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## Dew Contefuent.

## RE: HIGHER EDUCATION AND BREXIT

Thank you for contacting me about the impact of Brexit on higher education.
As we negotiate our exit from the EU, the Government is committed to ensuring that Britain continues to attract the brightest and best to our world-leading universities and research institutions.

I can assure you that Brexit does not mean the end of our relationship with the EU and our arademic counterparts. We will start a new relationship with the EU, remaining the best of neighbours and strongest of partners, while also securing the best deal for Britain.

The Prime Minister has been clear that she wants to protect the status of EU nationals already diving here. The only circumstances in which that wouldn't be possible is if British citizens' rights in European member states were not protected in return. The referendum result also has no immediate effect on those students participating in the Erasmus scheme across Europe or those applying for this scheme in 2016/17. Continued access to the Erasmus exchange scheme is a matter for the negotiation process.

The Government has pledged to underwrite payments for universities participating in Horizon 2020, even where these projects continue beyond the UK's departure from the EU. The Chancellor has also guaranteed funding for projects that secure multi-year EU funding before our exit, as long as they align with UK priorities and provide value for money.

The process of leaving the EU will be lengthy and complex. It is important to remember that change will not happen overnight. As we begin the negotiation process, the Government is committed to ensuring that Britain remains a hub of innovation and intellectual excellence.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.


