

Citizens groups welcome European Parliament's response to UK Government's proposal on citizen rights

Citizens groups from across the EU welcome today's response from the European Parliament rejecting the UK Government's offer on citizens rights.

British in Europe coalition chair person, lawyer Jane Golding said: *"The European Parliament's statement is a clear indication of how seriously it takes the rights of UK citizens living in Europe and confirms its members' intention to 'put citizens first'"*

the3million co-chair Nicolas Hatton said: *"EU citizens in the UK will appreciate that MEPs are standing up for our rights while the current British Government has decided to play politics with our lives. the3million urges the Government to show the kind of pragmatism Brits are celebrated for around the world and to offer the same level of protection that the EU has done."*

Golding went on to say: *"The EU proposal is seen as the starting point and we appeal to both sides not to stoop to a lower negotiating position. Any UK offer must confirm the existing and acquired rights of EU citizens living in the UK, rather than its current offer of a status less favourable than they have now, effectively giving them third country citizen status under UK law. We support the European Parliament's position that citizens rights are a red line. No country's citizens should be affected retrospectively by Brexit."*

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