

RR →
Douglas Hurd

Prime Minister

Do you have any objection?

line

Richard
23.7.79

Richard
23/7

From: DOUGLAS HURD, CBE, MP.



HOUSE OF COMMONS,
LONDON, S.W.1.

20th July 1979

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Richard

The European Movement is looking for a new Chairman to replace Lord Thomson because of the convention that the Chairmanship goes to a member of the governing Party.

The active Conservatives in the European Movement would like to approach Ted Heath and ask him to be Chairman. They have not done so, and do not know how he would react. They asked me to see if Lord Carrington had any objection. I have done this and he is in favour.

I imagine there would be no objection from the Prime Minister's point of view, but should be very grateful if you could confirm this. They are anxious to get on with it, so perhaps you could let me have a signal by the end of next week.

The PM is of course a Patron of the European Movement, together with the leaders of the other two Parties.

Yours sincerely
Judy Smart pp. DH

Dictated by Douglas Hurd,
and signed in his absence.

Richard Ryder, Esq.,
Political Secretary,
10 Downing Street,
London S.W.1.