



Department  
for Exiting the  
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Rt Hon Hilary Benn MP  
Chair, Exiting the EU Committee  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

19 August 2019

Dear Hilary,

The Prime Minister has today written to President Tusk, setting out the Government's views with regard to the renegotiation of the Withdrawal Agreement, and in particular on the 'backstop' in the Protocol on Ireland and Northern Ireland.

I am attaching a copy of the letter and will be placing copies, along with this letter, in the Libraries of both Houses.

I am also writing to the Chairs of the EU Scrutiny Committee, Lords EU Committee, Northern Ireland Select Committee, and Foreign Affairs Committee.

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