



PRESS RELEASE

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Brexit and borders dominates Garcia discussions in Belfast

Brexit and borders has figured prominently in the meetings that the Deputy Chief Minister Dr Joseph Garcia has had in Belfast all day. Although the situation of Gibraltar and that of Northern Ireland are very different, there is the very real parallel centred on the need to ensure future borders that work once we are outside the European Union.

The Deputy Chief Minister had relevant discussions at Stormont, the seat of the Northern Ireland Parliament, with politicians from across the political spectrum. This included the Ulster Unionist Leader Robin Swan and former Northern Ireland Minister Chris Hazzard MP of Sinn Fein. Dr Garcia also exchanged views earlier with the Deputy Leader of the SDLP Nichola Mallon.

The Deputy Chief Minister renewed contact with the Attorney General of Northern Ireland in a discussion on the border, the legislative effects of Brexit and matters like the future application of the European Arrest Warrant. These technical discussions continued later in the day with the Police Service of Northern Ireland.

Dr Garcia said that the day of meetings had provided a better perspective on the challenges that we face as a result of the decision to leave the European Union. The focus now moves to the Party conference of the Democratic Unionists which opens on Saturday.