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Rt Hon Hilary Benn MP Chair, Exiting the European Union Committee House of Commons London SW1A 0AA

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Dear Hilary

RESPONSE TO LETTER FROM BARNIER: COSTA AMENDMENT

I am writing to inform you that today I have written to Michel Barnier regarding ring-fencing citizens' rights. This follows my letter of 4 March and his response of 25 March.

My letter sets out the views of the British in Europe and the3million, who I met recently to discuss their proposal, and Parliament's support to seek a joint UK-EU commitment to adopt Part II of the Withdrawal Agreement whatever the outcome of negotiations.

I have published my letter on gov.uk and attach a copy for your reference. I will be depositing a copy in the libraries of both Houses.

Yours sincerely

RT HON STEVE BARCLAY MP
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXITING THE EUROPEAN UNION