



## PRESS RELEASE

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### Albert Poggio GMH OBE recognised at Grassroot Diplomat Awards

Albert Poggio, Gibraltar's 'man in London', has received a Commendation at the prestigious Annual Grassroot Diplomat Initiatives Awards ceremony held at the Mayfair Hotel in London last night.

The citation from the award specifically notes that "Mr Poggio has spent over twenty years strengthening political and business ties for Gibraltarians and British citizens alike".

He received the Award at a ceremony attended by many Ambassadors and High Commissioners, as well as members of both Houses of Parliament.

Speaking after the ceremony, Andrew Mackinlay, a Freeman of the City of Gibraltar and a retired Member of Parliament, said "I am delighted for Albert; the Award is much deserved. It reflects the very high regard in which Albert is held by so many people, in so many different walks of life, throughout the United Kingdom. As someone who has represented Gibraltar's interests here since 1988, Albert is one of the most senior and best known of people in the area of diplomacy and public life."

On receiving the award Albert said, "It is a great privilege to receive this award and I feel very honoured, particularly when I am in the company of such esteemed fellow nominees. It is also hugely gratifying that, through this award, Gibraltar and its people have been recognised at this level."

Peter Botting, the Chairman of Grassroot Diplomat, said "Grassroot Diplomat sees its function as celebrating and applauding heroes and heroines who have fought in the name of justice, peace and good governance".

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## **NOTE TO EDITORS**

### **Amongst the nominees were:**

HE Dan Mulhall, Ambassador for the Irish Republic

HE Gordon Campbell, Ambassador of Canada

HE Nabil Ammar, Ambassador of Tunisia

HE Julio Muñoz Deacon, Ambassador of Peru

HE Sergei Aleinik, Ambassador of Belarus

HE Alice Thomas Samaan, Ambassador of Bahrain

HE Khaled Al-Duwaisan, Ambassador of Kuwait

HE Perla Perdomo, High Commissioner of Belize

Prof. Manual Hassassian, Honorary Representative of Palestine

Julian Brazier MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for the Ministry of Defence

Frank Field MP

Hilary Benn MP

Baroness Chalker of Wallasey

Baroness Kidron of Angel OBE

Lord Green of Hurstpierpoint

### **Biographical**

Albert Poggio was appointed as Gibraltar's Representative to the UK in 1988. He was awarded the OBE in 2006. Albert has just completed his tenure as Chairman of the United Kingdom Overseas Territories Association, which brings together and presents collectively, all the Overseas Territories in London.