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Donor to PM May's party says to cut funds if European Union single market access lost

London.—A leading donor to Theresa May's Conservative Party warned yesterday he would cut his financial support if the government pulled Britain out of the European single market as part of Brexit negotiations.

Andrew Cook, chairman of engineering firm William Cook, backed remaining in the EU during last June's referendum. He said it was critical the country maintained its membership of the

single market or jobs would be lost. "I would find it impossible under those circumstances (to keep donating to the Conservative Party should it back leaving the single market)," the *Times* newspaper quoted him as saying.

"..It is very difficult to make a political donation to a party when, although I support it ideologically, I do not believe that my interests and my ideology are ... (in agreement) with the principal Brexiteers."



Number of foreigners obtaining citizenship shooting up once again

Palma.—The number of foreigners in the Balearics becoming Spanish citizens is on the increase. Over the first six months of last year, 3,501 people obtained citizenship, a figure not far short of the total for 2015 - 3,825. Also, a number of British citizens living on the island have said that they will be seeking Spanish nationality following the Brexit vote in June which should take the figure even higher.

Although it is too early to know what the number will be for the whole of 2016, the trend seems clear. Since 2007, the total figure is 43,510, but the number shot up markedly in 2013, when there were 8,387 new citizens. Six years before it was only 2,888. The 2013 figure represented a peak. The numbers since then are not nearly as high, but they are higher than ten years ago. It is conceivable, based on the experience of the first six months, that the number for 2016 will be around 7,000, so heading back towards the

peak of 2013. Moroccans, according to the National Statistics Institute, are the people leading the way in adopting citizenship. Between 2013 and June 2016 there were 3,747. While Moroccans continued to be the largest group last year, others fell, such as Colombians, the number of whom was down to 362, compared with 1,435 in 2013. There were, nevertheless, 3,714 new citizens from Colombia over the 2013-2016 period.

As for the European Union, there were only 67 over the six months of 2016; 25 of these were Italian. From countries outside the EU, there were seventeen Ukrainians and fifteen Russians. There was a similarly low number from Asia. There were only seven Chinese, which might seem curious given the number of Chinese that there are in the Balearics, while there were 46 Indians, 26 from the Philippines and 21 from Pakistan.



The new "Tiger" of Majorcan tennis set to roar on to the world stage

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