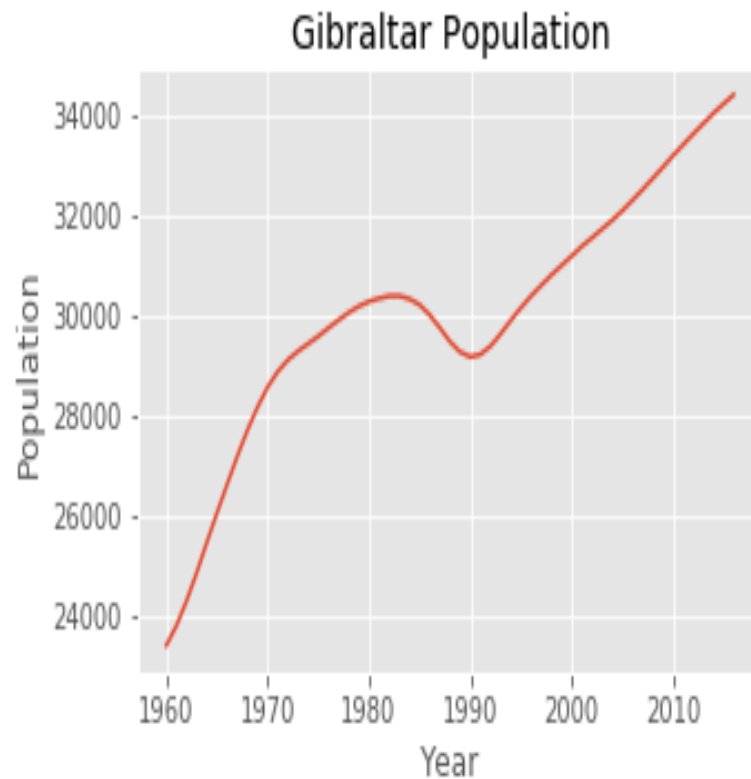


Gibraltar



– in Europe (green & dark grey) – in the European Union (green) Gibraltar (/dʒɪˈbrɔːl- or /dʒɪˈbrɒl- or other permutations; Spanish pronunciation: [xiβəˈlta]) is a British Overseas Territory located at the southern tip of the Iberian Peninsula. It has an area of 6.7 km² (2.6 sq mi) and is bordered to the north by Spain. The landscape is dominated by the Rock of Gibraltar at the foot of which is a densely populated city area, home to over 30,000 people, primarily Gibraltarians. An Anglo-Dutch force captured Gibraltar from Spain in 1704 during the War of the Spanish Succession on behalf of the Habsburg claim to the Spanish throne. The territory was subsequently ceded to Great Britain in perpetuity under the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713. During World War II it was an important base for the Royal Navy as it controlled the entrance and exit to the Mediterranean Sea, which is only eight miles (13 km) wide at this naval "choke point". It remains strategically important to this day, with half the world's seaborne trade passing through the strait. Today Gibraltar's economy is based largely on tourism, online gambling, financial services, and cargo ship refuelling services. The effect of a prospective Brexit on the Gibraltarian economy is yet to be determined.