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# Press Release

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

*Speaker Farrugia in a virtual farewell call with the Estonian Ambassador*

Speaker of the House of Representatives Anġlu Farrugia has received a virtual farewell call from Ms Celia Kuningas-Saagpakk, the Ambassador of the Republic of Estonia, whose term of office is coming to an end.

Speaker Farrugia expressed his appreciation to Ambassador Kuningas-Saagpakk for her efforts to enhance the cordial bilateral relations between Malta and Estonia, which relations were established in 1992.

Ambassador Kuningas-Saagpakk referred to Malta's candidature for a non-permanent seat of the Security Council for the period 2023-2024 and informed Speaker Farrugia that Estonia will support Malta, for which the Speaker expressed his gratitude.

The two dignitaries discussed issues of mutual interest, such as trade and commerce between the two countries, with Speaker Farrugia mentioning pharmaceuticals, medical cannabis, English Language Schools, Artificial Intelligence, maritime and other sectors, while Ambassador Kuningas-Saagpakk highlighted how the Estonian government intends to revive its economy. They noted the increase in the number of Estonian tourists to Malta from 6,429 in 2017 to 12,555 in 2019.

The effects of COVID-19 on Estonia which, as of today, had a total of 18,385 cases of COVID-19, which resulted in 154 deaths, 11,121 recoveries and 7,110 active cases, also featured in the discussion.