



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Chief Minister Statement in Response to Snr Margallo**

The Chief Minister of Her Majesty's Government of Gibraltar, the Hon Fabian Picardo QC MP, has made a statement in response to the statements by former Spanish Foreign Minister, Jose Manuel Garcia Margallo, in which he suggested that a meeting had been arranged between them last year after the result of the Brexit Referendum.

Mr Picardo said: "It is true that Snr Margallo sought to meet with me directly. The request for the direct meeting was despite his public statements to the effect that they would only meet on Gibraltar with the United Kingdom bilaterally or in the context of a Quadrilateral Forum including the Junta de Andalucia. My response to the private request was exactly the same as my public position on any meeting with a Spanish Minister or official, namely that I would only be prepared to meet to discuss non-sovereignty matters and that the meeting should not be secret. Given my reply, I did not receive a further response.

"Now, as then, I think everyone in Gibraltar considers that Snr Margallo was entirely deluded in his approach to the people of Gibraltar."