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THE PRIME MINISTER

14 April 1987

Dear Prime Minister,

Thank you for your two letters of 23 March marking the occasion of the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Treaty of Rome.

I was grateful to you for letting me have your latest thinking on cultural and educational co-operation between European countries. Some of the issues to which you have drawn attention are already under consideration by the Culture Ministers of Member States and we look forward to discussing your initiative when they next meet in a few weeks' time. As your proposal itself acknowledges, we have to be realistic about the financial and institutional constraints, however much we would like to do more.

I agree with you that, in the last thirty years, the Treaty of Rome has made a major contribution to the stability of Europe. It has helped to replace poverty with prosperity. And it has given Europe a more powerful voice in the world. The United Kingdom has been fully involved for the last fifteen of those years and we will continue to play our full part in working for an effective Community. The strong links between our two countries are an indication of what can be achieved. I look forward to discussing with you very soon how we can work together to tackle the acute problems the Community faces this year.

Warm regards.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

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Monsieur Jacques Chirac