

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

1st August 2018

Jew Confrontation

RE: EUROPEAN UNION (WITHDRAWAL) ACT.

Thank you for contacting me recently about remaining in the European Union's (EU) Customs Union, the EEA and holding a 'meaningful vote'; your comments upon which I read with great interest.

In relation to remaining in the Customs Union and the EEA, I did not support any of these amendments. Leaving the EU means leaving the Single Market and the Customs Union; a position made clear by both 'Leave' and 'Remain' groups during the referendum. This position has been taken as these institutions are the main and essential elements of the EU.

After its withdrawal from the EU, the UK will be free to make its own trade deals, but it will also need to put in place new customs arrangements. Remaining a full member of the Customs Union would mean we could not make our own trade deals. Furthermore, the Government has said explicitly that there must not be a hard border on the island of Ireland; another implication of remaining in the Customs Union and Single Market.

Turning to the amendment on the EEA, I did not support this as it would have meant automatic membership of the Single Market. Freedom of movement would still have applied and it would have prevented us from having any more control over the number of people coming to this country. In addition, importantly, it would also have meant continuing to accept all EU rules with little influence over them and no vote on the final legislation. I am firmly of the view that to remain in the EEA would have resulted in a negative deal for our nation.

Parliament will have three opportunities to have its say on the final deal; in a motion, a resolution on ratification of a new treaty, and an Act of Parliament implementing the deal. The Government's amendments to the Act on a 'meaningful' vote now mean that a Minister will be required to make a Statement to Parliament if MPs reject the deal, if no deal is reached with the EU by the 21st January 2019, or if the Prime Minister announces by that date that no deal can be reached. Furthermore, there will also be a vote on a motion on the Government's proposed next steps in each instance, so that Parliament can have its say.

Once again, thank you for having taken the time to contact me and if I can ever be of any further assistance to you then please do not hesitate to contact me again.

With best wishes Tom

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE