



Top Copy with  
Political Office

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

1st August 1984

Dear Henry

Thank you so much for your letter of  
24th July about the Presidency  
of the European Parliament.

It was good of you to keep me informed,  
and I read with interest what you said  
about the future.

I can quite understand  
your exasperation - I share  
it. I thought our M.E.P's  
were marvellous.

Sir Henry Plumb DL MEP

cc. John Selwyn Gummer Esq MP

*Lawson*  
Raymond

Conservative and Unionist Party, GB  
Det konservative folkeparti, DK  
Ulster Unionist Party, N. Ireland



EUROPEAN DEMOCRATIC GROUP  
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Chairman  
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26th July, 1984

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP  
Prime Minister,  
10 Downing Street,  
London S.W.1.

*Dear Prime Minister,*

I am writing to express my appreciation for your kind and encouraging message to me and other Conservative MEPs earlier this week.

All of us in the Group were heartened to receive such positive and helpful good wishes in what promises to be a more difficult Parliament than its predecessor. Members of other Groups in the Parliament who have heard about your message have been full of praise for its reaffirmation that the majority of anti-Socialist parties in the Parliament can and should work together.

As you know, it was with Conservative votes on the second round that Monsieur Pflimlin was elected President of the Parliament last Tuesday. I attach a copy of the letter which Dr. Klepsch, Chairman of the European People's Party Group (Christian Democrats), sent to me in recognition of Diana Elles's withdrawal of her candidature after the first round of voting for the Parliament's Presidency. I think this letter forms a good starting point for our attempt in 1987 to place a British Conservative in the Presidency of the European Parliament.

I am asking John Gummer to send a copy of this letter to Dr. Kohl and other leading members of the European Democratic Union. It would obviously be helpful if you could gently remind our friends within the Community from time to time of the obligation that they have undertaken towards us in this matter.

.../...

Dr. Klepsch signed this letter on behalf of the Heads of national delegations within his Group, and I am optimistic that we can hold him to it.

I am writing to Geoffrey Howe separately with a fuller account of the events of this first session of the second directly elected European Parliament.

*Yours ever,*

*Henry,*

HENRY PLUMB

Enc.

c.c. John Selwyn Gummer, Esq., MP

FROM: Mr. Egon A. Klepsch

TO: Sir Henry Plumb

Dear Sir Henry,

I am writing to record my appreciation and that of my Group for the helpful and positive contribution the European Democratic Group made to the election this week of Mr. Pflimlin to the Presidency of the European Parliament.

I should like particularly to thank Lady Elles, who is held in particular esteem and affection by the European People's Party, for her generous withdrawal as a candidate for the Presidency before the second round of voting. I think the European Democratic Group's support for Mr. Pflimlin is an excellent example of the way in which the majority in this Parliament can work together; I am confident we can repeat this cooperation in the next presidential election.

My colleagues and I will, in consequence, support any acceptable Presidential candidate from the EDG for the next Presidential election.

Yours .....

*Egon A. Klepsch*  
*in name of the presidency and*  
*the group of delegations*  
*for the European People's Party group.*