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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
No. Cion doc.:	COM(2022) 89 final
Subject:	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down rules for the exercise of the Union's rights in the implementation and enforcement of the Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community, of the one part, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, of the other part [COM(2022) 89 final - 2022/0068 (COD)] - Renunciation letter of the European Committee of the Regions

Delegations will find attached the European Committee of the Regions' renunciation letter regarding the above proposal.

E-MAIL

CoR D/640/2022 - 08/06/2022

IN 005896 2022
08.06.2022**European Committee
of the Regions**

The President

Brussels, *date of official registration*
PCab/B.3/BK/MH/sddv – D/889 (2022)

Mr Clément Beaune
Secretary of State for European affairs of France
Council of the European Union
Rue de la Loi / Wetstraat 175
1049 Bruxelles / Brussel

Dear Mr Beaune,

Thank you for your referral request to the European Committee of the Regions (CoR), dated 22 March 2022, regarding the following dossier: Proposal for a *draft regulation on the implementation and enforcement of the Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom COM(2022)89*, presented by the European Commission on 11 March.

Due to the proposed timescale of the consultation, the CoR Commission for Citizenship, Governance, Institutional & External Affairs (CIVEX) decided at its meeting of 29 March 2022 not to issue an opinion and not to include the dossier in the ongoing work of the CoR.

Nevertheless, given that the draft regulation relates to territory-relevant policy areas such as road transport, fisheries, labour and social issues, environmental or climate protection, please allow me to underline several points of great importance for European local and regional authorities, which are reflected in the CoR's opinion on *Strengthening the EU-UK relationship at subnational level and remedying the territorial impact of the UK's withdrawal from the EU (CIVEX-VII/011)* adopted at the CoR plenary of 27-28 April 2022.

The Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA) is not only a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) as it includes provisions for cooperation on economic, social, environmental and fisheries issues, but also entails a *close partnership on citizens' security* and an overarching governance framework. The TCA includes areas of Member State competence which in some EU Member States are in the remits of regions with legislative competences. The CoR regrets therefore that the TCA lacks *territorial depth* and does not duly recognise the role of local and regional authorities (LRAs) in the EU-UK relationship and refers to LRAs only when it comes to adapting some elements of the agreement to specific regional conditions or on very specific issues such as fiscal provisions.

The CoR therefore calls for the formal recognition of the CoR-UK Contact Group and as an official sub-national interlocutor between EU and UK local and regional governments under the TCA in order to provide an assessment of the subnational dimension of the key policy and legislative issues that will have an impact on the UK-EU bilateral relationship.

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- 2 -

The CoR would therefore like the structures of the Joint Partnership Council to be re-examined in order to address its lack of territorial depth by involving LRAs in the monitoring and governance of the TCA.

Yours faithfully,



Apostolos Tzitzikostas

Cc: Didier Seeuws (Council of the European Union, Director-General)