



Maroš ŠEFČOVIČ

Vice-President of the European Commission
Co-Chair of the EU-UK Joint Committee

*Brussels, 30 April 2020
Uktf (2020)2200860*

Dear Ms Godfrey,

Dear Mr Scarlato,

Thank you for your letter of 30 March in which you express your strong interest in participating in the Specialised Committee on citizens' rights, which is established by Article 165 of the Withdrawal Agreement concluded between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK) and the European Union (EU).

Safeguarding the rights conferred on EU citizens and UK nationals by the Withdrawal Agreement remains one of the main priorities of the Union. In this regard, the Specialised Committee will be instrumental to ensure dialogue between the Parties and support the work of the Joint Committee as regards the correct application and implementation of the provisions on citizens' rights. That is why a first meeting of this Committee will be organised swiftly, following the first meeting of the Joint Committee, which took place on 30 March 2020 by videoconference.

According to Article 165 of the Withdrawal Agreement, the specialised committees shall be comprised of representatives of the EU and the UK. However, the rules of procedure provide the possibility for other persons or experts, who are not members of the EU and UK delegations, to be invited to attend the meetings of the Joint Committee in order to provide information on a particular subject. The co-chairs of the respective committees will decide on such participation where they consider it appropriate and useful.

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Let me emphasise that we value your expertise, professionalism and dedication and we fully acknowledge the added value of continued interactions with your organisations. I am confident that the two co-chairs of the Specialised Committee on citizens' rights will keep this in mind when organising their future meetings. As indicated above, your organisations could be invited for specific items on the agenda of future meetings of the Specialised Committee on citizens' rights.

Moreover, I can assure you that we intend to continue also in the future the regular exchanges that we have had in the past. Together with the Task Force for Relations with the United Kingdom, I look forward to continuing this very useful cooperation.

Yours sincerely,



Maroš Šefčovič

