



HOUSE OF LORDS

European Affairs Committee

House of Lords
London
SW1A 0PW

Tel: 020 7219 6083
hleuroaffairs@parliament.uk

Leo Docherty MP
Minister of State for Europe
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
King Charles Street
London
SW1A 0AA

14 December 2022

Dear Minister,

Delays to UK association to EU programmes, including Horizon Europe

Thank you for your letter of 15 November 2022 on the delays to UK association to EU programmes, including Horizon Europe, and for providing the update that we requested on the consultations process initiated by the UK under Article 738 of the TCA. The letter was considered by the Committee at its meeting of 13 December 2022.

The Committee continues to agree strongly with the Government that UK association to these programmes would be mutually beneficial for the UK and the EU. We are therefore pleased to hear that Ministers are continuing to make the case for this to the EU, though disappointed that the consultations do not appear to have resulted in any progress being made.

We are also grateful to the Minister of State for Science, Research and Innovation for writing to us separately on 21 and 24 November 2022 to inform us of the announcement of domestic funding packages to support respectively the UK research and development sector as a whole and the UK Earth Observation sector. These letters were also considered at the Committee's meeting of 13 December 2022.

The Committee retains a close interest in this issue and requests that Ministers continue to keep us updated on any relevant developments.

I am copying this letter to Rt Hon James Cleverly MP, Foreign Secretary; George Freeman MP, Minister of State for Science, Research and Innovation; Sir William Cash MP and Dr George Wilson, respectively Chair and Clerk of the House of Commons European Scrutiny Committee; Rt Hon Greg Clark MP and Danielle Nash, respectively Chair and Clerk of the House of Commons Science and Technology Committee; and Baroness Brown of Cambridge and Matthew Manning, respectively Chair and Clerk of the House of Lords Science and Technology Committee.

Yours sincerely,

Lord Kinnoull

Chair of the European Affairs Committee