



The Rt Hon Stephen Barclay MP

Secretary of State for the Department for Exiting the European Union

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The Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP

Secretary of State for Health and Social Care

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The Rt Hon Dr Sarah Wollaston MP

Chair of Health and Social Care Committee

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Brussels, 11 March 2019

Brexit and its impact on healthcare in the UK and the EU-27

Dear Mr Barclay,
Dear Mr Hancock,
Dear Dr Wollaston,

Please allow us to contact you on behalf of European doctors with a sincere appeal to end the continuing uncertainty about the UK's future relationship with the European Union. The lack of a clear guidance from the government represents a threat to patients, the medical workforce and health systems, both in the UK and the EU-27.

The need to safeguard doctors' mobility and the mutual recognition of doctors' qualifications is especially important to us. We also strongly advocate for continued cooperation on medical research, and the exchange of information on public health risks, such as infectious diseases and antimicrobial resistance. Many of the problems addressed are most acute on the island of Ireland where cross-border cooperation on health occurs every day.

Throughout the Brexit negotiations, we have called on the European Commission to find responsible and pragmatic solutions for these vital policies. Given the importance of the UK parliament's decisions in the coming days, we now address you with the same appeal. Brexit cannot be permitted to threaten European patients, doctors, or health systems.

The Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME) represents national medical associations across Europe. We are committed to contributing the medical profession's point of view to EU institutions and European policy-making through pro-active cooperation on a wide range of health and healthcare related issues.



COMITÉ PERMANENT DES MÉDECINS EUROPÉENS
STANDING COMMITTEE OF EUROPEAN DOCTORS



We trust that you share this objective and are committed to safeguarding health. In close collaboration with our UK member, the British Medical Association, we will continue to monitor developments and rest at your disposal for any further support.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Dr Frank Ulrich Montgomery
CPME President

Annabel Seebohm, LL.M.
CPME Secretary General

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