

Spanish PM Rajoy urged to resign

The political crisis in Spain is (1) following allegations that a number of senior (2) in the ruling Popular Party received secret payments from a so-called slush fund. Prime minister Mariano Rajoy now (3) calls to resign, following (4) that he and other senior officials had received secret payments over almost two decades.

Rajoy, who is accused of receiving around €25k of kickbacks a year, insisted on Saturday that his party was innocent. He pledged: I have never received nor distributed (5) money.

But the (6) did not ease the pressures created by the allegations - made by El Pais last week. Last night, opposition leader Alfredo Perez Rubalcaba called for Rajoy's resignation, telling reporters that: Rajoy should give up his role as the head of government. He cannot tackle the very difficult situation (7) Spain.

Rajoy clearly hopes to ride the scandal (8) He has promised to publish full details of his (9) and assets, in an effort to (10) the storm. But his position is shakier than a week ago. Public anger over the allegations is (11) by the deepening Spanish recession and record jobless levels – at a time when the PM is pushing through an unpopular €60bn austerity (12)

Adapted from: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/2013/feb/04/eurozone-crisis-spanish-pm-corruption-scandal>

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|----|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1 | A) rising | B) deepening | C) expanding | D) enlarging |
| 2 | A) officials | B) officers | C) bosses | D) managers |
| 3 | A) looks | B) backs | C) faces | D) makes |
| 4 | A) urges | B) claims | C) questions | D) arguments |
| 5 | A) undeclared | B) unsaid | C) unstated | D) undefined |
| 6 | A) denying | B) denied | C) deny | D) denial |
| 7 | A) attacking | B) displaying | C) confronting | D) offending |
| 8 | A) out | B) away | C) down | D) off |
| 9 | A) gains | B) income | C) winnings | D) treasures |
| 10 | A) tranquilise | B) quieten | C) calm | D) still |
| 11 | A) exacerbated | B) complicated | C) improved | D) revolted |
| 12 | A) box | B) present | C) package | D) content |

Answers

- 1 B
- 2 A
- 3 C
- 4 B
- 5 A
- 6 D
- 7 C
- 8 A
- 9 B
- 10 C
- 11 A
- 12 C