

## HM GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR PRESS OFFICE

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## HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR STATEMENT ON ABDICATION OF KING JUAN CARLOS OF SPAIN

Her Majesty's Government of Gibraltar takes due note of the decision by His Majesty King Juan Carlos of Spain to renounce the Throne of Spain and abdicate in favour of his son and heir Prince Felipe de Borbón.

King Juan Carlos has carved for himself a place in history by leading his country throughout an extremely difficult period of transition from dictatorship to democracy. In respect of Gibraltar, the King will be remembered for his call when he addressed the United Nations General Assembly, for all parties involved to seek "imaginative solutions in keeping with the times in which we live."

There is no doubt that King Juan Carlos has contributed immensely to establishing parliamentary democracy after forty years of fascist totalitarianism.

Her Majesty's Government of Gibraltar wishes to record its respects and those of the people of Gibraltar to King Juan Carlos in his retirement.

Her Majesty's Government of Gibraltar also takes the opportunity to wish Spain's future King, Don Felipe De Borbón, present Principe de Asturias, a successful future in the hugely demanding task that awaits him as the new Head of State of our neighbouring country and assures him of all respect for his role in the context of the Spanish Constitution.