European Affairs Committee

House of Lords London SWIA 0PW Tel: 020 7219 6083 boorern@parliament.uk

Mme Sabine Thillaye Président de la commission des affaires européennes Assemblée nationale

M Jean-François Rapin Président de la commission des affaires européennes Sénat

17 December 2021

Dear Ms Thillaye and Mr Rapin,

As you know, it has now been nearly a year since the end of the transition period but at the kind invitation of the Presidency the House of Lords European Affairs Committee has continued to attend interparliamentary meetings, including the COSAC Plenary and COSAC Chairpersons conferences.

Over the last year I have found that the COSAC conferences continue to provide excellent opportunities to strengthen relations and collaborate with colleagues from across the EU on a variety of topics. There remain many global challenges which require our cooperation, both in the natural world and in the political world where liberal democracies face challenges from authoritarian states. The Committee would very much welcome the opportunity to continue to attend COSAC and other interparliamentary meetings in an observer capacity.

I am therefore writing to ask you to consider my request for an invitation to attend the COSAC Chairpersons Meeting on I3 January 2022, along with the COSAC Plenary Conference and other interparliamentary meetings hosted by the French Presidency.

May I also take this opportunity to say how much I valued the recent discussion I had with Mr Rapin and to wish you every success as you begin your Presidency. I look forward to our continued cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Lord Kinnoull

Chair of the European Affairs Committee

Charle Kunnoch