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# Press Release

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**PRESS RELEASE BY THE OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER**

*Bulgarian Ambassador pays courtesy visit to the Deputy Speaker*

Ambassador of the Republic of Bulgaria, Todor Stovanov, paid a courtesy visit to the Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives, Claudette Buttigieg.

The two dignitaries discussed issues of mutual interest, including bilateral trade which needs to be increased for mutual benefit.

The Deputy Speaker elaborated on the work carried out by Parliament to enact the necessary legal framework in respect of, amongst others, financial services, e-gaming, blockchain and artificial intelligence. The Ambassador expressed interest in encouraging Bulgarian companies to come to Malta and do their business here.

Cultural relations, with particular reference to the Memorandum of Understanding signed last year between the Malta Libraries and the St. Cyril and St. Methodius National Library of Bulgaria, were also mentioned.

The Bulgarian community in Malta also featured in the discussion.

Mr Ray Scicluna, Clerk of the House, was also present for the meeting.