

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0926

DISTRICT OFFICES:
14221 SW 120TH STREET, #115
MIAMI, FL 33186
(305) 222-0160

404 W PALM DRIVE
FLORIDA CITY, FLORIDA 33034
(305) 222-0160

1100 SIMONTON STREET, ROOM 1-213
KEY WEST, FL 33040
(305) 292-4485

July 8, 2026

The Honorable Pedro Sánchez
President of the Government of Spain
Palacio de La Moncloa
Madrid, Spain

Dear Prime Minister Sánchez,

I write today to inform you that I have withdrawn as the Co-Chair of the Congressional Friends of Spain Caucus.

As a proud Cuban-American and a steadfast defender of democracy, international security, and the U.S. alliance network, I did not make this decision lightly. Spain has deep historic, cultural, and economic ties to the United States and to the South Florida community I represent. I am so proud of my lifelong work to strengthen the relationship between our nations. However, your government's escalating, hostile crusade against our premier democratic ally, the Jewish State of Israel, has made my continued participation in this caucus entirely untenable.

At a moment when Israel faces existential threats from Hamas, Hezbollah, Iran, and other terrorist organizations, your government has repeatedly chosen political grandstanding over moral clarity. Spain has normalized rhetoric that crosses the line from legitimate policy disagreement into raw antisemitism, serving as an enabler for movements that explicitly seek the extermination of the Jewish people.

Most egregious is your administration's unprecedented and shameful decree formally banning members of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and Israeli government officials from entering Spanish territory. To bar the brave men and women of the IDF—who are fighting on the front lines against the very radical Islamic terrorism that threatens all of Western Europe—while your political apparatus simultaneously legitimizes terrorist networks and accommodationist policies, is a betrayal of Western values. Treating democratic soldiers as *personae non gratae* while rewarding the architects of terror is an insult to the United States and our shared strategic interests.

The Jewish State of Israel is America's greatest ally, and nearly one million Americans reside in the region. By legally implementing full arms embargos, shutting your airspace and ports to allied defense transport, and actively locking out Israeli defense personnel, your administration has placed Spain firmly on the wrong side of the global fight for freedom.

The Congressional Friends of Spain Caucus exists to strengthen the bonds between our nations based on shared democratic values and a mutual commitment to global stability. Unfortunately, your government's hostile actions against Israel and the Jewish people prove that your administration no longer shares those principles.

I remain hopeful that Spain will one day return to a foreign policy rooted in the defense of Western allies and moral clarity against terrorism. Until then, I can no longer lend my name to an organization intended to celebrate bilateral friendship while your government actively works to undermine democratic principles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carlos A. Giménez', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Carlos A. Giménez
Member of Congress