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European Union

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NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations

Subject: Letter from the President of the European Parliament to the President of
the European Council

Delegations will find attached a letter from the President of the European Parliament, David Maria Sassoli, to the President of the European Council, Donald Tusk.



The President

Mr Donald TUSK
President of the European Council
Rue de la Loi 175

D 201891 24.10.2019

B-1048 BRUSSELS

Dear President Tusk,

At its meeting on 24 October 2019, the Conference of Presidents of the European Parliament reviewed the state of play of the UK withdrawal in the light of the latest developments in the UK.

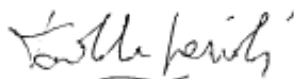
The Conference of Presidents continues to take the view that the consent procedure with regard to the Withdrawal Agreement is not a formality but must be preceded by a thorough and exhaustive scrutiny of the text.

In view of the time that such diligent work requires, the Conference of Presidents noted that the European Council should accept the request of the UK Prime Minister of 19 October 2019 to extend the Article 50(3) TEU period until 31 January 2020, with the option that this period could end earlier should ratification and consent procedure have been completed in both the United Kingdom and the European Parliament.

The Conference of Presidents underlined that a European Council decision on an extension should take into account that the European Parliament's consent procedure would begin only after the ratification of the Withdrawal Agreement by the United Kingdom.

I should be grateful if you could communicate the position of Parliament's Conference of Presidents to the 27 Member States.

Yours sincerely,



David Maria SASSOLI