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# Press Release

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

### *Speaker Farrugia receives Swedish Minister for EU affairs*

Dr Anglu Farrugia, Speaker of the House of Representatives in the Parliament of Malta, has today received a courtesy call by Hans Dahlgren, Minister for European Union Affairs of the Kingdom of Sweden.

Speaker Farrugia referred to the first Parliamentary sitting in 1921, when Malta was given its first Constitution, following the uprisings of the 7<sup>th</sup> of June of 1919. He recalled that, between 1921 and 1933, Malta had two Houses of Representatives, and that in 2017 the Maltese Parliament became completely autonomous. He elaborated on the composition of the Parliament of Malta, noted that there are 15 standing committees, and pointed out that the Maltese House of Representatives is one of the top five in Europe with regard to the clearance of bills.

Minister Dahlgren said that Malta and Sweden have a lot in common, and mentioned as an example the rule of law and non-discrimination. He also pointed out that the Swedish Parliament or Riksdag has been unicameral since 1971 and consists of 349 members.

Speaker Farrugia was accompanied by Edward Zammit Lewis, Minister for European Affairs and Equality, Ancel Farrugia Migneco, Private Secretary to the Speaker, Eleanor Scerri, Director of International Relations, Giovanni Miceli, Advisor of International Relations, Glenn Micallef, Head of the EU Coordination Department of the Ministry for European Affairs and Equality, Leandro Borg, Head of External Unit at the EU Coordination Department of the Ministry for European Affairs and Equality, and Joseph Vella, Private Secretary of the Ministry for European Affairs and Equality.

The Swedish Minister for European Union Affairs was accompanied by Cecilia Björner, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Sweden to Malta, Magdalena Emreus, Political Advisor to the Minister, Sofia Janson, from the Office of the Prime Minister, and Angela Kennedy, Personal Assistant to the Minister.