

Terry Reintke  
European Parliament

Bronis Rop  
European Parliament

Eamon Ryan  
Dáil Éireann (Oireachtas)

Manuel Sarrazin  
German Parliament

Ulle Schauws  
German Parliament

Anja Schillhaneck  
Regional Parliament of Berlin

Barbara Spinelli  
European Parliament

Bart Staes  
European Parliament

Wolfgang Strengmann-Kuhn  
German Parliament

Indrek Tarand  
European Parliament

Yannis Tsironis  
Greek Parliament

Claude Turmes  
European Parliament

Sebastian Walter  
Regional Parliament of Berlin

Tomáš Zdechovský  
European Parliament

Joachim Zeller  
European Parliament