



HOUSE OF LORDS

European Union Committee

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Rt Hon Michael Gove MP
Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster
Cabinet Office
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11 February 2020

Dear Secretary of State,

I am writing further to my letter of 29 October 2019, and the response, of 30 January 2020, by James Duddridge MP, then Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for Exiting the European Union.

My original letter posed a series of detailed questions about the position of UK nationals in the EU, which I am afraid were simply not addressed in the Government's response. While we accept that the position of UK citizens in the EU will now be protected by the Withdrawal Agreement, and the threat of a 'no deal' Brexit is no longer relevant to the rights of citizens, this does not mean that our concerns have come to an end.

We understand that the UK's own settlement scheme is running well and that a significant proportion of EU nationals in the UK have now been registered. However, we have been provided little detailed information about the situation of UK nationals in the EU 27. Accordingly, we repeat our request that the Government provides us with an up to date assessment of the arrangements that have been made for UK citizens' in each Member State, regarding registration; health and social security rights; voting rights and any other specific concerns that have been raised by the groups representing UK nationals in the EU.

Does the Government have any information as to the proportion of the estimated 1.3 million UK nationals in the EU who have now secured their residence rights? We are particularly interested to know what is happening in the five countries we understand that the largest number of UK nationals are based in, namely: Spain, France, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands.

In addition, we would ask that the Government provide us with information about the scheme that the UK Government announced in the summer of 2019 to assist vulnerable UK nationals in the EU with the relevant registration processes.

We look forward to a response to this letter in the usual 10 days.

I am copying this letter to the Rt Hon Dominic Raab MP, Foreign Secretary.

Yours sincerely,

Lord Morris

