



European Commission

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Mrs Fiona Hyslop MSP
Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs
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Dear Cabinet Secretary,

Thank you very much for your kind words in your letter of 9 December 2019.
The European Commission regrets the United Kingdom's decision to leave the European Union, but we respect it.

We have always made clear that the negotiations between the European Union and the United Kingdom can only take place with the United Kingdom government. This has been the case for the withdrawal and will be the case for negotiations on the future relationship.

The European Commission's Task Force for Relations with the United Kingdom remains available for any questions. Michel Barnier, the Head of the Task Force, is interested in hearing all United Kingdom views on relations with the European Union. He has in that spirit met the First Minister already several times and would be very happy to meet her again.

Yours sincerely,

Dubravka Šuica
Vice President