



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

3 September 1987

*Dear Charles,*

*R319*

George Soros

George Soros, the American millionaire and philanthropist, will be in Britain from 22 to 26 September. Dr Zbigniew Pelczynski of Pembroke College, Oxford, has been in touch to suggest a meeting with the Foreign Secretary. We understand that he has also been in touch with David Willetts at the Centre for Policy Studies about a possible meeting with the Prime Minister. You may perhaps receive such a request through the Cabinet Office.

Soros is a highly successful investment fund manager. He has put a lot of money and energy into developing academic and cultural exchanges with Eastern Europe, through the Soros Foundation which he runs jointly with the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, and other schemes involving also Poland. A number of scholars from Hungary and Poland visit Oxford every year under his Foundation's auspices and with some help from the FCO Scholarship Scheme. He wants to extend his activities to other Eastern European countries. In September he will be visiting Poland and the Soviet Union, where he will be negotiating the establishment of a "glasnost foundation" which also will run a programme of post-graduate scholarships for Soviet students to visit Oxford University. A feature of Soros' scheme is that his Foundation, not the host government, selects the Eastern European scholars to visit the West.

The Foreign Secretary will be in New York at the time of Mr Soros' visit to Britain, but David Mellor has agreed to see him. The Foreign Secretary does not consider that there is any need for the Prime Minister to see him unless she is particularly interested in his work.

*Yours ever*  
*Tony Galsworthy*

(A C Galsworthy)  
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street



10 DOWNING STREET

~~Stephen Hasbaine~~ noted  
S.

Ed. you let me  
know if Mr.  
Willetts contacts  
you about this.

EDP  
3/9.

- ① Mrs. Gaisman to note also
- ② Retkin to copy

S.