



Press Release

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PRESS RELEASE BY THE OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

Deputy Speaker meets new Colombian ambassador

Deputy Speaker Claudette Buttigieg received a courtesy visit from the newly accredited Ambassador of the Republic of Colombia Mrs Gloria Isabel Ramirez Rios.

Deputy Speaker Buttigieg recalled the cordial bilateral relations between Malta and Colombia and referred to the various past visits to Colombia by Maltese dignitaries, which have enhanced these relations. These visits include a state visit by the late President Agatha Barbara, as well as visits by the late Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Prof Guido de Marco and the former Foreign Minister George Vella.

Deputy Speaker Buttigieg and Ambassador Ramirez Rios discussed issues of mutual interest, with particular reference to increasing trade and commercial relations between the two countries. In this regard, the Colombian Ambassador informed that Maltese enterprises have shown interest in doing business in Colombia, which include an e-gaming company and a travel agency. She also said that 1,200 Colombian students came to Malta to study English and pointed out that Maltese students could go to Colombia to study Spanish. The deputy speaker recalled the importance of the Spanish language, which has become one of the major foreign languages chosen by Maltese students.

The relations between the European Union and Colombia as well as the importance of cultural exchanges between Malta and Colombia also featured in the meeting.

Ambassador Gloria Isabel Ramirez Rios was accompanied by Pro. Ing. Joseph Buhagiar, Honorary Consul of Colombia in Malta.