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7th March 2025

Rushanara Ali MP
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
Department of Housing, Communities and Local Government

Dear Rushanara Ali MP,

MPs from across the political spectrum called for tighter regulation of political finance in the Commons debate this week - and we agree!

The upcoming elections bill must include bold changes to defend the integrity of our elections from huge donations from the UK and abroad.

An annual donation limit of £5,000 per company or individual would reduce parties' dependence on large donations from a small pool of individuals able to exert significant influence.

We must also close the loophole that allows foreign money to enter our political system through unincorporated associations, which are not required to disclose the origins of their funds. The Committee on Standards in Public Life's 2021 report on Regulating Election Finance flagged unincorporated associations as a source of concern.

Shell companies should be barred from making political donations. Until a £5,000 cap is introduced only companies that trade in the UK should be allowed to make political donations, with the size of any donation linked to their profits in the UK.

I hope the government will close these loopholes in the upcoming bill, as well as getting big money out of our politics entirely with a donation cap.

Without this cap, big donors like Elon Musk will be able to throw money at influencing the result of the next general election.

Yours sincerely,

Ton Torale

Tom Brake - Director of Unlock Democracy