



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

**CULTURE, TOURISM, EUROPE AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

**18th Meeting, 2017 (Session 5)**

**Thursday 29 June 2017**

Present:

Mairi Evans	Ross Greer
Rachael Hamilton	Richard Lochhead
Lewis Macdonald (Deputy Convener)	Joan McAlpine (Convener)
Stuart McMillan	Tavish Scott

Apologies were received from Jackson Carlaw.

The meeting opened at 9.06 am.

1. **Declaration of interests:** Rachael Hamilton declared an interest as the owner of a hotel in the Scottish Borders.
2. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take items 7 and 8 in private.
3. **Presidency of the Council of the European Union:** The Committee took evidence from—
  - H.E. Norman Hamilton, High Commissioner;
  - Karl Xuereb, EU Policy Officer;
  - Nerissa Sultana, Political and Communications Officer, High Commission of Malta to the UK.
4. **Culture, Tourism and External Affairs:** The Committee took evidence from—
  - Fiona Hyslop, Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs;
  - Dr Jonathan Pryce, Director for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs;
  - Mark Boyce, Head of International Relations, Scottish Government.

5. **International Development:** The Committee took evidence from—  
  
Dr Alasdair Allan, Minister for International Development and Europe;  
  
Joanna Keating, Head of International Development, Scottish Government.
6. **Scottish Government Reports:** The Committee considered a series of bi-annual reports produced by the Scottish Government in relation to EU issues and agreed to invite the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Jobs and Fair Work to give evidence on EU Structural and Investment Funds.
7. **Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs:** The Committee considered evidence heard earlier in the meeting.
8. **The Article 50 withdrawal negotiations and their implications for Scotland:** The Committee agreed in principle to the appointment of an adviser for its forthcoming inquiry.

The meeting closed at 11.26 am.

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