

Michel Barnier
Chief Negotiator
Task Force for the Preparation and Conduct of the Negotiations with the UK
Rue de la Loi / Wetstraat 170
B-1049 Bruxelles

3rd November 2017

Dear Michel,

I am writing as I see that we are both speaking at the same event - the Centre for European Reform's conference on 'The Future of the EU' on 20th November - and would welcome the opportunity to put some time aside for us to share some thoughts on the Brexit negotiations.

As you know, I am deeply committed to the future of the EU as it strives for solidarity in the face of growing challenges from populist movements, geopolitics and a still recovering economy. I recently had the opportunity to discuss these topics with First Vice-President Frans Timmermans during an event we held in Brussels in May, where we explored these challenges, and of course the way in which they affect - and are affected by - the Brexit negotiations.

I would be happy to brief you on the current pressures in British politics and share with you my assessment of how these will play out in the months ahead.

I hope you have the time to meet me on 20th November. I will ask my office to contact yours to identify a possible time.

Yours sincerely,



Lord Mandelson

Chairman