



Foreign & Commonwealth Office

Minister for Europe and the
Americas
King Charles Street
London SW1A 2AH

2 October 2017

Tom Tugendhat MP
Chair
Foreign Affairs Committee
House of Commons

Dear Tom,

Thank you for forwarding the email that you received from Mr Malcolm Simmons, which contained a number of allegations about EULEX (the EU's rule of law mission in Kosovo).

We are aware of these allegations and have made clear to the European External Action Service (EEAS), which has oversight of the mission, and the Head of EULEX that we expect them to be taken seriously. We have received confirmation from the EEAS that the allegations will be fully, professionally and transparently investigated.

My officials have explained to Mr Simmons the importance of his allegations being considered under the appropriate processes, as set out in the CSDP Code of Conduct, which was adopted by the Council in 2016. We also continue to offer welfare support to Mr Simmons.

Improving the rule of law and combating corruption and organised crime is central to delivering the Government's objective of a more stable and secure Kosovo. An effective EULEX will help us deliver these objectives. We continue to press for a more focused and leaner EULEX presence in Kosovo, which balances the continued need to tackle high-level organised crime and corruption with capacity-building and monitoring aimed at the gradual transfer of responsibility to the Kosovo authorities. We, along with other EU Members and contributing countries, feed into regular reviews of EULEX in order to shape the mission.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan Duncan'.

RT HON SIR ALAN DUNCAN MP