



Ministry
of Justice

The Right Honourable
Michael Gove MP
Lord Chancellor & Secretary
of State for Justice

Rt Hon Harriet Harman MP
Chair of the Joint Committee on Human Rights
Committee Office
House of Commons
London
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17/1

May 2016

Des Harriet,

BILL OF RIGHTS

Thank you for your letter of 28 April concerning the government's plans to introduce a Bill of Rights, and the UK's future relationship with the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR).

The government's position is clear and has not changed. The Bill of Rights will remain faithful to the principles in the ECHR. Whilst we cannot rule out withdrawal from the ECHR forever, our proposals for a Bill of Rights do not involve leaving.

My Ministerial team will be happy to attend an oral evidence session to discuss our proposals further. This will, however, be of greatest benefit to the Committee once those proposals are published and we are able to discuss them in the round. I would therefore very much welcome further engagement with the Committee as part of the consultation process.

MICHAEL GOVE