



PRESS RELEASE

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Wide cross-section of MPs for National Day briefings

An important delegation of Members of the UK Parliament will be coming to Gibraltar this year for National Day. The Members of the House of Commons and House of Lords represent the Conservative Party, the Labour Party, the Scottish National Party and the Liberal Democrats. There are 21 in total.

Given the decision taken in the United Kingdom to leave the European Union, the Government felt that it was timely to take the opportunity afforded by National Day to brief MPs fully on the position post the referendum of 23 June and to allow them to examine the situation on the ground.

The MPs include old friends of Gibraltar as well as new ones who have come out here to learn more about us. There will be a working lunch which the Chief Minister Fabian Picardo and Deputy Chief Minister Dr Joseph Garcia will attend. Mr Picardo will make use of this to provide a detailed briefing and answer any questions. In addition to this, the visitors will also have the opportunity to speak to Gibraltar MPs and to a cross-section of the community during the events that have been organised for National Day.

There are also two Members of the European Parliament who represent Labour and UKIP in the South West and Gibraltar Region who will be attending.

The full list is attached.

Commenting on the visit, the Deputy Chief Minister Dr Joseph Garcia said: "It is more important than ever that we send out the message, as we do every year, that our right to self-determination is not for sale. It is equally important that it is understood that Gibraltar will not give in to Spanish bullying. We need support from our friends in Parliament to drive this message home. There has been considerable interest in Gibraltar this year for obvious reasons. We will ensure that those who come here are fully briefed on the latest issues which are of concern to Gibraltar. This work will be followed up at the Party Conferences later this month and throughout the year in Westminster and in Brussels."