



HOUSE OF LORDS

European Union Committee

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Rt Hon James Brokenshire MP
Minister of State for Security
Home Office
2 Marsham Street
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28 February 2020

Media reports concerning the European Criminal Records Information System and the Schengen Information System

Dear Minister,

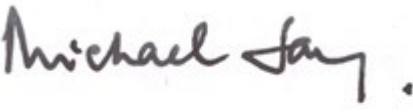
The Committee is grateful for your predecessor's reply of 13 February about media reports concerning the two information systems.

In relation to ECRIS, the Committee notes the letter's assurance that the Home Office is working with the Criminal Records Office to resolve 'the technical issue' that caused the UK's original failure to share criminal records information under the system.

The Committee also notes that the Government takes 'seriously' the findings of the Commission-led SIS II experts' report of November 2017, and is considering how it will implement them, once the EU has adopted the report's conclusions.

The media reports about the UK's alleged mis-handling of data in the two information systems highlight how such allegations risk eroding trust and confidence between this country and its European partners. Maintaining that trust and confidence will be an important element in ensuring the success of the forthcoming negotiations about the UK's future relationship with the EU, including on matters of security cooperation. The Committee therefore asks the Government to take steps to ensure that the concerns raised about the UK's involvement in the two systems do not undermine those negotiations.

Yours sincerely,



Lord Jay of Ewelme

Chairman of the EU Home Affairs Sub-Committee