



**GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR
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“GSLP/Liberal Statement a lie that damages RGP and the rule of law for the Opposition’s selfish party political ends”.

The Government roundly condemns the GSLP/Liberal’s statement that the RGP acts “at the whim of the Chief Minister”.

Recently the Opposition chose to make a statement impugning the political independence of the judiciary following speeches at the opening of the Legal Year. Now they attack the professional operational independence of the RGP. It is a matter of grave concern that in a political desire to taint the Chief Minister, the GSLP/Liberals should be willing to undermine even the most vital institutions in our Society.

It is even more serious that they should do so on the basis of falsehoods. The RGP has roundly denied that they prohibited “booing and jeering”, so the whole attack on the RGP (and by implication the Chief Minister) is based on a falsehood.

Furthermore, contrary to the implications of the Opposition’s Statement neither the Chief Minister nor anyone else on the Government’s behalf have had any input to whatever may have transpired between the RGP and the organisers of the demonstration.

Unlike the previous GSLP Government (who infamously made it clear to the RGP that they should not interfere with the fast launches) this Government does not interfere in RGP operational or law enforcement matters.

A Government spokesman said: - “If, as the GSLP/Opposition statement says, there is “ a widespread perception in Gibraltar” that the RGP act on the whim of the Chief Minister, it is a perception caused by the persistent spreading of lies to that effect by the GSLP/Liberal Opposition, without regard to the damage that they do in the process to the RGP and thus to the rule of law. For the GSLP/Liberals the objective of tarnishing the Chief Minister politically for their own partisan benefit clearly has priority over all interests of Gibraltar as a whole. We have seen this dangerous and selfish syndrome at work recently in relation to the Judiciary, at the United Nations, and now the RGP.”