



# Press Release

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

### *Iraqi Ambassador pays farewell visit to Speaker*

Ambassador of the Republic of Iraq paid a farewell visit to Speaker Anġlu Farrugia.

Speaker Farrugia expressed his appreciation to the Iraqi Ambassador for his work in enhancing the friendly relations that have existed between Malta and Iraq since they were established in September 1972. He recalled the various instances when Malta provided assistance to Iraq, such as the writing off of 100% of the debts owed by Iraq, contributing to the UN Humanitarian Response Plan for Iraq and towards the reconstruction of Iraq. He also noted that there is a small community of Iraqis working in Malta.

Speaker Farrugia and Ambassador Bamarni discussed the current situation in Iraq and its efforts towards the transition to democracy, as well as the relations between Iraq and the European Union, with the latter providing over a billion euros to Iraq in response to the Da'esh crisis.