



PRESS RELEASE

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HM Government of Gibraltar Congratulates Prime Minister Rt Hon David Cameron

The Chief Minister of Her Majesty's Government of Gibraltar, Hon Fabian Picardo QC MP, has written to the leader of the Conservative Party, Rt Hon David Cameron MP, to congratulate him on winning the General Election in the United Kingdom. Mr Picardo has also been in contact with other Members of Parliament who have been good friends of Gibraltar to congratulate or commiserate with them.

Mr Picardo said: "All political parties in the UK support Gibraltar on sovereignty and this was therefore not a dangerous election for us in that sense. The policies of all parties create some challenges and some opportunities for Gibraltar. Now that we have a Conservative Government with an absolute majority, there will be a referendum on whether the UK should remain in Europe and I am very pleased that the Prime Minister has a strong mandate and will be able to lead on this issue, given that he has repeated his view (in keeping with all other major party leaders in UK except UKIP and all parties in Gibraltar) that the UK should stay in the EU. I look forward to working on that referendum. I have worked very well with David Cameron and his ministers, having met him on a number of occasions when Gibraltar has needed his support, and will be happy to continue our excellent working relationship with his Government. I have been in touch already with Rt Hon David Lidington to congratulate him on having been returned as an MP and with Sarah Sackman to congratulate her on her campaign, but commiserating with her. I will similarly be contacting other friends of Gibraltar from across the political divide to congratulate and commiserate with them depending on their result."

The Deputy Chief Minister, Hon Dr Joseph Garcia MP said:

"The outgoing Coalition Government was extremely supportive of Gibraltar and made it a point of reflecting this support in its Mid-term Report and in HM the Queen's speech. Gibraltar has lost some great friends in people like Simon Hughes, who was a regular visitor, and Danny Alexander, who was here last year. Many other friends like Andrew Rosindell and Lindsay Hoyle have gladly secured their re-election. The political map of the United Kingdom has been redrawn overnight. Three party leaders have resigned. Thankfully solid support for Gibraltar can be found across the political spectrum. Gibraltar congratulates the winners and commiserates with the losers."