# Post-Brexit Border Deal Between Gibraltar and Spain Remains Unresolved



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Discussions on post-Brexit border regulations between Gibraltar and Spain concluded with no agreement reached, although participants indicated that a resolution is closer. The talks, held in Brussels on 16 May 2024, involved UK Foreign Secretary David Cameron, European Commission Vice President Maroš Šefčovič, Spanish Foreign Minister José Manuel Albares, and Gibraltar’s Chief Minister Fabian Picardo.

A joint statement highlighted significant progress since the previous meeting, mentioning breakthroughs in areas like trade, environment, and social wellbeing. However, the key issue of border checks between Gibraltar and Spain remains unresolved. The UK and Gibraltar propose that EU border agency Frontex manage airport checks, while Spain insists on having its officials do so.

The border issue is critical, as Gibraltar's economy and daily life depend heavily on seamless cross-border movement. After Brexit, Gibraltar was left out of the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement, relying instead on ad-hoc arrangements.

Conservative MP Sir Bill Cash criticized the potential concessions on border checks, fearing they could undermine UK sovereignty.

The next EU elections in June may further delay reaching an agreement due to changes in EU leadership. Cameron also held discussions on broader UK-EU relations, including the implementation of the Windsor Framework and trade cooperation.