European and External Relations Committee
The EU referendum and its implications for Scotland
Written submission from Dr Tom Mathar

I’m replying briefly as a private citizen – speaking on behalf of myself and my wife – in relation to your request for “the position of EU citizens in Scotland”

- My wife and I are German citizens who live in Scotland for 6.5 years. I’m research manager for a market research agency; my wife is marketing manager at Skyscanner, the flight search engine and Scotland’s first digital company valued at $1bn.

- We have the firm intent to leave Scotland and the UK should either withdraw from the EU mostly as a result of the uncertainties that we would then face. I incidentally know of professionals who have left Scotland already because of Brexit.

- Life continues as is but we encountered a stumbling block when remortgaging within the past 4 weeks and not knowing if we can commit to a 5-yr fixed rate as T May recently used the word “deportation”. Unfortunately, the lenders do not offer clauses that one can back out of fixed deals in the event one has to leave the country – it would be useful if legislation to that effect would exist

- For what it’s worth, I know that the German community was shocked by the outcome and what they perceive as complete failure of the entire political establishment; there is much grudge held against UK politicians (incl. Scottish politicians incidentally) that has hardened their views.