



PRESS RELEASE

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Chief Minister Sends Letter of Condolence to French President

Following the barbaric attacks perpetrated in Paris on Friday, the Chief Minister has written a letter of condolence on behalf of the people of Gibraltar to the French President, M François Hollande. Mr Picardo handed the letter to Pierre Fayaud, the Honorary French Consul, for onward transmission.

In the letter the Chief Minister describes the attacks as 'senseless murders' and suggested that France, like Gibraltar, is a multi-faith and multicultural society to be proud of – a tribute to its core values of liberté, égalité, fraternité.

'Our thoughts and sympathy are with you and all the French nation in the aftermath of this assault on the culture, values, and way of life that we all hold dear,' said the Chief Minister. 'Gibraltar, its People and Government, stand with you in unity and solidarity at this painful time.'

In defiance of this shameful act of terrorism, and in solemn memory of the victims, we have suspended campaigning in our General Election, our flags fly at half mast, the Moorish Castle is illuminated with the Tricolour flag and we stand with Europe in its shared moment of silence.

I know all my compatriots will want to join me in closing this communication by saying: "Vive la France".'