



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

PUBLIC PETITION NO.

PE01781

Name of petitioner

Denis Agnew

Petition title

Written constitution for Scotland

Petition summary

Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to consider a written constitution for Scotland.

Action taken to resolve issues of concern before submitting the petition

As there is no mechanism to pursue this matter other than through the Petitions Committee, I have discussed this with Gil Paterson, MSP, Martin Docherty-Hughes, MP and Councillor Jonathon McColl, Leader of West Dunbartonshire Council, who are broadly supportive of this action being brought to the Scottish Parliament.

Petition background information

As the UK is poised on the brink of leaving the EU and given 2020 is the 700th Anniversary of the Declaration of Arbroath, surely it is now incumbent on the Scottish Parliament to consider the important issue of a need for a codified written constitution for the people of Scotland that are not subject to the whims of Westminster Government Parliamentarians, or interpretations of common law and historical precedents.

As the debates surrounding the departure from the EU and the call for an Independent Scotland gather momentum, it is evident that being part of a disparate UK is not a viable or sustainable prospect. The concept of "United" is now considered by many not to be applicable.

A divisive Brexit campaign, which has split communities throughout Britain/Northern Ireland and has fragmented beyond repair any notion of a United Kingdom.

The UK faces seismic societal and economic change, the need for clarity on Constitutional Rights for each citizen in those component countries in the UK should now be pursued, particularly within the Scottish Parliament, as it has reserved powers on Law and Home Affairs. This would be in the best interests of the people of Scotland and should be a core tenet of any legislative document commissioned on behalf of the Scottish nation

Benefit of the Scottish Nation.

It would be essential for all residents of Scotland to have an enshrined Bill of Rights, in a codified written constitution that would underpin a diverse unified society which is based on fundamental democratic principles; be wholly inclusive, non-prejudicial nor have bias against any individual citizen.

Unique web address

<https://www.parliament.scot/GettingInvolved/Petitions/PE01781>

Related information for petition

Do you wish your petition to be hosted on the Parliament's website to collect signatures online?

YES

How many signatures have you collected so far?

0

Closing date for collecting signatures online

14 / 01 / 2020

Comments to stimulate online discussion

- Do you think all the component areas of the UK should pursue the need for a written constitution?
- What should be included in a written constitution for Scotland?